

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!

LITURGISTS 8:00 a.m. Martha Conant, 9:30 a.m. Susie Land, 11:00 a.m. Jerry Wiese

WEEKLY FAITH FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES: 9:45 a.m. Please sign-in your children at the Children's Ministries check-in desk, south entrance, before the 9:30 a.m. worship service begins. Children sit with their parents/guardians during worship in the Sanctuary until the conclusion of Children's Time. Then, parents of preschoolers escort their children to Room 121, and children in grades K-5th grade 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. For children attending our worship services, children's worship bags and notebooks are available at the Sanctuary entrance. Sixth grade-Twelfth grade will join Josh in the youth basement and come up as a group for the sermon during the 9:30 service.

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT GROUPS – Please join us.

8:00 a.m. Adventures in Faith Men's Group – Village Commons

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

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 every Sunday. Join our Youth Director and leaders in the Youth basement for a time of fellowship and spiritual growth that is fun and relevant to students!

DVD OF THE WEEK: *Finding Bethlehem in the Midst of Bedlam*, by James W. Moore, DVD 242.33_2015. Moore admits that Christmas always comes in the midst of confusion, yet God breaks through in the form of Jesus. Five video sessions included.

ORDER OF WORSHIP: 8:00 • 9:30 • 11:00

Gathering Music 8:00 *Silent Night* arr. Jason Payne
9:30 and 11:00 *Partita on 'O Come, O Come Emmanuel'* John Barr

Welcome Dr. Melanie Rosa

Prelude 8:00 *O Come Little Children* arr. Jason Payne
9:30 and 11:00 *He Is Born* arr. Ron Mallory
Carillon Handbell Choir

† **Advent Candle Lighting** 8:00 Daphne Bear;
9:30 The Bickley Family; 11:00 Shan Watkins and David Norwood

Invocation Rev. Cynthia Paquette

† **Hymn of Praise** *O Come All Ye Faithful* (verses 1-3) UMH 234
Carillon Handbell Choir, piano, organ, choir, congregation

Children's Time 9:30 Barb Grauberger
Hymn *Like a Child* TFWS 2092
Verse 3

Anthem: 8:00 *Mary Had a Baby* arr. William Averitt
Sherri Wahlgren, flute
9:30 and 11:00 *All Bells in Paradise* John Rutter
Sanctuary Choir

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer Rev. Cynthia Paquette

Scripture Isaiah 40:3-5 Rev. Cynthia Paquette

Offertory 8:00 *Rejoice and Be Merry* Robert Powell
Sherri Wahlgren, flute
9:30 and 11:00 *O Sing a Song of Bethlehem* Matthew Compton
Carillon Handbell Choir

Give online at <https://fcfumc.net/>
Text to give at 77977, text message: FCFUMC
Every loose \$1 bill goes directly to those in need

† **Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH 95

Scripture Luke 1:57-79
Selected verses Liturgist

Sermon "Do You See What I See?" Dr. Melanie Rosa

† **Hymn of Dedication** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* UMH 211
Verses 1, 2, 6 and 7

Sung Benediction *Do You See What I See?*

Postlude 8:00 *Postlude on 'Gloria'* arr. Jason Payne
9:30 and 11:00 *Sing We Now of Christmas* Kevin McChesney
Carillon Handbell Choir

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DECEMBER SERMONS: "GOODNESS AND LIGHT"

December 15: Christmas Music Sunday (No 8:00 Service)

December 22: "Do You Hear What I Hear?" Luke 1:39-45

December 24: "Do You Know What I Know?" Luke 2:1-20

Worship Services at 2:00, 5:00, 7:00 and 11:00 pm

December 29: "Will You Go Where I Go?" John 21:15-19

OUR ANNUAL CLUSTER CHARGE CONFERENCE: will be on Saturday, December 14 from 9:00 – 12:00 p.m. at First UMC in Loveland. Everyone is welcome to come and celebrate the accomplishments of the past year, and prepare for our future with our United Methodist neighbors from nearby communities.

MISSIONS



EASTSIDE PARK: As a gift to our community for our 150th year, we took the bold step of leading the refurbishment of a nearby park that was unsafe for our neighbors. Partnering with the city of Fort Collins, and a variety of generous community partners, our church raised **\$245,000** for

Eastside Park improvements. Our fund-raising team has done an outstanding job of inspiring generosity toward this project. With the financial support of so many of our church members, this fundraising effort has achieved our goal. We could not be more thankful. Good work, First Church!



THE BOY SCOUTS OF TROOP 83: will be selling fresh Christmas Trees and wreaths again this year. Head to Drake Centre at Shields and Drake to pick out that perfect tree for your family or office. The profits go to the Scout account to help pay for dues and summer camp. Hours are Friday 5-7 p.m. and Saturdays, and Sundays 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. until December 22. Both cash and credit cards accepted!

COMMUNITY AND WORLD MISSIONS: Join our team of volunteers at the **Food Bank for Larimer County Warehouse**, 5706 Wright Dr., Loveland, tomorrow Monday, (December 9) from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Its Lots of fun sorting food donations and repackaging large portions into family size portions. Sign-up sheet and map are in Mission Corner, Fellowship Hall. Questions? Call Ruben Lopez (903) 676-8089 or Bonny Thomas (970) 232-9879.

Coming Next Week: December 15

Third Sunday in Advent
Music Sunday

No 8:00 a.m. Worship Service

9:30 and 11:00 "Glad Tidings" with Symphony
Orchestra

5:00 "Joy" with Encircle Band and Sanctuary
Choir

6:00 Dinner for All

TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP is hosted by Deborah and Mike Kohler. Thank you for your valuable service!

ADVENT WORKSHOP 2019: Please join us today from 12:00 - 2:30 p.m. for a fun, family-friendly event. First Church has hosted this event for years, and this is something you and your family will not want to miss! There is something for all ages! Christmas and winter themed crafts are set up throughout the Fellowship Hall. Stover Street Stompers complete the afternoon. Pizza and treats will be available in the Parlor, donation suggested.



CHRISTMAS CAROLING: Come sing Christmas carols to our homebound church family. Today, from 2:30 – 5:00 p.m. Meet in the south parking lot to get organized and arrange car pools. Contact

joewinsett@gmail.com.



Our 2020 Vision Campaign offers you the opportunity to generously support the mission and ministry of our church for the coming year. In the weeks ahead, please prayerfully reflect upon what this church and its missions mean to you. First Church offers a place of refuge and inspiration for countless people, many of whom have been turned away elsewhere. Our inclusive, expansive, tangible love for all of God's children is what sets this church apart. Please reflect upon how First Church has offered a refuge for you: a place to find peace and hope, a place to grow, learn, connect, and serve. We need your support in our efforts to make 2020 a year in which we will open our doors even wider and aim higher in our efforts to inspire hope, grow in faith, and serve with joy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAITH FORMATION

DOUBLE NICKEL: Sing into the Christmas season with the Sunshine Singers while enjoying the best lunch in town. December 13, noon, Fellowship Hall, \$4. Reservations not necessary.

VIDEO BANQUET: Come to a video extravaganza noon to 1:00 p.m. December 11, in the Parlor. No preparation required. Watch and discuss a variety of videos featuring spiritual thinkers such as Emilie Townes, Brene Brown, Stanley Hauerwas, Iliia Delio, Lanecia Rouse Tinsley and Scott Cairns.



DAILY ADVENT GREETINGS! The blog is up and running on the front page of the church website at <https://fcfumc.net/>. Take five minutes or less for prayers, songs videos, recipes and more appropriate to the season. A new entry is posted every day of Advent and older posts are retained.



UNITED METHODIST WOMEN: will celebrate the spirit of the season with a musical program by Karen Stoody and Keilani McConnell on December 12, at 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor. You are invited to join us for music and treats!

2020 UPPER ROOM DISCIPLINES: are for sale at the Adult Faith Formation table. Features daily scripture, reading and prayer with a different writer weekly.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAITH FORMATION

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN: was pleased to present the church with a check for \$2,500 from the sale of grocery cards and from the contributions that King Soopers gives for those who have linked their loyalty cards to Fort Collins First UMW-EOM. Come by the grocery card table in Fellowship Hall on Sundays to purchase cards and learn how to link your King Soopers loyalty card.

THIRD THURSDAY LUNCH: Our Holiday tradition is to meet in the private dining room of the Marriott Hotel at 3501 East Horsetooth Road in Fort Collins. Due to the availability of the room, we will meet on **Monday, December 16th at 11:30 a.m.** In 2020 we'll resume our regular third Thursday dates. All are welcome! For more information, please contact JudySayreGrim@gmail.com.

WEARING GOD: Professor of Spirituality, Lauren F. Winner, hypothesizes that most congregations have a handful of images of God and this is the God they worship. However, the Bible reveals many colorful images worth exploring. *Wearing God: Clothing, Laughter, Fire and Other Ways of Meeting God* will be offered at noon and 7:00 p.m. January 15, 22, 29 and February 5. Books \$11. Facilitator: David Reid.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE



PRAYER SHAWL **CHANGE OF DECEMBER MEETING**:

We are invited to meet with the members of the Timnath Prayer Shawl Ministry. The First Church Prayer Shawl Ministry will **NOT** meet on our usual time Saturday, December 21. Meeting has changed to December 13, at Timnath Presbyterian Church in Timnath. We will meet in the First Church South parking lot to car pool at 9:00 a.m.

GRIEF GROUP: helps if you have lost someone close to you. The holidays are usually a time that is difficult. Meet with others that are on that journey. Group meets on December 10, at 1:30 p.m. in the Conference Room. Please join us. Information jodhop@hotmail.com.

PARENT'S DAY OUT: Do you need a little break and want your child to experience quality childcare with minimal expense and commitment? We serve ages 1 (and walking)-5 years old. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Parent's Day Out is licensed, low-cost, drop-in child-care service servicing the community for 35 years. It is a safe, nurturing and fun program for the Mom or Dad who needs a few hours. First child is \$8.00 per hour and \$7.00 per hour for a sibling! Check us out under the Children's Ministry tab at <https://fcfumc.net/>.

SAVE THE DATE FOR INSPIRING CHRISTMAS MUSIC AT FIRST CHURCH!

December 11 - 6:00 p.m. – Children's Choir Musical
December 15 - 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. – Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra, 5:00 p.m. – Sanctuary Choir and Band at Encircle Worship



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www.fcfumc.net

Second Sunday in Advent December 8, 2019



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 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

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

Thank you for joining us today!