



First United Methodist Church

Sunday, December 8, 2024

Second Sunday in Advent • Children's Christmas Pageant



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

A nursery for children ages 5 and under is on the lower level and will include a Bible lesson. Sunday School for children K-5th grade will be held in the upper-level Children's Lounge following the Children's Message. Please pick up your kids in the Lounge after worship.

Prelude *Christmas carols for organ* arr. Dale Wood
Velda Graham Bell, organ

Lighting the Second Advent Candle – the Candle of Love Ashton Enroth, Charlie and Maks Vidovic
One: We begin 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. Today we relight the candle of Hope and light the candle of Love, as we sing together:

Song: *We Light the Advent Candles* attachment, v. 1, 3

Welcome and Announcements Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* **Hymn** *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* UM Hymnal #240

Music by FUMC Children and Youth
The Hermit Crab Cha-Cha Kevin Olson
Up on the Housetop Benjamin Hanby
Greta Nielsen, piano
Round Dance Ferdinand Beyer
Coventry Carol traditional
Delaney Nielsen, piano
Morning Song Edward Grieg
Liam Hedlund, piano
O Come, All Ye Faithful John Francis Wade
Nathaniel Bateman, flute

Anthem *God Rest Ye Merry* arr. Kevin McChesney
Class Ring; Bill Alexander, director

Morning Prayer Pastor Jeanine Alexander
Unison Prayer: Lord, a candle burns, the sign of love that fills our hearts and guides our way. God of love, come to us again this Advent. May your love 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.

Special Music *Our Perfect Christmas Tree*

words and music by Thomas Wayne King
based on the true story written by Jim Bishop, Jr.
Jim Bishop, and Debbi and Tom King

Scripture Reading

Ashton Enroth, and Charlie and Maks Vidovic

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 in him 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."

* Hymn *Star-Child*

The Faith We Sing #2095



Rehearsed/Unrehearsed Christmas Pageant

Sunday School children, JAM and the Peanut Butter Band, JAM Jr., all children and youth
Beth Brophy, director; with assistance from Larry Ehresman and Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Angels Come to Mary and Joseph

Carol: *What Child is This*

UM Hymnal #219; children v. 1, congregation v. 3

Mary and Joseph Travel to Bethlehem

Birth of Jesus

Carol: *Away in a Manger*

UM Hymnal #217; children v. 1-2, congregation v. 3

Angels Visit the Shepherds

Carol: *Angels We Have Heard on High*

UM Hymnal #238; children v. 1, congregation v. 2-3

Shepherds Visit Jesus

Wise Ones Visit Jesus

Carol: *We Three Kings*

UM Hymnal #254; children v. 1, congregation v. 5

Conclusion

Carol: *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

UM Hymnal #234; children v. 1, congregation v. 3, 6

Offering Our Gifts

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

* Hymn *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

UM Hymnal #251

Benediction

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

Postlude

This Little Light of Mine

traditional

Tapestry; Leah and Corey Hulst, directors



Announcements



Please
remember

*to fill out the **Connect Cards** each week. 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.*

Join us for coffee and doughnuts in the lower-level Lakeview Social Hall following the worship service.

***Faith Forum** will resume in January. Please join us on Sunday mornings from 9-9:45am in the Fireside Lounge. On **January 5**, Reverend Karen Schuder returns to FUMC to talk about resistance, sustainability, and caring.*

***Thank you** to everyone who has turned in their estimates of giving for 2025 and 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.*

***Holiday Sale to support refugees:** On December 15 after worship, please support refugees by purchasing woven baskets, hand-carved giraffes, handmade nativity scenes, stuffed Noah's Arks, slippers, dolls, batik drawings, and greeting cards. All proceeds will go to refugees in Kenya. I apologize but I can only accept cash and Venmo.
~Haji Dokhanchi*

Upcoming Services:

***Sunday, December 15, 10am** – Lessons and Carols service. This very special service tells the story of Christ's birth through Scripture readings and music offered by FUMC's Sanctuary Choir and Cast in Bronze handbell ensemble, along with a variety of vocal and instrumental solos and ensembles.*

***Tuesday, December 24** – Christmas Eve services at 4pm and 10pm. Both services will be live-streamed.*

***Advent/Christmas Mission Project.** This year we will again have three ways to participate: 1) Financial donations. Donations will be shared between the mission and ministry of our congregation and Union Gospel Mission. 2) Give your time. Volunteer at Ruby's Pantry on Thursday, December 19, or at Laundry Love, hosting people at the Spirit Valley Laundromat. 3) Donate items. Diapers (particularly newborn and size one) and baby blankets for ECFE (Early Childhood Family Education, bake cookies for St. Louis County Jail inmates, food and items for the Food Shelf. Look for further details in the December [First Family](#) and the pastor's weekly email.*

Enjoy Holiday Music with FUMC Musicians



Sunday, Dec. 8 (7:00pm) - Twin Ports Wind Orchestra's Holiday Concert

Please join the Twin Ports Wind Orchestra Brass for the 11th "Happy Holidays Brass and Percussion Concert." Held in our Sanctuary and conducted by First UMC's Dr. Mark Whitlock, the concert will feature arrangements of the most popular and memorable Christmas pieces. Tickets are available at the door.

Wednesday, Dec. 11 (7:30pm) – Joe Walsh at Sacred Heart Music Center

Jean Walsh's son Joe will be playing mandolin at Sacred Heart (201 W. 4th St., Duluth). Joe and his string band, Mr. Sun, will stage a reinterpretation of Duke Ellington's arrangement of the "Nutcracker Suite" in this special holiday performance. For ticket information, see sacredheartmusic.org/event/mr-sun-performs-nutcracker-suite.

Friday, Dec. 13 (7:30pm) and Saturday, Dec. 14 (3:00pm) – O magnum mysterium: Holiday Traditions and Jubilations

Strikepoint again joins the Arrowhead Chorale for their holiday concert at First Lutheran Church (1100 E. Superior St., Duluth). The Chorale and Orchestra will celebrate the profound mystery and joy of the Christmas season with settings of "O magnum mysterium" and carol settings by Dan Forrest, John Rutter, Mack Wilberg, and more. Strikepoint will also provide a musical prelude beginning 20 minutes before the start of each concert. In addition, our own Velda Graham Bell will be playing organ. Tickets are \$30 for adults (\$35 at the door) and \$10 for students; available at the door or online at arrowheadchorale.com.

Sunday, Dec. 15 – 10:00am worship – 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 FUMC's Sanctuary Choir and Cast in Bronze handbell ensemble, as well as a variety of other vocal and instrumental solos and ensembles.

Friday, Dec. 20 (7:00pm) - Strikepoint and Friends present A Bell Noël: ringing in the holidays Our own Strikepoint, along with some distinguished guest artists, will take over our Sanctuary to share holiday favorites. Tickets for this special concert will be available at the door: \$25 for adults; \$10 for kids and students.

The Terri Lynn Fundraiser online store will be open during December to buy gourmet candies and nuts. Funds raised will go towards next summer's youth mission trip. Place your order here: coppertopduluth.terrilynn.com.

Guest WIFI Network: FirstUnitedPublic. Password: Public2022.

Thank you to the Livestream Team for making the online service possible.

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Ways You Can Help Your Church



Damiano Center desperately needs donations of gloves and mittens, any size.

Volunteer for Ruby's Pantry on Thursday, December 19, starting at 4pm. December is FUMC's month to provide extra volunteers.

Bake cookies for inmates at St. Louis County Jail. More information is in the December/January [First Family](#) and on the Advent Mission Project handout, available in the Narthex.

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

We Light the Advent Candles

1. We light the Ad - vent can - dles a - gainst the win - ter night, to
 2. The first one will re - mind us that Christ will soon re - turn. We
 3. We light the sec - ond can - dle, and hear God's ho - ly Word, it
 4. Three can - dles now are gleam - ing and show us the true way, re -
 5. Four can - dles burn - ing bright - ly an - nounce that Christ has come, pre -

wel - come our Lord Je - sus who is the world's True Light, to
 light it in the dark - ness and watch it gleam and burn, We
 tells us, cling to Je - sus, pre - pare to meet your Lord, it
 joice, the Bap - tist cries out, your Lord has come to - day, re -
 pare, my heart, be - lieve it, and give the Christ child room, pre -

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