

The Worship of God

Fayetteville First United Methodist Church
Fourth Sunday of Advent | 11:00 AM | DECEMBER 18, 2022

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin
Senior Minister

MUSIC OF PREPARATION

Christmas Joy
Judy Hames, Rick Massengale, Justin Maxey - piano

arr. Vicki Hancock Wright

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 80:7, 17-19

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

Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself.

Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.

Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

*HYMN 244

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

JESOUS AHATONHIA

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Dr. Martin and **People**

Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:

"The peace of Christ be with you." "And also with you."

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

J.R. and Rebecca Stevens Family and **People**

Come and See!

Isaiah said that the Lord spoke to the king and said, "Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven" Isaiah 7:11 NRSV. But when the king refused, God would not be stopped. "Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14 NRSV

God wants us to know, even when we aren't sure ourselves. God wants us to experience God's presence, even when we think we can handle life on our own. God sends us signs of God's presence with us; all we need to do is keep our eyes open and look.

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, 'God is with us.'" When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus. Matthew 1:23-25 NRSV



Fayetteville First United Methodist Church welcomes you.

Scan the CONNECT QR code and let us know you're here!

Find current news in The Weekender, our weekly e-newsletter.

QR Code to
CONNECT



QR Code for
WEEKENDER



We light these candles, the candle of joyous hope, of proclaimed peace, of deep everlasting joy, and today of presence that speaks of love, as a sign that no matter our circumstance, we know we are not alone.

Choral Congregational Response:

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

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Rev. Lawrence 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 1:1-7

Rev. Lawrence

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATIONAL NOTES, PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Lawrence

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.

***HYMN 249**

There's a Song in the Air

CHRISTMAS SONG

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Dr. Martin

OFFERTORY

Ding Dong Merrily on High
Rick Massengale, Justin Maxey - piano

arr. Howard Helvey

*Ding! dong! Merrily on high in heav'n the bells are ringing:
Ding! dong! verily the sky is riv'n with angel-singing.
Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis! Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis!*

E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen,

And "Io, io, io!" by priest and people sungen:
Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis! Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers!
May you beautifully rhyme your evetime song, ye singers!
Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis! Gloria! Hosanna in excelsis! Gloria!

***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 1:18-25

Rev. Lawrence

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Come and See: Love

Dr. Martin

***HYMN 218**

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

CAROL

***BENEDICTION**

Dr. Martin

May the peace of Christ go with you wherever He may send you.
May He guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.
May He bring you home rejoicing at the wonders He has shown you.
May He bring you home rejoicing once again into our arms.

***POSTLUDE**

English and African Carol
Judy Hames, Rick Massengale, Justin Maxey - piano

arr. Vicki Hancock Wright

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

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

In Memoriam
Eleanor McDuffie
December 14, 2022

Our Christian prayers and sympathy are with

Ralph McDuffie, Craig McDuffie and Daniel McDuffie and families upon the death of Ralph's wife and Craig and Daniel's mother, Eleanor McDuffie, on December 14.



175 East Lanier Avenue, Fayetteville, GA 30214

770-461-4313 fayettevillefirst.com

Online Giving: onrealm.org/FFUMC/give

Scripture quotations from New Revised Standard Version

Hymns: Copyright 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

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

NA Meeting: Thursdays and Saturdays 7 PM

QR Code for
GIVING

