



First United Methodist Church
Sunday, December 11, 2022
Third Sunday in Advent
Children's Christmas Pageant



Please be aware that our services are livestreamed, and any adults and/or children participating in musical groups, children's messages and liturgist roles will appear on camera.

Prelude *Old Church Choir* Zach Williams

Tapestry; Leah and Corey Hulst, directors

Lighting the Third Advent Candle – the Candle of Joy

One: We are in the season of Advent. A time of waiting and preparing for the coming Christ. Each Sunday we light a candle to guide us in our journey. We relight the candles of HOPE and PEACE. Today we light the candle of JOY as we sing together:

All: Light a candle bright and tall for the Joy this season brings. *(sung to the tune of "Dix")*
Joy like fountains brimming full. Through our world now let it ring!
Shine within our hearts today. Come, O Joy, to us, we pray.

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Music by children of FUMC

Christmas Medley
Away in a Manger; Deck the Halls
Jingle Bells; Ode to Joy

Nielsen Kids
Annie Coffin-Langdon
Luca Lebakken

* Hymn *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn* attachment

Morning Prayer Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Unison Prayer: Lord, a candle burns, the sign of joy that fills our hearts and guides our way. God of joy, come to us again this Advent. May your joy live within us, burning as a light in our lives.

Prayers of Joy and Concern

Jesus' Prayer - contemporary paraphrase from *Human Rites* by Ward and Wild
Beloved, our Father and Mother, in whom is heaven, hallowed be your name, followed be your royal way, done be your will and rule, throughout the whole creation. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

Anthem *Christmas Jig* Traditional English carols; arr. Will Schmid

JAM; Cynthia Coffin-Langdon, director

Offering Our Gifts Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Luke 2:1-14

In those days, a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region, there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them and the glory of the Lord shone around them and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for, see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace among those whom he favors."

Anthem *Mary, Did You Know* Lowry and Greene
 Saige Mattson, French horn; Velda Graham Bell, piano



Christmas Pageant *Christmas Through the Eyes of Children*
Angels We Have Heard on High UM Hymnal #238; v. 1-2
Away in a Manger UM Hymnal #217; v. 1-children, v. 2 - congregation

* Hymns *Joy to the World* UM Hymnal #246; v. 1
He Came Down The Faith We Sing #2085

Benediction Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Postlude *O Come, All Ye Faithful* arr. David Cherwien
 Velda Graham Bell, organ

* Please stand as you are comfortable.



Announcements



to 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, where your help can make a difference! These will change often, so check them each week and please sign up where you can.

Guests: 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.

Please join us for coffee and doughnuts in Lakeview Social Hall following the worship service.

Thank you to everyone who has turned in their estimates of giving for 2023 and their participation surveys. If you haven't yet, please mail them to the church (230 E. Skyline Parkway, Duluth, MN 55811) or bring them to the church office. Extra copies are available in envelopes on the ushers' tables in the Narthex. Please help us by returning your forms to the church.

A gift to light the church for the week of December 11 was given by Marilew Barnidge in memory of her husband Bob. The gift will also support the church's groundskeeping fund.

Upcoming Worship Services:

Sunday, December 18 - Our Lessons and Carols Service will tell the story of Christ's birth through Scripture readings and music offered by First UMC's Sanctuary Choir, Strikepoint, and Class Ring.

Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve services at 4:00 (in person and livestreamed) and 10:00pm (in person only). Music will be led by Tapestry and Velda Graham Bell.

Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day at 10:00am (in person only). Music will be led by the Sanctuary Choir, Extollers (the reunion bell choir) and Velda Graham Bell.

More about Christmas Eve: As always, at both services we will sing favorite Christmas carols and end with a beautiful candlelighting ceremony while we sing "Silent Night." Pastor Jeanine will preach at both services, and the 4:00pm service will include a special Children's Message. The 4:00pm service will be livestreamed so you can enjoy it at any time during the evening or Christmas Day; the 10:00pm service will be in person only. Christmas Day's morning worship service will also be in person only, not livestreamed.

Enjoy Holiday Music with FUMC Musicians

Sunday, Dec. 11 (3 pm) - One Silent Night

Strikepoint again joins the Arrowhead Chorale for their holiday concert in the Depot Great Hall (506 W. Michigan St., Duluth). Strikepoint will also provide a musical prelude beginning 15 minutes before the start of each concert. Tickets are \$30 for adults (\$35 at the door) and \$10 for students; available online at

www.arrowheadchorale.com/performances.php or at the door.

Sunday, Dec. 11 (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.

Wednesday, Dec. 14 (7:30 pm) - College of St. Scholastica Holiday Concert

Join the St. Scholastica Jazz Band, String Orchestra, Brass Choir, Steel Band, and Concert Band for an evening of festive holiday cheer. Our Sanctuary Choir Director, Derek Bromme, is the director of bands. Tickets are \$7.

Sunday, Dec. 18 - 10 am worship service - Lessons and Carols service

This very special service tells the story of Christ's birth through Scripture readings and music offered by First UMC's Sanctuary Choir, Class Ring handbell choir, and Strikepoint.

Guest WIFI Network: FirstUnitedPublic. Password: Public2022.

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

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Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



1. A - wake! a - wake, and greet the new morn, for
 2. To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
 3. In deep - est night Christ's com - ing shall be, when
 4. Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, sing out your joy, for
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, whose hum - ble song is
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
 cold the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



Je - sus is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing.
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less;



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
 Mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing
 One with - out voice breaks forth in song, a lame one leaps in
 Love be our song and love our prayer, and love, our end - less



geth - er, to o - pen wide the heaven - ly door, and
 kind - ness, the thun - der of the an - thems roll to
 won - der, the weak are raised a - bove the strong, and
 sto - ry, may God fill ev - ery day we share, and



lives now in - side us for ev - er.
 shat - ter all hate and in - jus - tice.
 weap - ons are bro - ken a - sun - der.
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.