

The Worship of God

Fayetteville First United Methodist Church
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT | 11:00 AM | DECEMBER 14, 2025

A SERVICE OF Lessons and Carols

MUSIC OF PREPARATION

Variations on Noel Nouvelet
Arr. Diane Bish

Nicholas Bowden

INTROIT

Make a Joyful Noise
John Ness Beck

The Chancel Choir

*Make a joyful noise unto the Lord all ye lands! Serve the Lord with gladness.
Come before his presence with singing.
Enter into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise.*

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Kaylen Short
Senior Minister

*PROCESSIONAL CAROL

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

**Hark! The herald angels sing "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

**Christ, by highest heav'n adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Diety!
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

**Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die.
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

Leader and People
The Harrises

In the midst of our waiting and longing for God to make the world right again, we cling to the truth that God has saved, God is saving, and God will save. So today, we join our voices with the prophet Isaiah, who calls us to live in the joy of the truth of God's salvation.

We choose to believe that the day is coming when “the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away” (Isaiah 35:10).

We light this candle of joy as a sign of the Truth that sets us free to live in joy as we wait and work for the day when all creation will flourish together. Amen

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Rev. Short

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

THE BIDDING PRAYER, THE LORD’S PRAYER

The Rev. Drew West and **People**
Minster of Families and Children

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.

ANTHEM

E’en so, Lord Jesus quickly come
Paul Manz

The Chamber Choir

Peace be to you and grace from him who freed us from our sin, who loved us all and shed his blood that we might saved be. Sing holy, holy to our Lord, The Lord, Almighty God, who was and is and is to come; Sing holy, holy lord! Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein, rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming soon. E’en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more; they need no light, no lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their all.

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19
Florence Prine

God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent’s head.

***CONGREGATIONAL CAROL**

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

PICARDY

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his Hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.**

**King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood;
he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.**

**Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.**

THE SECOND LESSON

Genesis 22:15-18
Donna Blackburn

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed.

ANTHEM

My Soul Doth Magnify The Lord

Hank Beebe

The Chancel Choir
Marty Alexander, Associate Organist

My soul doth magnify the Lord, my spirit hath rejoiced in God my savior, for he hath regarded the lowliness of me, his servant. Behold, from henceforth, all generations shall call me blessed! For he that is mighty hath done great things, and holy is his name.

His mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation. He showed strength with his arm, he hath scattered the proud, he hath put down the mighty and exalted the low. He hath filled the hungry with good things, the rich he sent empty away, he hath helped his servant Israel as he spake to our fathers, to Abraham and his seed forever.

My soul doth magnify the Lord, my spirit hath rejoiced in God my savior, for he hath regarded the lowliness of me, his servant. Behold all generations from henceforth call me blessed, for great things he hath done for me, and holy is his name!

THE THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7
Barb Combs

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.

*CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

Angels from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

**Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear;
Suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

THE FOURTH LESSON

Micah 5:2-5a
Nancy Dennis

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

The Rev. Charles Robinson
Minister of Nurture

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling arr. Mack Wilberg

The Chancel Choir

*Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down.
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.*

*Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit; let us find thy second rest;
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.*

*Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return and never, never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always praising, serve thee as thy hosts above,*

Pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

*Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation, perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place;
till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!*

***DOXOLOGY**

OLD 100th

**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.**

THE FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:26-35,38
Joe Goodwin

The prophet in exile foresees the coming glory of the Lord.

ANTHEM

Every Valley
Victor Johnson

The Chancel Choir

*Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low;
the crooked made straight and the rough places plain.
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.
Then the wolf dwell with the lamb; and the leopard will lie down with the goat.
The calf and the lion will live together; and a child, a little child will lead them;
and this child will be peace.
Every valley shall be exalted.
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together.*

THE SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-7
Gil Cook

Saint Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

ANTHEM

The Coventry Carol
arr. Mark Hayes

Sam Burch, Baritone

*Lully, lullay, thou little tiny child,
Bye bye, lully, lullay.
O sisters too, how may we do
For to preserve this day?
This poor youngling for whom we do sing,
"Bye bye, lully, lullay?"
Herod the king, in his raging
Charged he hath this day
His men of might in his own sight
All young children to slay.
That woe is me, poor child, for thee
And ever mourn and may
For thy parting neither say nor sing,
"Bye bye, lully, lullay."
Lully, lullay, thou little tiny child,
Bye bye, lully, lullay.*

The shepherds go to the manger.


ANTHEM

HE COMES TO US AS ONE UNKNOWN


The Chancel Choir & Congregation




All 1. He comes to us ___ as ___ one un - known, a
 Choir 2. He comes when souls ___ in ___ si - lence lie and
 Choir 3. He comes to us ___ in ___ sound of seas, the
 Choir 4. He comes in love ___ as ___ once he came by
 All 5. He comes in truth ___ when ___ faith is grown: be



breath un - seen, un - heard; as though with - in a
 thoughts of day de - part; half - seen up - on the
 o - cean's fume and foam; yet small and still up
 flesh and blood and birth; to bear with - in our
 lieved, o - beyed, a - dored; the Christ in all the



heart of stone, or shriv - eled seed in dark - ness sown, a
 in - ward eye, a fall - ing star a - cross the ___ sky of ___
 on the breeze, a wind that stirs the tops of ___ trees, a
 mor - tal frame a life, a death, a sav - ing ___ name, for ___
 Scrip - tures shown, as yet un - seen, but not un - known, our ___



pulse of be - ing ___ stirred, a pulse of be - ing stirred.
 night with - in ___ the ___ heart, of night with - in the heart.
 voice to call ___ us ___ home, a voice to call us home.
 ev - 'ry child ___ of ___ earth, for ev - 'ry child of earth.
 Sav - ior and ___ our ___ Lord, our Sav - ior and our Lord.

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Tune: *Repton*, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848-1918

He Comes to Us as One Unknown (11-10742) setting by John Ferguson

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THE EIGHTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

Matthew Halverson

The Wise Men are led by the star to Jesus.

ANTHEM

I wonder as I wander

John Jacob Niles

Joy Rotz, Soprano

*I wonder as I wander, out under the sky, how Jesus the Savior did come for to die
for poor ordinary people like you and like I; I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.*

*When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow's stall with wise men and farmers and shepherd and all.
but high from God's heaven a star's light did fall, and the promise of ages it did then recall.*

*If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing, a star in the sky, or a bird on the wing,
or all of God's angels in heaven for to sing, he surely could have it, 'cause he was the King.*

*I wonder as I wander, out under the sky, how Jesus the Savior did come for to die
for poor ordinary people like you and like I; I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.*

THE NINTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

Bill Webb

Saint John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.

*CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

**Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

**Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

**Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

**See him in a manger laid, whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Short

***CHORAL RESPONSE** *May the Lord, Mighty God, Bless and Keep You Forever*

Choir and People
EDELWEISS

***May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever;
grant you peace, perfect peace, courage in every endeavor.
Lift up your eyes and see His face and His grace forever!
May the Lord, mighty God, bless and keep you forever.***

***POSTLUDE**

Hark the Herald Angels Sing
arr. Carol Hamlin

Mr. Alexander, organ

* Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

*Acolytes enter the sanctuary symbolizing the light of Christ with us as we gather.
As they depart carrying the light, we remember Christ goes with us as we serve the world.*

SEASON OF THE NATIVITY SCHEDULE

SERVICE OF GRIEF AND HOPE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

6:00 PM – FFUMC Chapel
Led by Rev. Kaylen Short

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

8:45 AM – FFUMC Chapel
11:00 AM – FFUMC Sanctuary
Message by Rev. Kaylen Short

CHRISTMAS ON THE SQUARE CONCERT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

7:30 PM – FFUMC Sanctuary
The Chancel Choir and Orchestra

TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:00 PM – FFUMC Sanctuary
6:00 PM – FFUMC Sanctuary
Message by Rev. Kaylen Short
Music by The Chancel Choir

11:00 PM – FFUMC Chapel
Message by Rev. Kaylen Short
Music by The Chamber Choir

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

8:45 AM – FFUMC Chapel
11:00 AM – FFUMC Sanctuary
Message by Rev. Charles Robinson
Music by The Chancel Choir

EPIPHANY SUNDAY SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

8:45 AM – FFUMC Chapel
Message by Rev. Kaylen Short
10:00 AM – Churchwide Potluck Breakfast
Fellowship Hall
11:00 AM – FFUMC Sanctuary
Message by Rev. Kaylen Short

Please remember in your prayers:

Karen Davis
Martha Hale

Tangie Hubbard
Joe Watson

Dick Webb
Paul Wiley



WEEKENDER

Service of Grief and Hope
December 14th
6:00 P.M.
Chapel

Dinner and Chirstmas
Carolng
December 17th
5:00 P.M.

Christmas Choir Concert
December 21st
7:30 P.M.



CONNECT

Online Giving: onrealm.org/FFUMC/give

Scripture quotations from New Revised Standard Version
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AA Meetings: Sundays 3 PM; Mondays, Wednesdays,
Fridays, Saturdays 7 PM; Thursdays, 7:30 AM

NA Meeting: Thursdays 7:30 PM



GIVE

FAYETTEVILLE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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