



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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WORSHIP SERVICE

10:30 am Traditional

First United Methodist Church

Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

December 31, 2023 – 10:30 A.M.

“Come close to God and He will come close to you.” James 4:8

When people are happy about our church, they are more likely to invite their friends. The first thing that visitors note about a church is how happy the people are. People want to be around happy people!

(* Stand, if able.)

MUSIC TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS

Rachel Woodburn

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

CALL TO WORSHIP: *(Respond in Bold)*

Liturgist: We have welcomed the Christ child and declared the glory of God’s salvation that comes to live among us. And yet, still, we wait.

People: We watch and work for God’s kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

L: We prepare to welcome a new year, thankful for how God has brought us through the past year and anxious to discover what the new year might bring.

P: We watch and work for God’s kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

L: Come, let us worship God, whose love endures from generation to generation, guiding us from one year to the next.

P: Come, let us worship as we live in anticipation of God’s kingdom on earth as it is heaven. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”
(verses 1, 2, 3, and 6)

UMH # 154

*OPENING PRAYER *(In unison)*

Liturgist

Lord, I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

SHARING GREETINGS *(Please greet someone that you do not know.)*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Tiffany Charles

***CALL TO PRAYER HYMN** "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" UMH # 240
(verses 1 – 3)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER IN SONG

*(Our prayer rises to heaven, to the mystery of God's power,
as the smoke ascends when the precious incense burns)*

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY "What Child is This?" Choir

***DOXOLOGY** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH # 95

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:22-40 Liturgist

***HYMN OF PREPARATION** "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" UMH # 218

MESSAGE "Expect the Unexpected" Pastor Mark Nygard

SERMON NOTES

Note 1: Do the right thing.

Luke 2:22, 39 "When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord."

³⁹ "When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth."

Note 2: The Holy Spirit will reveal new things to us.

Luke 2:26 "It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah."

Note 3: God places people in our lives.

Luke 2:36 "There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage."

Note 4: May we be amazed at what God can do.

Luke 2:33 “And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him.”

Note 5: May we be like Jesus. Grow and become strong, increase in wisdom, and know that God’s grace is upon us.

Luke 2:40 “The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom, and the favor of God was upon him.”

***HYMN OF INVITATION**

“Joy to the World”
(verses 1 and 4)

UMH # 246

***BENEDICTION**

Pastor Mark Nygard

***POSTLUDE**

Rachel Woodburn

UMH (The United Methodist Hymnal – red hymnal)

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Yohan Baek, Pastor

Rev. Mark Nygard, Guest Pastor

Rachel Woodburn, Pianist

Brian Gray, Liturgist

Tiffany Charles, Director of Childrens’ Ministries and MDO

Julia Coward, Nursery Director & Children’s Church

Robert & Tenny Swonke, Greeters

Jim Curik and Glynn Tucker, Ushers

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