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## ***FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH***

907 West Lake Drive, PO Box 530, Taylor, Texas 76574  
512-352-2593

For updates sent via text message: please text @fumctaylor to number 81010

Email: [office@fumctaylor.org](mailto:office@fumctaylor.org)

### **WORSHIP SERVICE**

10:30 am Traditional

### **ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE**

[www.facebook.com/fumctaylor](https://www.facebook.com/fumctaylor)

<https://www.fumctaylor.org/sunday-worship-service/>  
[YouTube](#)

### **PRAYER, DEVOTION, JOYS AND CONCERNS**

9:30 am via [ZOOM](#)

Meeting ID: 982-9669-2304

Phone# 346-248-7799

November 29, 2020 –10:30 A.M.

# First United Methodist Church

*Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.*

November 29, 2020 – 10:30 A.M.

1st Sunday of Advent

Welcome! Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. Whether you are a first-time visitor or long-time member, we're glad you are here.

(\* Stand, if able.)

## **GATHER IN ANTICIPATION & PRAISE OF GOD**

### **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE #1**

Today, on this first Sunday of Advent, the theme of “Paying attention” dominates. We are called to be ready to receive something life-changing, something wholly new. In the light of the deep darkness which descended upon the lives of the people, the song of the angels has come reminding us that there is hope – something stupendous is about to happen.

(Light the Candle)

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Respond in Bold)**

Liturgist

L: If only the heavens would tear open and God would come down!

**P: The mountains would shake and tremble — all earth would stand in awe!**

L: People have turned their backs on God, believing that they, under their own power, can right all wrongs.

**P: We have failed miserably when we depend only on ourselves.**

L: Be with us, O Lord. Tear open our hearts and pour your love into our lives.

**P: Give us confidence in you, for you are always with us. Amen.**

### **\*OPENING PRAYER (In Unison)**

Liturgist

God of love and mercy, we thank you for your loving presence in our lives. You have formed us in your image and you continue to transform us as we grow in faith. Break through the darkness in our lives and let the light of your love flood in, that we may become more productive disciples of Jesus Christ. Help us to be ready. Amen.

### **\*HYMN**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (v1-4)

UMH # 211

### **JOYS & CONCERNS** *(Currently shared during Zoom gathering at 9:30 a.m.)*

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

Rev. Sela Finau

### 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”

## **\*HYMN**

“People, Look East ”

UMH # 202

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Liturgist

Great God of wonderful surprises: we enter this season of preparation for your Son's coming, looking not for just a memory of past events, but anticipating a return. We strive to get our lives in order and pray that our giving of ourselves to these preparations might reflect the earth-shaking importance of his coming. Help us to give ourselves generously, for we do not know the day or the hour. We pray in the name of the one who will come. Amen.

## **\*DOXOLOGY**

UMH #95

Praise God from whom all blessing flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men

## **\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** UMH #881

Liturgist

## **\*GLORY PATRI**

UMH#70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Liturgist

“Make it easy for us to figure out,” we cry as we seek signs of God's presence. We want it simple. Just tell us and we can take the proper precautions. There are signs all around of God's presence among us – both in that which has been created and in the newness of creation of everyday living. We're looking for signs of gloom and doom – but we should be looking for signs of hope and triumph. Forgive us, merciful God, when we spend so much time looking for the scary things in life. Focus our attention on ways in which we can be of service with whatever time we have. Forgive us when we seek the darkness of anger and fear and turn our backs on the light of possibilities and peace. Open our hearts once again to your redeeming love and transforming peace, for we ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Liturgist

In Christ we are made new. We are healed and forgiven, we are challenged and guided to become those who work for the better rather than those who would destroy and damage. You call us your people, O God, and we are eternally grateful.

## **PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

### **SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Mark 13:24-37

Liturgist

### **SERMON**

“Pay Attention”

Rev. Sela Finau

## **RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD**

### **\*HYMN OF INVITATION**

“Joy to the World”

UMH # 246

### **\*BENEDICTION**

Rev. Sela Finau

UMH (The United Methodist Hymnal) the red hymnal.

### **Ways you can give:**

1. Contact your bank to setup autodraft.
2. Mail a check to FUMC, P.O. Box 530, Taylor, Texas 76574.
3. Give online at [www.fumctaylor.org/give](http://www.fumctaylor.org/give).

## **WORSHIP LEADERS**

Rev. Sela Finau, Pastor

Debby Vester, Organist & Director of Music Ministry

Brian Gray, Liturgist

## **HOW TO JOIN FUMC TAYLOR**

Are you being led to become a part of this fellowship of believers? Do you desire to grow in the likeness of Jesus Christ? We invite you to join as a full member of the FUMC family! While the closing hymn is sung, you may come forward and make a commitment to follow Jesus through his local body of FUMC Taylor in prayer, presence, gifts, service and witness. Please also send us a message to [office@fumctaylor.org](mailto:office@fumctaylor.org).

For Pastoral emergencies, outside of office hours, please contact  
Rev. Finau at 817-874-3533.

Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, Prayer of Confession, Words of Assurance, Offertory  
Prayer credit to Ministry Matters and UMC Discipleship.

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