



Sunday, November 28, 2021

First Sunday in Advent



Prelude *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland (Savior of the Nations, Come)*
Velda Graham Bell, organ

J.S. Bach

Lighting of the Advent Candle of *Hope*

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

One: We light the candle of *Hope*, the first marker of our Advent journey. As we set out, may we travel hopefully. As we set out, God of journeys, travel with us.

Let us sing together our Advent song of hope:

Light the Advent Candle

The Faith We Sing #2090, v.1

*Light the Advent Candle, one: now the waiting has begun;
We have started on our way, time to think of Christmas Day.
Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;
Candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.*

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* Hymn *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

UM Hymnal #206

Children's Message

Jojo Coffin-Langdon, director of children's and family ministries

Children may leave for Sunday School after the Children's Message.

Morning Prayer

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Unison Prayer: Lord, a candle burns, the sign of our hope. God of hope, come to us again this Advent. May your hope live within us, burning as a light in our lives.

Prayers of Concern and Celebration

Jesus' Prayer - contemporary paraphrase by Mark Berry

O Breathing Life, your Name shines everywhere! Release a space to plant your Presence here. Imagine your possibilities now. Embody your desire in every light and form. Grow through us this moment's bread and wisdom. Untie the knots of failure binding us, as we release the strands we hold of others' faults. Help us not forget our Source, yet free us from not being in the present. From you arises every vision, power and song from gathering to gathering. May our future actions grow from here! Amen!

Anthem *Is Your Heart Prepared for a King?*

Robert Lau

Sanctuary Choir; Michael Goodlet-Meijer, director

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:1-7a

In those days, Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to

Judea, to Bethlehem, the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Offering Our Gifts and Tithes

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Anthem *On This Day Earth Shall Ring*

arr. Cathy Moglebust

Cast in Bronze; Bill Alexander, director

Sermon *O Little Inn of Bethlehem...and the Twin Ports*

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* Hymn *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

UM Hymnal #230

Benediction

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Postlude Toccata on "*Savior of the Nations, Come*"

arr. Paul Manz

Velda Graham Bell, organ

* *Please stand as you are comfortable.*



Announcements

*Please fill out the Connect Cards each week. They are replacing the attendance pads formerly found in the pews. Keeping attendance and making sure the church has your current contact information is an important part of church records. **On the back of the card**, is a list of ministry opportunities, places where your help can make a difference! These will change often, so check them each week and please sign up where you can.*

Visitors: Welcome to First United Methodist Church. We are so glad you are worshipping with us today! Please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Narthex; we have a packet and small gift for first-time visitors.

Join us for Faith Forum Sunday mornings 9:00-9:45 in the East Lounge. Next week, December 5, the new director of CHUM, John Cole, will be speaking.

Thank you to everyone who has turned in an estimate of giving for 2022. If you haven't yet, please bring the card and your participation survey to the church office Monday-Friday 9am-3pm or mail them (FUMC, 230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN 55811).

Next Sunday we will celebrate Holy Communion. There will be individually packaged communion elements available. If you're worshipping at home, please have something to eat and drink with you.

Enjoy scones for the holidays. The Carol M. Donahue Music Scholarship Committee will have scones for sale following worship on Sunday, December 12. You may also pre-order scones through December 5. Scone varieties: Orange Cranberry, Dark Chocolate Cranberry, Lemon Poppyseed – all \$15; White Chocolate Raspberry, \$17. Proceeds will go to the Carol M. Donahue Music Student Scholarship Fund of FUMC. Checks and monetary gifts can be made payable to the Music Scholarship Fund.

Last chance to order Terri Lynn Nuts and Goodies! A portion of the proceeds from your order will go to help fund the youth mission trip next summer. Order your favorites online at CoppertopDuluth.terrilynn.com before the end of November; your treats will be delivered directly to your home.

Enjoy Holiday Music with FUMC Musicians

Sunday, Dec. 5 (3 pm) - A Felgemaker Christmas organ concert

The Friends of the Felgemaker will perform a Christmas organ concert on the historic Felgemaker pipe organ at Sacred Heart Music Center (201 W. 4th St., Duluth). The event is free with a suggested donation of \$15. Area organists will perform including our own Velda Graham Bell. Guest musicians include the Duluth Shape Note Singers.

Saturday, Dec. 11 (7:30 pm) and Sunday, Dec. 12 (3 pm) – Holiday Jubilations and Traditions

Strikepoint joins the Arrowhead Chorale for their holiday concert in the Depot Great Hall (506 W. Michigan St., Duluth). This special event will celebrate the season with themes of light spanning 300 years. Strikepoint will also provide a musical prelude beginning 20 minutes before the start of each concert. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for students; available online at www.arrowheadchorale.com/performances.php or at the door.

Sunday, Dec. 12 – 10 am worship service – Lessons and Carols service

You don't want to miss our annual Lessons and Carols Service held during morning worship. This very special service tells the story of Christ's birth through Scripture readings and music offered by First UMC's Sanctuary Choir, soloists, flute, violin, piano and organ.

Sunday, Dec. 12 (7:00 pm) - Twin Ports Wind Orchestra's Holiday Concert

Please join the Twin Ports Wind Orchestra Brass for a concert of inspiring seasonal favorites, warmth and good cheer. Held in our Sanctuary and conducted by First UMC's Dr. Mark Whitlock, the TPWO brass section will perform a variety of your favorite Christmas music. Free-will donations accepted.

Thank you to Alex Flinner, Nick Gosen and the Livestream Team for making the online service possible.

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Ways to give to support your church: give online at fumcduluth.com OR text COPPERTOP to 73256 OR mail to FUMC, 230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN 55811

