

FUMC welcomes all who worship with us this morning. Please fill out the pew pads at the end of the row so that we may have a record of all our participants. The ushers and greeters can answer questions that you may have.

Opportunities for Music

Children Music Makers (K-5th grade) resume Sunday, January 8, 2023.

Children Chime Time (3rd-5th grade) resumes Sunday, January 8, 2023.

Bells of Praise rehearse today, December 11.

Joy Ringers resume Wednesday, January 11, 2023.

Chancel Choir meets Wednesdays at 7:00 pm

An Invitation to a Miracle

Presented by the combined choirs of First UMC and First Presbyterian

December 11, 7 PM First Presbyterian / December 18, 7 PM, First UMC

Christmas Eve Worship Services will be held at 4:00 PM and 11:00 PM. The 4:00 PM service will be children focused. Both services will have special music, Holy Communion, and Candle lighting. Gather with family and friends as we celebrate Christ's birth.

Christmas Day and New Year's Day are on Sundays this year. We will have one combined worship service December 25 at 10:00 AM in the Sanctuary. We will sing many of the beloved Christmas hymns. Come as you are and worship the Newborn King. There will not be Sunday School on Christmas Day unless your individual class wishes to meet. On New Year's day there will be one combined worship at 10 AM in the Family Life Center.

December Ushers: Lester Cozart, Chris Hendrix, David Hunter, Bill Steed

2023 Greeters are needed for the 10:55 am service. Please contact Kathy Slye for more information.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Bermuda Commons At Home

Molly Jo McClamrock Peggy Clark

Jean Shelton Mary Lou Musselman

Somerset Ann Stayer

Billie Bean Shirley Wicker

Louise Collins Clemmons Village 1

Ron Cotterman Madeline Shelton

Davie Rehab Mocksville Senior Living

Wanda Bryant Karen Marks

Mary Hendricks

Christine Woodruff



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 11, 2022

10:55 AM

The mission of First United Methodist Church is to believe in Jesus Christ as Lord, to receive the power of the Holy Spirit, and to respond to the needs of others with the love of God the Father

PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

REV. HANNAH SMITH

PRELUDE

I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT

ORGAN

CHORAL INTROIT

THE KING OF GLORY COMES

CHANCEL CHOIR

CHILDREN'S MOMENT WITH THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

ELIZABETH ROSENBAUM

SPECIAL MUSIC

MUSIC MAKERS

* MISSION STATEMENT

REV. HANNAH SMITH & CONGREGATION

* HYMN UMH 203

HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED

OLD TESTAMENT READING

ISAIAH 35:1-10

REV. HANNAH SMITH

The desert and the dry land will be glad; the wilderness will rejoice and blossom like the crocus. ²They will burst into bloom and rejoice with joy and singing. They will receive the glory of Lebanon, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon. They will see the LORD's glory, the splendor of our God. ³Strengthen the weak hands, and support the unsteady knees.⁴Say to those who are panicking: "Be strong! Don't fear! Here's your God, coming with vengeance; with divine retribution God will come to save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf will be cleared. ⁶Then the lame will leap like the deer, and the tongue of the speechless will sing. Waters will spring up in the desert, and streams in the wilderness. ⁷The burning sand will become a pool, and the thirsty ground, fountains of water. The jackals' habitat, a pasture; grass will become reeds and rushes. ⁸A highway will be there. It will be called The Holy Way. The unclean won't travel on it, but it will be for those walking on that way. Even fools won't get lost on it; ⁹no lion will be there, and no predator will go up on it. None of these will be there; only the redeemed will walk on it. ¹⁰The LORD's ransomed ones will return and enter Zion with singing, with everlasting joy upon their heads. Happiness and joy will overwhelm them; grief and groaning will flee away.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

REV. HANNAH SMITH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

REV. HANNAH SMITH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL

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

THE COMING OF THE LORD

CHANCEL CHOIR

OFFERTORY PRAYER AND TIME OF GIVING

ALL

* DOXOLOGY UMH 95

PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

* HYMN UMH 182

WORD OF GOD, COME DOWN ON EARTH

* SCRIPTURE

MATTHEW 11:2-11

²Now when John heard in prison about the things the Christ was doing, he sent word by his disciples to Jesus, asking, ³“Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?” ⁴Jesus responded, “Go, report to John what you hear and see. ⁵*Those who were blind are able to see. Those who were crippled are walking. People with skin diseases are cleansed. Those who were deaf now hear. Those who were dead are raised up. The poor have good news proclaimed to them.* ⁶Happy are those who don’t stumble and fall because of me.” ⁷When John’s disciples had gone, Jesus spoke to the crowds about John: “What did you go out to the wilderness to see? A stalk blowing in the wind? ⁸What did you go out to see? A man dressed up in refined clothes? Look, those who wear refined clothes are in royal palaces. ⁹What did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰He is the one of whom it is written: *Look, I’m sending my messenger before you, who will prepare your way before you.* ¹¹“I assure you that no one who has ever been born is greater than John the Baptist. Yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

MESSAGE

A GLIMPSE OF THE WAY

REV. LORI ANNE BOWEN

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. AMEN.

* RESPONSE

GLORIA, IN EXCELSIS DEO! GLORIA, IN EXCELSIS DEO!

ALL

* HYMN

THOU DIDST LEAVE THY THRONE

* BENEDICTION

REV. LORI ANNE BOWEN

* RESPONSE

EMMANUEL, EMMANUEL, HIS NAME IS CALLED EMMANUEL. GOD WITH US, REVEALED IN US, HIS NAME IS CALLED EMMANUEL.

ALL

* CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT. AMEN.

* POSTLUDE

COLD DECEMBER FLIES AWAY

ORGAN

* PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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