



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

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE

5:00 p.m. Traditional

ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE

www.facebook.com/fumctaylor

<https://www.fumctaylor.org/sunday-worship-service/>

[YouTube](#)

First United Methodist Church

December 24, 2020 – 5:00 P.M.

Christmas Eve Worship

Welcome! Thank you for worshipping with us this evening. 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 THE ADVENT AND CHRIST CANDLES

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

Liturgist

L: Welcome tonight to a celebration like no other!

P: This is the night of the Holy Birth!

L: Let the love of Jesus be born in your hearts and spirits!

P: Open our hearts to receive this blessed gift, Loving God.

L: Rejoice, good friends, the Good News is here!

P: Christ our Savior is Born! Hallelujah! Amen

***OPENING PRAYER (In Unison)**

Liturgist

God of Surprising Love and Hope, we come this evening to the manger, gazing lovingly on the Child born to bring hope to the world. Open our hearts tonight as we hear the story anew. Help us to be guided by the Light of Jesus Christ, that we may truly feel the power of your love and bring that love, with joy, to all we meet. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

***HYMN**

"Joy to the World"

UMH # 246

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room, And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing, And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2. Joy to the world! the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.

4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness, And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, And wonders, wonders of his love.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Tiffany Charles

***HYMN**

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

UMH # 240

1. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all
ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies; with th'angelic hosts
proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb:
veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel. [Refrain]

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. [Refrain]

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Sela Finau

The Lord's Prayer (In Unison)

"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"

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Liturgist

Blessed Lord, you have given us your greatest gift- your very Word come to
earth, to live with us and through us; you have filled us with your grace
and truth- your holy child sent to free us from our bonds. How can we
repay such divine generosity? Receive our thanks and praise. As you have
given to us, so now we share your gifts and your grace with a world in
need. May this offering help bring your light and love to those who still
wander in the world. Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Liturgist

Lord of Light and Hope, our minutes and hours have been swallowed up in preparation for this night and for the coming day. We have been so caught up in the preparations for gatherings and gifting that we have pushed aside the wonder of what you have done for all Creation. Forgive us when we so easily get entangled in our own plans and forget to pay attention to the true event. Help us to relax and listen, instead of rush and shout. May the songs of the angels, the surprise of the shepherds, and the joy of the Holy Family become part of our preparations and our lives. Open our ears, our eyes, our hearts and our spirits to again hear the old, old story, spoken by new voices in new ways. Remind us again of your never-changing love for us. Prepare us to serve you by serving others. This night we offer this prayer of our hearts to you, gracious God. Amen.

SOLO

“Mary, Did You Know?”

Lynn Bedard, Soprano

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 2:1-20

Liturgist

SERMON

“A Christmas Like No Other!”

Rev. Sela Finau

RESPONSE TO GOD’S WORD

***CANDLE LIGHTING**

We invite you to turn on the light on your candle as we sing and raise them high during the fourth verse. At the end of the service, you are invited to take the candle home with you as a reminder that you are the light of Christ to the world.

***HYMN**

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

UMH # 239

1. Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

2. Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

3. Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light;
radiant beams from thy holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

4. Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Sela Finau

UMH (The United Methodist Hymnal) the red hymnal.

Merry Christmas!



The Poinsettias in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God:

IN HONOR OF:

“In Honor of our Taylor Family” ~ Mike, Leslie, Kirk & Ashley Moss
“In Honor of Kyle & Lindsay Tucker, Justice & Ayden” ~ Glynn Tucker
“In Honor of Craig & Alexis Tucker, Coby, Teagan, Harper & Oliver” ~ Glynn Tucker
“In Honor of Our Parents” ~ Raymond & Marsha Beckermann
“In Honor of Our Children: Beth Locke, Bill Stevens, Jeanette Zey & Lee Stevens”
~ Leland & Jean Stevens
“In Honor of LaVerne Barrington” ~ David & Sandra Galnor

IN LOVING MEMORY OF:

“In Memory of Chad, Carolyn & Vera Dutch” ~ Mike, Leslie, Kirk & Ashley Moss
“In Memory of Debi Tucker” ~ Glynn Tucker
“ In Memory of Tyler Cobb & Jace Gill” ~ Glynn Tucker
“In Memory of All Church Members that Went Home to the Lord this year” ~ Glynn Tucker
“In Memory of Tyler Cobb” ~ Shelli Cobb
“ In Memory of Margaret Galnor” ~ David & Sandra Galnor
“In Memory of Jerry Galnor” ~ David & Sandra Galnor
“In Memory of Jack & Margaret Ridgway” ~ Jane Hensley
“In Memory of John & Dorothy Gibson” ~ Jane Hensley
“In Memory of Mahon & Grace Garry” ~ Jane Hensley

In Memory of Members of our Church Family:

V.R. Whittington

Roy Rogers

Gloria Gray

Tyler Cobb

F.D. Glenn

Lorraine Flint

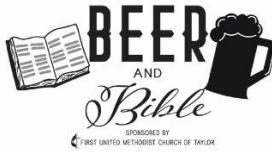
Leroy Olbrich

Florence Finn

Fred Switzer



You are welcome to take your poinsettia home after worship.



Beer and Bible invites you to come join the conversation!

Beer and Bible is an ecumenical social justice happy hour! Join us Thursdays, from 6 to 7 p.m. Topics are presented for discussion every week with a biblical point of reference led by different speakers.

Currently meeting via Zoom
For weekly updates, text to 81010 and enter @ beernbible



Ways to stay connected:

For updates via text message: please text to the number 81010 and enter the code.

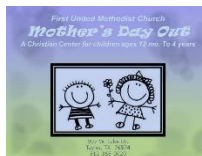
All church members: @fumctaylor

Beer and Bible: @beernbible

Youth Ministry: @youngpeeps

Children Ministry: @fumctay

Children and Youth ministry are also on groupme. You will need to be invited to join.



Mother's Day Out

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9am-3pm. We still have a few spaces left in our Mother's Day Out program and it is not too late to join! Call 512-229-8512

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.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Sela Finau, Pastor
Debby Vester, Organist & Director of Music Ministry
Lynn Bedard, Special Music
Tiffany Charles, Children's Time & 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.

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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