

The Worship of God

Fayetteville First United Methodist Church

Christmas Day | 11:00 AM | DECEMBER 25, 2022

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Allyson Lawrence
Associate Minister

MUSIC OF PREPARATION

Mr. Justin Maxey
Director of Music & Organist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 98: 1-4

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Martin and **People**
Senior Minister

Sing to the Lord a new song
because he has done wonderful things!
**His own strong hand and his own holy arm
have won the victory!**
The Lord has made his salvation widely known;
**he has revealed his righteousness
in the eyes of all the nations.**
God has remembered his loyal love
and faithfulness to the house of Israel;
every corner of the earth has seen God's salvation.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!

*HYMN 246

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

INVOCATION

Rev. Lawrence

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Rev. Lawrence and **People**

**We are not alone; we live in God's world.
We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**



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We trust in God. We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.
We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

STATEMENT OF FAITH OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA UMH 883

***GLORIA**

GLORIA

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

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

Isaiah 52:7-10

Dr. Martin

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." ⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

Thanks be to God.

***HYMN 224**

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

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.

***HYMN 240**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

***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."**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Rev. Lawrence

OFFERTORY

Mr. Maxey

*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.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

*HYMN 206

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

HOUSTON

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

John 1:1-14

Dr. Martin

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Come and See: The Light

Rev. Lawrence

*HYMN 251

Go Tell It On The Mountain

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Lawrence

*POSTLUDE

Mr. Maxey

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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