

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.

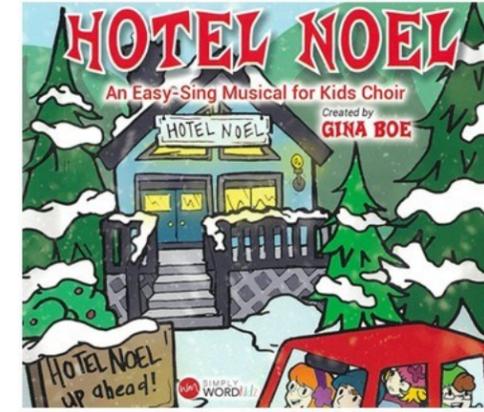
9:30 a.m. Samaritan Class—Parlor; Serendipity Class—Village Commons; Upper Room Class—Upper Room (Room 235)
11:00 a.m. Open Hearts Class—Village Commons

ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Please rise as you are able.

Gathering Music	<i>How Great Our Joy</i> Carillon Handbell Choir & Piano	arr. Lloyd Larson
Welcome		Rev. Bradley Laurvick Rev. Cynthia Paquette
Introit	<i>The First Noel</i> Children's Choir	Gina Boe
Lighting the Candle of Peace		9:30 The Rocha Family 11:00 The Hodge Family
Candle Lighting Song	<i>Lift Up Your Eyes</i> Sanctuary Choir	
Hymn of Praise	<i>God Almighty, We Are Waiting</i>	W&S #3047
Chorus (9:30)	<i>O Come Little Children</i>	
Children's Message		Barb Grauberger
Chorus (9:30)	<i>O Come Little Children</i>	
Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer		
Anthem	<i>And the Glory of the Lord (from Messiah)</i> Sanctuary Choir	G. F. Handel
Scripture	Isaiah 11:1-10	9:30 Corey Putman 11:00 Bill Emslie
Sermon	Wild & Sweet, the Words Repeat	
The Sacrament of Holy Communion		
Offering Our Gifts to God		
Giving to God through First Church: 1. Give online at fcumc.net or on the First UMC App . 2. Check or cash. 3. Offering your time, talents, gifts, service and witness.		
Offertory	<i>I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day</i> Carillon Handbell Choir	arr. Cynthia Dobrinski
*Doxology	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i> (refrain only)	UMH #238
*Sending Prayer		
*Hymn of Dedication	<i>It Came Upon the Midnight Clear</i> (vs. 1-3)	UMH #218
*Benediction		
Postlude	<i>People, Look East!</i>	Kristina Langlois

ANNOUNCEMENTS



"HOTEL NOEL"
A Christmas Musical for Kids
 Presented by the
First Church Children's Choirs
Wednesday, December 7
6:30 pm / Sanctuary

Please come and hear our children present their special seasonal music!

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

You are invited to pick a mug that speaks to you and have a conversation with someone about why they picked a certain mug. It is the Welcoming and Hospitality Team's goal to potentially use mugs as conversation starters and for people to get to know those they do not already know.

Pick up your free church directory pictures today in Fellowship Hall.

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 _____

Email _____ Address _____

Phone _____ I am a First Time Guest Returning 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 _____

First Name _____

City, State, Zip _____

First Time Guest

Regular Attender



TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

USHERS: 9:30 a.m. Pam & Rich Raab, Kristen & Reese Roberts
11:00 a.m. Eric Wilkinson, Daphne Bear

9:30 WORSHIP CARE TEAM MEMBER: Lisa Fenton Free

ALTAR FLOWERS: Today's altar flowers are given by Lisa Novack in memory of Julie Ann Key.

ADVENT WORKSHOP

This afternoon, 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.

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.

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.

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



United
Women
in Faith

United Women in Faith will celebrate the season with music by Sandy Meyer at their unit meeting on Thursday, December 8. Please come to the church parlor at 11:20 for lunch. We will also have installation of our unit's 2023 leadership. Questions? Call Karen Waldron at 970-219-0898 or Mary Ann Kerttula at 970-219-6747.

Coming Next Week: December 11 2022

"A Voice, a Chime, a Chant Sublime"

Isaiah 35:1-10



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

I Heard the Bells:
Wild & Sweet
the Words Repeat

Rev. Bradley Laurvick

December 4, 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!