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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)

YouTube #fumctaylor

# First United Methodist Church

*Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.*

December 19, 2021 – 10:30 A.M.

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

Welcome! Thank you for worshiping with us this morning. Whether you are a first-time visitor or long-time member, we're glad you are here. (\* Stand, if able.)

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

God has done great things for us!

**God's love is heralded in the promise of Christ.**

Holy is God's name!

**God's promises are fulfilled in the coming of Christ.**

God's mercy extends from generation to generation.

**God's salvation is offered in the gift of Christ.**

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

Holy God, your prophet Micah foretold with faith that a new ruler would come forth from Bethlehem— today we celebrate the fulfillment of your promise; your daughter Elizabeth proclaimed with faith that her cousin was to be the mother of her Lord— today we celebrate the fulfillment of your promise; your servant Mary proclaimed with faith that she would be called blessed by all generations— today we celebrate the fulfillment of your promise. Make us bold enough to proclaim with faith— the coming of your kingdom, the coming of your justice, the coming of your peace. May we sing out the good news of your salvation, trusting in fulfillment of your promises. All this we pray in the name of the one who comes. Amen.

## **\*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES**

### **\*HYMN**

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

UMH # 220

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

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**

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

UMH # 218

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Liturgist

Magnificent God, as we focus on Mary, the mother of Jesus, we are reminded that you do great wonders and signs through the most humble and obedient of your children. As we give our gifts to you this day, give us ears to hear the whispers of the angels speaking to us; give us eyes to see the needy and the unloved all around us; and give us faith to offer our lives to your plan of saving love. In Christ, our redeemer, we pray. Amen.

**\*DOXOLOGY**

UMH #95

Praise God from whom all blessings 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

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

**\*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

Loving God, even in the midst of this season of goodwill, there is much to confess. In spite of holiday cheer, stress and anxiety rule our lives. We miss the reason for the season, focusing instead on Christmas parties, long-to-do lists, and trying to get the shopping done. We fail to think about your reordered world— a world where the lowly are lifted up and the hungry are filled with good things. Help us adjust our Christmas priorities, that we might join with you, O God, in preparing a world that welcomes the one who brings us peace. Amen.

## **WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Liturgist

The ancient promises of God are fulfilled. God does not forget us. God's mercy extends from generation to generation. Let our souls rejoice in God!

**SOLO**

"I Wonder as I Wander" by John Jacob Niles

Sandra Galnor

## **PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**SCRIPTURE**

Luke 1:39-55

Liturgist

**SERMON**

"Magnify the Lord"

Sela Finau

## **RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD**

**SOLO**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Felicia Graves

**\*HYMN OF INVITATION**

"Away in a Manger"

UMH # 217

**\*BENEDICTION**

Sela Finau

*Join us for the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
on Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 P.M.*

UMH (The United Methodist Hymnal – 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

Tiffany Charles, Director of Children's Ministry & MDO

Brian Gray, Liturgist

Sandra Galnor and Felicia Graves, Soloists

### **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  
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