

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.

- 8:00 a.m.** Adventures in Faith Men’s Group—Conference Room
- 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 9:30 • 11:00

**Please stand as you are able*

Gathering Music	<i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i>	Heathcote Statham
Welcome		Dr. Melanie Rosa
Prelude	<i>Comfort, Comfort Ye My People</i>	Guy Bovet
Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle		9:30 Bob and Sally Castner 11:00 Nancy Bryan
*Hymn of Praise	<i>Hail to the Lord’s Anointed</i>	UMH #203
Chorus (9:30)	<i>Star-Child (v. 1, v. 5, chorus)</i>	TFWS #2095
Children’s Message		Barb Grauberger
Chorus (9:30)	<i>Star-Child (v. 1, v. 5, chorus)</i>	TFWS #2095
Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer		Rev. Cynthia Paquette
Anthem	<i>How Great Our Joy</i> Sanctuary Choir	Craig Courtney
Offering Our Gifts to God		Rev. Cynthia Paquette

Ways to give to First Church:

1. Give online at <https://fcfumc.net/> or on the First UMC App (Click on Give).
2. Text to give 1 800 364 GIVE (4483) (Text Message FirstChurch).
3. Automatic draft through online giving.
4. Check or cash
(Every loose \$1 bill goes to those in need).

Offertory	<i>Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring</i> David Adkins, <i>piano</i> / Dr. Joel Bacon, <i>organ</i>	arr. Smith & Hustad
*Doxology	<i>Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow</i>	UMH #94
Scripture	Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 2:8-10	9:30 Kate Norton 11:00 Mike Kohler
Sermon	“The Inn: Joy”	Dr. Melanie Rosa
*Hymn of Dedication	<i>Joy to the World</i>	UMH #246
Benediction		Dr. Melanie Rosa
Postlude	<i>While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks</i>	David Blackwell

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FAITH FORMATION

ADVENT WORSHIP SCHEDULE: Join us as we explore ways to make more room in our lives for housing the Holy.

December 19 Fourth Sunday of Advent
“The Inn: Joy” Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 2:8-10

December 24 Christmas Eve 2:00, 5:00, 7:00 pm
“The Inn: Love” Luke 2:1-20

December 26 First Sunday after Christmas:
ONE SERVICE ONLY at 9:30 am



All of our Christmas Eve services will be live streamed from our website.

AS WE MOVE TOWARD THE END OF 2021, please remember our church in your year-end giving plans. We are making an impact upon so many lives, and our community. Passing along the faith to our children and young people, caring for the vulnerable, offering exceptional music and inspiring worship (in person and online) and reaching people with the boundless, inclusive Gospel of Jesus Christ. None of this would be possible without the generosity and support of people like you. If you have not submitted an Estimate of Giving card for our **2022 Stronger Together** Stewardship Campaign, please do so soon. It helps us carefully plan for ministry in the coming year.

FINANCIAL PEACE University

Would you like to be debt free months, years or decades before you planned? Millions of folks have, and you can too. Please join us for Financial Peace University, a 9-week class on how to be debt free and enjoy life more. Classes will be held Wednesday evenings from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, January 12 to March 9, at our church. Anyone is welcome to attend, so invite your family and friends. Don Silar will be available in Fellowship Hall on Sundays between services and can be contacted at dfsilar@aol.com. You can also register at Financialpeace.com.

TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

USHERS 9:30 am Jerry Wiese, Randie Bell, Sandy Merriweather
11:00 am Susan Leinhart, Jeff Librant

9:30 WORSHIP CARE TEAM MEMBER: Robert Kiser

ALTAR FLOWERS are given by Bob & Margery Richmond in honor of their parents Cyril & Dora Richmond and Clarence & Irene Copithorne.

WE CARE ABOUT YOUR HEALTH: We at First Church are vigilant about protecting all who enter our building from the spread of illness in light of the coronavirus. We take your wellness seriously and will do all in our power to minimize any risk of infection or transmission. Please wear a mask and maintain safe practices. Thank you.

MISSIONS

WAYS TO SUPPORT FFH (FAITH FAMILY HOSPITALITY) AND FHN (FAMILY HOUSING NETWORK) OVER THE HOLIDAYS

Toiletries Drive: Toilet paper, Kleenex, full bottles of shampoo, conditioner, body wash.

Cleaning Supply Drive: Paper towels, Windex, air freshener, Lysol, toilet bowl cleaner, Pine-sol, Pledge, all-purpose-spray.

Gift Card Drive: King Soopers, Wal-Mart, ARC.

Day Center: Wipes, diapers-size 5 and 6.

ADMINISTRATIVE RESOURCES

Volunteers are needed to direct traffic in our parking lots for all Christmas Eve services. There could be a bright yellow vest in your future. Contact David Reid at davidreid2@gmail.com or 970-581-2707, voice or text.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

NOTES FROM DONNA NEWKIRK, FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE

Deja vu all over again. Yes, there is yet ANOTHER COVID-19 variant. This one is named Omicron. We are still learning more about it, and it may be many weeks before we have more answers on how severe it is, how easily it passes from one person to another, etc. The one thing we know for sure is that the same strategies we have been using all along (good handwashing, use of hand sanitizer, use of masks, and physical distancing, and getting vaccinated) are still working. Please keep doing these things. For more information on this specific variant, you can go to <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/s1126-B11-529-omicron.html>

If you have any questions, you can contact me at (970) 744-8812 or at D.NewkirkANP@gmail.com.

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Pastors

Dr. Melanie Rosa, *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 Stooddy, *Organist Emeritus*

Program Staff

Barb Grauberger, *Director of Children and Family Ministries*
Victoria Burkett, *Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries*
David Reid, *Director of Adult Faith Formation & Library*
Laurie Elliott, *Childcare Coordinator*
Liza Judd-Salimbeni, *Kids' Closet Coordinator*
Kelly Boettger, *Director of Preschool*
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*
Jake Kinner, *Custodian*
Max Reyes, *Custodian*
Michael Shestak, *Custodian, Sunday Hospitality Coordinator*

Coming Next Week: December 26, 2021

First Sunday after Christmas
One Service at 9:30 am
"Pilgrimage: One Family's Story"
Luke 2:41-52



1005 Stover Street • Fort Collins, CO 80524

(970) 482-2436

www.fcfumc.net

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2021

"The Inn: Joy"



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!