

# The Worship of God

Fayetteville First United Methodist Church

First Sunday of Advent | 11:00 AM | November 27, 2022

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin  
Senior Minister

## MUSIC OF PREPARATION

Canticle of the Turning  
MERLE'S TUNE - Carl P. Daw, Jr.  
Chancel Choir

Mr. Justin Maxey  
Director of Music & Organist

*My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,  
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.  
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,  
So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?*

*My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!*

*Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,  
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.  
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,  
You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn.*

*From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone.  
Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne.  
The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn;  
There are tables spread, every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn.*

*Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:  
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.  
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound  
Till the spear and rod can be crushed by God who is turning the world around.*

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalms 122:6-9

The Rev. Allyson Lawrence and **People**  
Associate Minister

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.  
**Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers.**"  
For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you."  
**For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.**



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**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Rev. Lawrence and **People**

Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:  
"The peace of Christ be with you." **"And also with you."**

**ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING**

Bill and Carol Webb and **People**

Come and See!

**"I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'"** Psalms 122:1

We are glad. Whether we drove in or climbed up, whether we logged on or tuned in. We are glad to be here in this community, with this family. It is a place of joyful hope, of radical welcome. It is a place where, together, we can wait in wondrous anticipation of the kingdom to come.

**"Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that God may teach us God's ways and that we may walk in God's paths.'" Isaiah 2:3**

We light this candle as a sign of our hope, our joyous hope that we can be restored – our faith restored, our strength restored, our confidence restored, our joy restored as we watch and wait with all God's people for the promise to be fulfilled.

*Choral Congregational Response:*

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Dr. Martin and **People**

Lord, open our hearts and minds  
by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
that, as the Scriptures are read  
and your Word proclaimed,  
we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

**FIRST READING**

Romans 13:11-14

Dr. Martin

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

**Thanks be to God.**

**CONGREGATIONAL NOTES, PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Dr. Martin

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rev. Lawrence

## OFFERTORY

Advent Message

Chancel Choir

Martin How

Come, Lord Jesus. Come, Lord Jesus, Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.  
O come quickly. Come, Lord Jesus. O come quickly.  
Come, Lord, come. Come, Lord Jesus. Come, Lord Jesus. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

*The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, prepare ye the way of the Lord,  
Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.*

Come, Lord Jesus. Come, Lord Jesus. Come, Lord Jesus. Come.  
Yea, come quickly. Yea, come quickly. Yea, come quickly. Come, Lord, come.  
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Come, Lord, come.

## \*DOXOLOGY

GREENSLEEVES

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above,  
ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Dr. Martin

Children ages 4 years through 2nd grade are invited to attend Wonders of Worship in Room B225.

Children 3rd grade and older are encouraged to stay in the sanctuary for the service.

The nursery is available for infants through 3 years.

## \*GOSPEL READING

Matthew 24:36-44

Dr. Martin

<sup>36</sup>"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup>For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

Rev. Lawrence

## \*HYMN 569

We've a Story to Tell to the Nations

MESSAGE

## \*BENEDICTION

Rev. Lawrence

\*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

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**Please remember in your prayers:**

Van Askew  
Nancy Byers  
Richard Clayton  
Martha Hale

Don Harp  
Tangie Hubbard  
Cindy Jennings  
Sara Johnston

Doris Kerlin  
Claudia Rhodes  
Tom Starling  
Brenda Tierman

Helen Voyles  
Mabel Wilbanks



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Scripture quotations from New Revised Standard Version

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AA Meetings: Sundays 3 PM; Mondays 7 PM; Wednesdays through Saturdays 7 PM

NA Meeting: Thursdays and Saturdays 7 PM

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