

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT FIRST CHURCH

*The Vision of First Church is to be an inclusive, deeply relational community inviting all people to experience God's presence today.*

### ALL ARE WELCOME HERE—WE STRIVE FOR IT.

In the spirit of Jesus Christ, First United Methodist Church of Fort Collins commits to offering a community in which persons of diverse age, color, culture, sexual orientation and gender identity, economic status, and physical or mental ability are all welcomed and affirmed. To all who have known pain of exclusion or discrimination from church or in society, we seek forgiveness and offer a place of respite and welcome.

**IF YOU ARE NEW TO OUR CHURCH** and would like more information, please ask one of our greeters or ushers or visit the **Welcome Center**. They can direct you to classrooms, nursery, restrooms, food, and fellowship, as well as introduce you to our staff. We would be honored to get to know you better and learn about your life and spiritual needs. Our community may not know you yet, but we already love you and hope you will make this your spiritual home. Thank you for joining us today, and God bless you!

## WEEKLY FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES—9:45 A.M.

Please sign your children in at the Children's Ministries check-in desk, south entrance, before the 9:30 a.m. worship service begins. Children join their parents/guardians for worship in the Sanctuary until the conclusion of Children's Time. Then, parents of preschoolers escort their children to Room 121, and children grades K-5 meet outside the Sanctuary. The teachers will escort elementary children to their classrooms.

Parents, please pick your children up from their designated location following the service.



**SUNDAY MORNING YOUTH GROUP:** If you are a teen, we have something for YOU! Youth (grades 6-12) are welcome to participate in our Sunday Morning Youth Group that happens at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday. Join our Youth Director and leaders in the Youth basement for a time of fellowship and spiritual growth that are fun and relevant to students!

### SUNDAY MORNING ADULT GROUPS—Please join us.

**9:30 a.m.** Samaritan Class—Parlor; Serendipity Class—Village Commons; Upper Room Class—Upper Room (Room 235)  
**11:00 a.m.** Open Hearts Class—Village Commons

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

\*Please rise as you are able.

Gathering Music	<i>Sleepers, Wake</i>	Charles Callahan
Welcome		Rev. Bradley Laurvick Rev. Cynthia Paquette
Prelude	<i>Savior of the Nations, Come</i>	J. S. Bach
Lighting the Candle of Hope		9:30 Harry & Joe Ahlbrandt 11:00 John & Lee Hensley
Candle Lighting Song	<i>Lift Up Your Eyes</i> Choir and Congregation	
Hymn of Praise	<i>Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus</i>	UMH #196
Chorus (9:30) Children's Message	<i>O Come Little Children</i>	Rev. Bradley Laurvick & Rev. Cynthia Paquette
Chorus (9:30)	<i>O Come Little Children</i>	
Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer		
Anthem	<i>Every Valley</i> Sanctuary Choir	John Ness Beck
Scripture	Isaiah 2:1-5	9:30 Mike Kohler 11:00 Rick Norton
Sermon	Ringing, Singing on Our Way	
Offering Our Gifts to God		

### Giving to God through First Church:

1. Give online at [fcfumc.net](http://fcfumc.net) or on the First UMC App .
2. Check or cash.
3. Offering your time, talents, gifts, service and witness.

Offertory	<i>Every Valley</i> Pablo Romero, <i>soloist</i>	G. F. Handel
*Doxology	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i> (refrain only)	UMH #238
*Sending Prayer		
*Hymn of Dedication	<i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i> (vs. 1-3)	UMH #211
*Benediction		
Postlude	<i>Lift Up Your Heads</i>	Wilbur Held

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MISSIONS



*Pine Ridge Experience  
Turkey Time 2022*

*Scheduled for December 8-10*

If you are looking for a rewarding experience during the holidays, then consider joining us on a trip to Pine Ridge Reservation, SD, where we will serve 150 turkey dinners and get to know our Native American brothers and sisters. We will carpool to the site and stay in the dorms at the Reconciliation Center, where we will learn about some of their history.

Consider joining us for this opportunity! Sign up today in the Mission Corner. For more information, please contact Elaine Karns at (970) 225-6720.

### GO GREEN ON SUNDAYS

Please bring standard size dishwasher-safe mugs that you no longer need at home to share with others on Sunday mornings. Mugs will be collected, kept in the church and used by all for Sunday morning fellowship time. At First Church, we use around 300 compostable hot beverage cups per week. Using reusable mugs on Sunday mornings will help reduce waste from these cups. Please leave your donated mugs in the main church kitchen.



They need to be washed in the church's commercial dishwasher before use.

### FIRST CHURCH CONNECTION CARD

(Please fill out and drop in offering plate OR Scan appropriate QR codes below)

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Service Time 9:30  11:00  Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ I am a First Time Guest  Returning Guest  Regular Attender

First Time Guest

Regular Attender

Please let me know about volunteer opportunities  Please contact me about membership

Please add me to the "First Wire" weekly email list

Prayer Requests \_\_\_\_\_



## TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

**USHERS:** 9:30 a.m. Joe Ahlbrandt, Martha Conant, Dale Conant  
11:00 a.m. Eric Wilkinson, Sandy Merriweather

**9:30 WORSHIP CARE TEAM MEMBER:** Donna Newkirk

**ALTAR FLOWERS:** Today's altar flowers are given by Marylou Blevins in honor of her marriage to Ted Blevins.

## Advent Studies

### ADULT FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

**The Christmas Stories: Celebrating, Questioning & Explaining the Biblical Narratives.** This online asynchronous class is hosted by Homebrewed Christianity and will feature four virtual lectures with Dr. John Dominic Crossan. At your own pace, follow his book *The First Christmas: What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus' Birth*. The first streamed session is **Nov. 28, 12:00 noon MST**. Sign up and find more information at <http://crossanthroughadvent.com>.

**God is in the Manger: Reflections on Advent and Christmas.** Ross Loomis and Rev. Mark Lee will lead a 4-week study of *God is in the Manger: Reflections on Advent and Christmas* by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. The study will meet Wednesday afternoons from **1:00-2:00 pm** in-person on **11/30, 12/7, 12/14, and 12/21** in the Village Commons. Sign up during Sunday fellowship hour in November or by emailing Rev. Mark Lee at [AFDL@fcfumc.net](mailto:AFDL@fcfumc.net).

**Prepare the Way for the Lord: Advent and the Message of John the Baptist.** Sandy Merriweather will lead a 4-week study of *Prepare the Way for the Lord: Advent and the Message of John the Baptist* by Rev. Adam Hamilton. The study will meet Wednesday evenings from **6:30-7:30 pm** MT via Zoom on **11/30, 12/7, 12/14, and 12/21**. Sign up during Sunday fellowship hour in November or by emailing Rev. Mark Lee at [AFDL@fcfumc.net](mailto:AFDL@fcfumc.net).

### FAITH FORMATION

#### ADVENT WORKSHOP

**December 4<sup>th</sup> from 2:30 -4:30 pm**

What is it? Children & families create a variety of take-home Advent crafts, enjoy Christmas treats, drink hot drinks and listen to music. This event is a long-standing tradition for the children of our church, put on by the First Church community.

If you have never attended this event, it is something you will not want to miss! If you are interested in being a crafter, we need lots of volunteers. If you have never hosted a craft table, it is so much fun. If you are not crafty, we can provide a craft for you. Interested? Sign up here to host a craft table.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Special Advent Moments

Please be sure these are on your calendar!

- Dec. 4th **Advent Workshop** (crafts for kids) ~ 2:30-4:30pm
- Dec. 7th **"Hotel Noel"** (children's pageant) ~ 6:30pm
- Dec. 11th **Music Sunday** in worship ~ 9:30am and 11:00am
- Dec. 18th **Blue Christmas Service** (for those stressed, lonely, or hurting) ~ 7:00pm
- Dec. 24th **Children and Family Christmas Eve Service** ~ 2:00pm
- Dec. 24th **Traditional Christmas Eve Services** ~ 5:00pm and 7:00pm
- Dec. 25th **Pajama Sunday!** (Come casual; kids are invited to wear PJs and bring a favorite gift) ~ 9:30am only

### DISCOVER YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Spiritual gifts are attributes given to Christian believers for the building up of the whole body of Christ. We all have a mixture of gifts that work together and give each of us a unique way to contribute to ministry. Please use



this QR code or <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/spiritual-gifts-inventory/en> to take the Spiritual Gifts Inventory to discover the spiritual gifts that God is calling you to share at this time. If you would like to know how you can best share your gifts at First Church and beyond, please email Rev. Cynthia ([c.paquette@fcfumc.net](mailto:c.paquette@fcfumc.net)) to chat. Let us know in your 2023 Commitment form how you will share your gifts.

**Coming Next Week: December 4, 2022**  
**Wild and Sweet, the Words Repeat**  
**Isaiah 11:1-10**

# FIRST

## United Methodist

# CHURCH

1005 Stover Street • Fort Collins, CO 80524  
(970) 482-2436

**I Heard the Bells:**  
*Ringling. Singing*  
*on Our Way*

**Rev. Bradley Laurvick**

**November 27, 2022**

You are most welcome at First Church.

We are a fully inclusive, deeply relational community inviting all people to experience God's presence today.

Sunday Worship Services are at 9:30 and 11:00.

There are many opportunities for spiritual growth and connection for all ages.

Thank you for joining us today!