

The Worship of God



Fayetteville First United Methodist Church
Second Sunday of Advent | 11:00 AM | December 7, 2025



MUSIC OF PREPARATION *Sheep may safely graze from 'Hunting' Cantata BWV 208*

Johann Sebastian Bach
transcription by Virgil Fox

Nicholas Bowden
Minister of Music & Organist

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. Charles Robinson
Minister of Nurture

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 718**

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

HELMSLEY

***INVITATION, CONFESSION, & PARDON**

Rev. Robinson and People

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Let us pray together:

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

**We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love,
we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

All pray in silence.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

MEINEKE

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Robinson

Offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:

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

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

Leader and **People**
The Relyeas

Advent reminds us that we are people who share a story, the story of Jesus, who enacts peace by judging in favor of the poor and deciding with equity for the meek of the earth. We long for the day when "the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them" (Isaiah 11:6).

Today, we choose to live the story of peace, believing that true peace comes when we seek the flourishing of all God's creation.

We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to bring Light to the places the world seeks to hide until that day when all creation lives together in harmony and abundance.

ANTHEM

In the Bleak Midwinter

Ethan Rotz
Tenor

CONGREGATIONAL NOTES

The Rev. Kaylen Short
Senior Minister

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Short and **People**

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

Every Valley

Victor Johnson

(Adapted from Isaiah 40:4-5, 11:6, Micah 5:5)

The Chancel Choir
Marty Alexander, Piano

*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.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rev. Short

*Children are invited to return to seats after Children's Moment.
No Wonders of Worship today as we celebrate Communion together.*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Rev. Short

God of timeless grace,
you fill us with joyful expectation.
Make us ready for the message that prepares the way,
that with uprightness of heart and holy joy
we may eagerly await the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ,
Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 1:1-8

Rev. Short

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight,' "
so John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And the whole Judean region and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him and were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

May God bless the hearing of this Scripture.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Series: "Let Heaven and Nature Sing"
Sermon: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.
...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves
in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.

...Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

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.

HOLY COMMUNION

Gluten-free elements are available upon request at the chancel.

You are invited to contribute to the Benevolence Fund by leaving an offering on the chancel rail. These funds are used to assist those in need.

***HYMN 211**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

***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**

Christmas Fanfare with Angels From the Realms of Glory

Mr. Alexander
Organist

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in bold type.

Please remember in your prayers:

Karen Davis
Martha Hale

Tangie Hubbard
Dick Webb

Paul Wiley

**In Loving Memory
Ted Colbert**



WEEKENDER

**Christmas Pageant &
Dinner
December 10th
5:00 P.M.**

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

**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

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