

December 24, 2017 • 10:00 a.m.
Fourth Sunday of Advent



Annunciation by John Collier (2000)

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



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You Are Welcome Here

Some of us are lifelong Methodists, others from different traditions and some from no religious background at all. We believe each of us is growing into the person God created us to be. We value the examples of those who have gone before us (tradition and scripture), the use of our minds (reason) and hearts (experience) as we seek to understand God's intention for our lives. When faith is shared from a breadth of experiences and identities our community is richer.

Since 2011, First UMC has been a part of the Reconciling Ministries Network, a national group of United Methodists that intentionally welcomes all persons, regardless of sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, race, ethnicity, age, physical or mental capacity, and education, socio-economic or

marital status.

Following Worship Today

Join us in Fellowship Hall for coffee and lemonade after worship at 11:15 a.m. We serve fair trade coffee which certifies that small coffee farmers receive a fair price.

New to First United Methodist Church? We are glad you're here! Text "Welcome" to 626.624.4157



Nursery Care (Infant - 4 years old)

Nursery care is available in Wesley Hall every Sunday from 9:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Child Check In (PreK - 6th Grade)

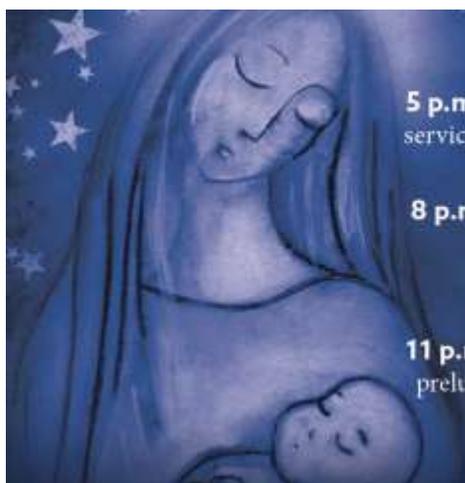
There will be no separate children's programming today, so kids do not need to be checked in.

Children's Schedule (PreK - 6th Grade)

Today is a Family Sunday, so families stay together for worship. There will not be any Sunday School classes or Children's Music today. Our regular Children's Ministry program will resume on January 7th.

Activity Packets

We have activity packets available for children during worship today. You can pick them up outside at the Check In Table, or at back of the Sanctuary.



December 24 - Christmas Eve

5 p.m. Family Christmas Eve Service – An interactive worship service in the Chapel designed for families with Children and youth with a musical prelude at 4:30 p.m.

8 p.m. Christmas on the Bleachers - An interactive, informal, joyous Christmas celebration on the Rose Parade Bleachers on Colorado Blvd. Dress warmly and enjoy hot chocolate as we give thanks for God's best gift of all.

11 p.m. Candlelight Service – Preceded by a 30-minute musical prelude beginning at 10:30 p.m., this moving service the Sanctuary will include magnificent music, a brief meditation and the celebration of Holy Communion.

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

To enhance the worship experience, please be sure to switch the ringer on cell phones or pagers to “silent” or “vibrate.”
Portions said by all are printed in **bold type**. “+” indicates to stand in body or spirit as you choose.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

PRELUDE

Reprise (Reflection on “E’en so, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come”)

Paul Manz (1919-2009)
Aaron Shows, Organist

TOLLING OF THE BELL

+ CALL TO WORSHIP

Led by Paul Floyd

All creation holds its breath.
The time is almost here.
The heavenly choir of angels waits for its cue to sing.
Excitement is all around us.
Prepare your hearts—the grace of God takes on human form.
Good news! Emmanuel, God-with-Us, comes to us.
We gather to make ready our hearts
for the coming of Christ, our hope.

+ HYMN OF PRAISE

There’s a Song in the Air

1. There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky!
2. There's a tu - mult of joy o'er the won - der - ful birth,
3. In the light of that star lie the ag - es im - pearled;
4. We re - joice in the light, and we ech - o the song

There's a moth - er's deep prayer and a ba - by's low cry!
for the vir - gin's sweet boy is the Lord of the earth.
and that song from a - far has swept o - ver the world.
that comes down through the night from the heav - en - ly throng.

And the star rains its fire while the beau - ti - ful sing,
Ay! the star rains its fire while the beau - ti - ful sing,
Eve - ry hearth is a - flame, and the beau - ti - ful sing
Ay! we shout to the love - ly e - van - gel they bring,

for the man - ger of Beth - le - hem cra - dles a King!
for the man - ger of Beth - le - hem cra - dles a King!
in the homes of the na - tions that Je - sus is King!
and we greet in his cra - dle our Sav - ior and King!

The United Methodist Hymnal, No. 249 Words: Josiah G. Holland, 1874 Tune: CHRISTMAS SONG by Karl P. Harrington, 1904. Public Domain.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH (*children come forward*)

Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now they gra - cious king - dom bring.

Words: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788 Tune: JEFFERSON by W Walker in Southern Harmony, 1835. Public Domain.

In a world where churches are too often empty, doors are shut,
and people seem to have no room for faith anymore, God, we call upon you to come.

**In a world where so many claim not to believe, we call upon you,
O God of heaven and earth, to come.**

In this season of Advent, we wait for your Spirit to be felt in our lives again.

We await the birth of Jesus, the Savior of All, who comes into our lives in a new way.

Come, thou long-expected, Jesus; come.

The fourth Advent candle is lit

Prayer: Dear God, we pray that our faith may be renewed once again, and we receive the wonder of your love in our lives anew. In the name of Jesus the Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

By thine own e - ter - nal spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;
by thine all suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788 Tune: JEFFERSON by W Walker in Southern Harmony, 1835. Public Domain.

+ GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

DRAMATIC RESPONSE

Do Not Be Afraid

by Rachel Hackenberg
Rev. Jennifer Chapman

ANTHEM

Hymn to the Virgin

-Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)
Chancel Choir with the Scholarship Quartet

Of one who is so fair and bright
Velut maris stella, [Like a star of the sea]
Brighter than the day is light,
Parens et puella: [Both mother and maiden]
I cry to thee, thou see to me,
Lady, pray thy Son for me,
Tam pia, [so pure]
That I may come to thee.
Maria! [Mary]

All this world was forlorn,
Eva peccatrice, [because of Eve, a sinner]
Till our Lord was born,
De te genetrice. [through you, his mother]
With 'ave' ('hail') it went away,
Darkest night, and comes the day
Salutis; [of salvation]
The well springeth out of thee.
Virtutis. [of virtue]

Lady, flower of everything,
Rosa sine spina, [Rose without thorn]
Thou bare Jesu, heaven's king,
Gratia divina: [by divine grace]
Of all thou bearest the prize,
Lady, queen of paradise
Electa: [chosen]
Maid mild, mother
es effecta. [you are made]
-anon. 14th century

MEDITATION

Just Say Yes

Rev. Sandra K. Olewine

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Gregory Norton

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

SHARING OUR TIME, TALENT AND TREASURES

OFFERTORY

Jesus Child

Words and Music by John Rutter (b. 1945)
Chancel Choir

Have you heard the story that they're telling 'bout Bethlehem,
Have you heard the story of the Jesus child?
How he came from heaven and was born in a manger bed?
Mary was his virgin mother pure and mild.

*Sing alleluia, brothers, sing alleluia, sisters,
Worship the Jesus child and praise his mother mild.
'Glory to God' the angel hosts are singing:
Listen to the story of the Jesus child.*

Jesus child, lying at Bethlehem,
Sleeping safe at Mary's knee,
Save my soul and bring me to paradise,
Let me join the angels singing glory to thee.

Sing alleluia, brothers, sing alleluia, sisters...

Have you heard the story of the kings from the orient,
Following the star that's shining over his head?
Offering their precious gifts of gold, myrrh and frankincense,
Kneeling with the ox and ass before his bed?

Sing alleluia, brothers, sing alleluia, sisters...

Brothers, let us celebrate the birth of the Jesus child,
Sisters, come and welcome him, the newborn King;
Praise the Lord who sent him down from heaven at Christmas time;
Young and old and rich and poor, his praises sing.

Sing alleluia, brothers, sing alleluia, sisters...

+ PRESENTATION MUSIC

All Praise to You

All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose
ad - vent has — our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Words: Charles Coffin, 17th century Tune: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapted by Michael Praetorius. Public Domain.

+ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

+ SENDING HYMN

He Is Born

REFRAIN:

He is born, the ho - ly Child, play the
 o - boe and bag - pipes mer - ri - ly! He is born, the
 ho - ly Child, sing we all of the Sav - ior mild.

1. Thru long a - ges of the past, prophets have fore - told his com - ing;
 2. O how love - ly, O how pure is this per - fect child of heav - en;
 3. Je - sus, Lord of all the world, com - ing as a child a - mong us,

thru long a - ges of the past, now the time has come at last!
 O how love - ly, O how pure, gra - cious gift to hu - man - kind! **REPEAT**
 Je - sus, Lord of all the world, grant to us thy heaven - ly peace. **REFRAIN**

The United Methodist Hymnal, No. 228. Words: 19th century French carol; Music: IL EST NÉ, 18th century French tune. Public Domain

+ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata on Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

Andrew Carter (b. 1939)

CHRISTMAS FLORAL DÉCOR Along with the 51 poinsettias donated in honor & in memory of loved ones listed on page 10, all additional florals have been given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Esther Hyde by her family.

Advent Wreath Lighting: adapted, <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/11/advent-candle-lighting-year-b.html>;

Scripture Dramatic Presentation: Rachel Hackenberg, <http://rachelhackenberg.com/blog/>

LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY:

Clergy: Rev. Sandra K. Olewine,
Rev. Gregory Norton,
& Rev. Jennifer Chapman

Worship Leader: Paul Floyd

Greeters: Susan Bootjer, Diane Harris, JP Harris
& Wanda Gae Stefansson

Audio/Video: John Atkins, Henry Dyson, Brian Hendricks,
Bryan In, Emilee Klimuck, Dave Lohr, Jen Pino.
& Nick Vogt

Musicians: Aaron Shows, Organist
Chancel Choir
Scholarship Quartet

Hannah Penzner, soprano
Gloria Palermo, alto
J.V. Cayan, tenor
Jaquain Sloan, bass

TODAY AT FUMC

December 24, 2017

MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES

- SpiritSeekers, 8:55 a.m. (Church Lounge)
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 9:15 a.m. (Choir Room)
- Sunday Worship, 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)
- **Family Christmas Eve Service**, 5:00 p.m. (Chapel)
with a musical prelude by children & youth, 4:40 p.m.
- **Christmas on the Bleachers**, 8:00 p.m.
(Colorado Blvd. Patio)
- **Candlelight Christmas Eve Service**, 11:00 p.m.
with a Musical prelude, 10:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

THIS WEEK AT FUMC

December 25-31, 2017

Monday, December 25

- *Facilities Closed Today – Merry Christmas!*

Tuesday, December 26

- Social Service Office Hours, 10:00 a.m. (Great Hall)

Thursday, December 28

- Yarn Ministry, 9:30 a.m. (Church Lounge)

Friday, December 29

- *Facilities Close at 1:00 p.m. Today*
- Islamic Center of So. Cal. Prayer Service, 12:30 p.m.
(Church Lounge)

Sunday, December 31

- SpiritSeekers, 8:55 a.m. (Church Lounge)
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 9:15 a.m. (Choir Room)
- Sunday Worship, 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)
- Coffee and Conversation, 11:15 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)



*In celebration of Christmas,
Church facilities will be closed all day on Monday, December 25.
Regular activities will resume on Tuesday, December 26.*

*The Office will also be closed on Friday, December 29 at 1:00 p.m.
and all day on Monday, January 1.
Regular activities will resume on Tuesday, January 2.*

Poinsettias may be picked up after the 11:00 p.m. service tonight.

News at First

GROW IN FAITH

- **Reverse Advent Calendar:** Please place filled bags for the reverse Advent Calendar on the labeled table in the fellowship hall.
- **First UMC Shepherds:** As part of the Shepherds Program our congregation provides a gift for church members who are normally unable to attend Sunday service. Consider delivering one of these gifts. If you are interested, come to the front of the sanctuary after the 11 p.m. service today and pick up a poinsettia and accompanying card for delivery. Experience the love of Jesus! Contact Diane Harris 626 665-6796 if you have questions.
- **Faith Seeking Understanding,** a 4-week sermon series on the Wesleyan Quadrilateral, begins on January 21, 2018. How do Christians shaped by a Wesleyan-spirit discover God's "heart and mind" and live in faithful response? John Wesley believed that the living core of the Christian faith was revealed in Scripture, illumined by Tradition, vivified in personal Experience and confirmed by Reason. Each week in worship and in the Sunday Conversation, we'll explore one of these lenses of this foundational approach to faith for Methodist disciples.

NOTEWORTHY ITEMS

- **Christmas Eve Fellowship with the Islamic Center of Southern California:** Beginning at 4:30 p.m. this evening, members of the ICSC community will be at First UMC before our 5:00 p.m. service to wish us a Merry Christmas. Please plan to come early for a few moments of fellowship, treats and hot drinks on your way in to the service. The service will include an extended musical prelude by instrumentalists of all ages beginning at 4:40pm.
- **Pastor's Open House:** On Saturday afternoon, December 30 from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m., you are invited to drop by Pastor Sandy's home for some holiday treats and fellowship. It is a busy season, so you don't have to stay long - come for 15 minutes or for the whole time, as your schedule allows. Sandy's address is 450 Vineyard Place in Pasadena.
- **New Year Pancake Breakfast:** It is time to plan the annual New Year's Day pancake breakfast which will be on Monday, January 1. A minimum of 50 volunteers is needed to do the job. Most volunteers will report around 4:00 a.m. Food service will begin at 5:30 a.m. and ends around 8:00 a.m. Clean up will follow. We also need some people on the set-up crew (on Thursday or Friday or both). To sign up or if you any have questions, contact Kendall In at klbwi@mac.com, or JP Harris at jpthenvgr@gmail.com.

Messy Church

1st Saturdays
Beginning January 6
4:30 – 6:30pm

Messy Church is an alternative, intergenerational, interactive community of faith for all kinds of people with all kinds of messiness in their lives. It's for people of all ages, and it's especially great for families with young children. At Messy church, we keep everyone together in the same space. Parents and kids stay together. Adults without kids are welcome, too. Couples, singles, people with disabilities and learning differences, people of all ethnicities, gender identities and sexual orientations, everyone is welcome! We'll play together, create together, share stories and laugh together, and finally, we'll gather around big tables and eat together.

Messy Church is just once a month, on the first Saturday, beginning in January.





Poinsettias

Kathryn & Joe Aguilar	in honor of Mary Watkins
Les & Irene Atkinson	in memory of our parents
Priscilla Baca	in memory of Rev. Mardy & Helen Olivas and Paul & Adelle Taylor
Leslie & Emma Black	in memory of Lynn Conlee, Dr. Leon Howell and Eddie McDonald
Stephen & Ann Burke	in memory of Cathy Knetge and Tom Wegener in honor of Catherine Wegener
Annie Dimmock	in honor of Tom and Julie-Ann Kosakowski's 54 th wedding anniversary
Audra, Sean, Autumn & Lake Donahue	in memory of Dee Keyworth and Dr. John Cressler
Belia Gonzales	in memory of Luana Castellano
Barbara Gorton	in memory of Howard Gorton in honor of Pam Marx
John C. Gray	in memory of Ema Bell Gray (my mother)
The Hansen-Pergakes Family	in memory of Lillian & Nicholas Dovalis; Ann & Alfred Turgeon; Grace & Hans Hansen; and Marina & Speros Pergakes
Joseph R. Henry	in memory of Dr. Joseph B. Henry and Ruth F. Henry
Bill & Anne Larson	in memory of Anne's parents, Mildred and Paul Wandel
The Lambert Family	in memory of James W Gomillion, father of Jane Lambert in honor of Elizabeth Claire Lambert & Krizia Claire Feraren's upcoming marriage, January 12 in Hawaii
Michael J. McRae	in memory of Donald J. McRae, Lucille O. McRae, and Mary Lu McRae
Fred & Rosalie Niemann	in memory of our parents Art & Ann Niemann and Jeannette H. Puntney
Barbara Percey	in memory of Grayce Percey and Juanita Mace
Ellen M. Peterson	in memory of David Peterson
The Rahn Family	Richard Jones, Shamaine Jones, Karl Rahn and Lee Rahn
Scott & Elizabeth Ranger	in memory of Erlindo Mangahas and Kenneth Ranger
Isabel Torrez	in memory of Belen Segura
Jan Wentz	in memory of Walter, Betty, Carolyn & Ken Wentz; Elsie Marion Lyon; and Jeffrey Catena
Roger & Marilynne Wilander	in memory of David Kennedy; Judith Wilander and Marjorie & Irving Garrison in honor of Todd Wilander
Sarah Wright	in memory of Lyle O. Wright

We lift up to God these prayers...

newly added: Rochelle Bender, Pat Mann

for healing: Daniel Aksten, Les Atkinson, Vanessa Bales, Susan Beckett, Mary Jane Bell, Rochelle Bender, Binder Family, Betty Bainton, Brent Bowers, David Brooks, Jerry Campbell, Clara Chang, Mary Davis, Juliet DeGuzman, Ted Dineros, Joyce Dorn, Judy Doyel, John Edell, Penny Eiker, Cameron & Wendy Fernandez, Brandi Figari, Alisa Fishbach, Erich Frey, The Klock Family, Diego Gomez, Steve Gothold, Ann Hasagawa, Joyce Hayes, Karen Hayes, Brett Hain, Sofia Hain, Julie Hara, Sallie Higginbotham, Helen Jerdasiak, Soledad Joco, Danny Kosakowski, Marilyn Lemp, Ed Long, Meredith Lyon, Viola Mallory, Rev. George Mann, Pat Mann, Michael Martin, Trish Martin, Millsa Family, Rebecca Moore, Luther Nash, Dan O'Connell, Sharon Oliver, Dr. Margaret Paloma, Lucy Patrick, Carmen Patrino, Dawn & Nick Pergakes, Janet Ross, Selma Ruda, Anita Ruiz, Ethan Sandoval, Mary Sands, Solloman Sedacy, Wayne Schenck, Anna K. Schooler, Bishop Beverly Shamana, Bonnie Burka Shannon, Jean St. Pierre, Tim Sun, Jane Tognazzini, Howard Underwood, Jeff Vernon, Dwight Vogel, Geneva Walker, Lily Whitaker, Eric Wolf, Juliet Wolf, Sarah Wright

In loving memory: Lyle O. Wright (Father of Sarah Wright), Bill Millsap

for our district: Santa Clarita Korean Mission, Inyokern: Community UMC

for the people affected by the fires in Southern California.

For the community: prayers for the poor, homeless, incarcerated, for those seeking employment, and for those suffering from mental illness and addiction, for young people who are "dreamers" and are fearful for their future

for refugees the world over who are the victims of war, terror and disaster. Help us respond in love.

for victims of human trafficking and those living with sexual assault and abuse.

for the just resolution of conflict for the people of Afghanistan, Congo, Darfur, Egypt, Georgia, Haiti, Iran, Iraq, Kenya, Lebanon, Libya, Mexico, Native Americans, North Korea, Pakistan, Southern Sudan, Syria, Tibet, Yemen, Zimbabwe, Israel & Palestine

*To ensure that those in need of prayers get them when they are needed most,
names will be posted on the prayer list for one month after receiving a prayer request.
Names can be added again by contacting the church office if prayers are still desired*

CLERGY AND LAY LEADERSHIP

Pastor	Rev. Sandra K. Olewine (solewine@fumcpasadena.org)
Minister of Music & Communication	Rev. Gregory Norton (greg@fumcpasadena.org)
Director of Intentional Faith Development	Rev. Jennifer Chapman (jchapman@fumcpasadena.org)
Extravagant Generosity Ministry Lay Leader	J.P. Harris (jpthenvgtr@gmail.com)
Risk-Taking Mission Ministry Lay Leader	Rosalie Niemann (niemann007@sbcglobal.net)
Intentional Faith Development Ministry Lay Leader	Mikala Rahn (mikala@learningworkscharter.com)