

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>Prelude in Classic Style</i>	Craig Penfield
Welcome		Rev. Bradley Laurvick Rev. Cynthia Paquette
Prelude	<i>Kings of Orient</i>	Fred Bock
Call to Worship		9:30 Mike Kohler 11:00 Jerry Wiese
Hymn of Praise	<i>We Three Kings</i> (vs. 1 & 5)	UMH #254
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>New Year</i> Sanctuary Choir · Janet Caille, <i>piano</i>	John Rutter
Scripture	Matthew 2:1-12	
Sermon	“What Are You Looking For? Look to the Stars”	
Offering Our Gifts to God		
<div>Giving to God through First Church: 1. Give online at fcfumc.net or on the First UMC App . 2. Check or cash. 3. Offering your time, talents, gifts, service and witness.</div>		
Offertory	<i>Good Christian Friends, Rejoice</i>	Wilbur Held
*Doxology	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i> (refrain only)	UMH #238
*Sending Prayer		
*Hymn of Dedication	<i>The First Noel</i> (vs. 3-5)	UMH #245
*Benediction	<i>Postlude on HYFRYDOL</i>	Jason Payne

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Many of our choirs and music groups have had a brief hiatus after the holidays and will soon be resuming their regular rehearsal schedule. If you are interested in becoming a part of our music ministry, this would be a great time to do so! Rehearsals begin on the following dates, and everyone is welcome:

Sanctuary Choir:	Thurs., January 5
Children’s Choir:	Sun., January 8
Church Orchestra:	Wed., January 11
Alleluia Handbells:	Thurs., January 12
Carillon Handbells:	Thurs., January 12

Exploring First Church

We here at First Church are excited to see so many new faces and meet so many new people on Sundays. We are here to help new people get plugged in. Would you like to learn more about Methodism in general and First Church in particular? Are you considering membership in this vibrant community of faith?

If so, Rev. Brad and Rev. Cynthia invite you to attend the **Exploring First Church** session at noon on January 22 in the Parlor. We will have a light lunch followed by a session on Methodism and the many ministries to be involved in at First Church. You will also have a virtual tour of the church building. Please email membership@fcfumc.net, or call (970) 482-2436 ext. 111 by January 18 if you plan to attend. Childcare will be provided.

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 _____

First Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

☐ 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 _____

Regular Attender

First Time Guest

TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

USHERS: 9:30 Jeff Johnson, Sarah Johnson, Karen Kiser
11:00 Eric Wilkinson, Dennis Bode

ALTAR FLOWERS: Today's altar flowers are given by Norma Cowell, in memory of Reverend Jim Cowell.

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Pastors

Rev. Bradley Laurvick, *Lead Pastor*
Rev. Cynthia Paquette, *Executive Pastor*

Music Staff

David Adkins, *Director of Music Ministries & Communications*
Dr. Joel Bacon, *Organist/Artist in Residence*
Brenna Martin, *Children's Choir Coordinator*
Abigale Gilson, *Children's Choir Director*
Karen Stoody, *Organist Emeritus*

Program Staff

Barb Grauberger, *Director of Children and Family Ministries*
Victoria Burkett, *Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries*
Rev. Dr. Mark Lee, *Director of Adult Faith, Discipleship and Northern Colorado Faith Library*
David Reid, *Community Builder*
Laurie Elliott, *Childcare Coordinator*
Liza Judd-Salimbeni, *Kids' Closet Coordinator*
Ali Gessler, *Director of Pre-School*
Gail Farnum, *Director of Parent's Day Out*

Administrative and Facilities Staff

Jim Doser, *Worship Technology Lead*
Nathan Abrahamson, *Worship Technology Assistant*
Shelley Nelson, *Administrative & Communications Assistant*
Shauna Bjork, *Accountant*
Julie Iven, *Financial Secretary*
Gail Wells, *Membership Secretary & Volunteer Coordinator*
Henry Reyna, *Facilities Manager*
Max Reyes, *Custodian*
Michael Shestak, *Custodian, Sunday Hospitality Coordinator*

Coming Next Week: January 15, 2023

"What Are You Looking For?: Let the Journey Begin
Matthew 4:18-22

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAITH FORMATION

What Are You Looking For?

ADULT FAITH FORMATION EPIPHANY OPPORTUNITIES

"**The Gentle Art of Biblical Self-Defense**" led by Rev. Dr. Mark Lee. This class is for believers or nonbelievers who want to intelligently engage the Biblical prooftexts used in the debate around LGBTQ persons and ethics. Close readings of the "clobber passages" shows how they are misused in current denominational struggles. Mark has been teaching variations on this course for 30 years, now adding new material on gender identity issues. Two class options, 6 sessions, offered Wednesdays, January 11 - February 15, with identical sections at 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 - 8:00 pm, in Village Commons.

"**In My Grandmother's House: Black Women, Faith & The Stories We Inherit**," by Yolanda Pierce. The author is the daughter of an imperfect thing called the Black Church that has loved, chastised, and strengthened her. The stories are rooted in generational wisdom in the way that time, age and maturity provide alternative lenses to know and understand God. Within these pages she explores contributions of church elders as titans of faith formation, holders of theological wisdom and guides for helping her craft a faith that endures. All of us, whatever our gender or race, have inherited an imperfect church, family stories, and resources for faith and struggle. Six Monday evenings starting January 9 through February 20, 6:30-8:00, in Village Commons.

"**Introducing the Enneagram.**" The enneagram is a learning path for personal, spiritual and psychological growth. We will hold two half-day workshops on Saturdays, January 21 and February 4, 9:00 a.m to noon. Facilitated by Victoria Burkett, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries, and Catherine Glandt, a counselor and chaplain who has studied the Enneagram for thirty years. Sign up on the Adult Faith Formation table and get the book *Enneagram Made Easy* by Barron & Waggle.



Knit-In

Saturday, January 14th in the Parlor
from 9:30—11:30 a.m. Knitters and crocheters are welcome. Mentors and materials are waiting as we begin our new year.



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

What Are You Looking For?

LOOK TO THE STARS

Rev. Bradley Laurvick

January 8, 2023

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!