

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>	Robert Hobby
Welcome		Rev. Bradley Laurvick Rev. Cynthia Paquette
Lighting the Candle of Love		9:30 The Michalski Family 11:00 The Taylor Family
Candle Lighting Song	<i>Lift Up Your Eyes</i> Sanctuary Choir	
Anthem	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i> Sanctuary Choir	arr. Dan Forrest
Hymn of Praise	<i>Hark! The Herald Angels Sing</i>	UMH #240
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>I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day</i> <i>The First Noel</i> <i>How Great Our Joy</i> <i>Joy to the World</i> Sanctuary Choir	arr. Dennis Alle arr. Dan Forrest arr. Craig Courtney arr. Dan Forrest
Scripture	Isaiah 35:1-10	9:30 Cindi Ross-Bell 11:00 Jerry Wiese
Sermon	A Voice, A Chime a Chant Sublime	
Offering Our Gifts to God		

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.

Offertory	<i>O Thou that Tellest Good Tidings to Zion (from Messiah)</i>	G. F. Handel Susanna Jacobson, soloist
*Doxology	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i> (refrain only)	UMH #238
Anthem	<i>The Work of Christmas</i>	arr. Dan Forrest
*Benediction		
Postlude	<i>Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers</i>	Paul Manz

ANNOUNCEMENTS



BUCKHORN UNITED METHODIST YOUTH CAMP AND RETREAT

Is looking for camp counselors and a part time nurse for the upcoming summer camp season. Come join us for a fun outdoor summer experience, enriching the lives of youth and adults alike in this beautiful mountain setting. Both positions are paid and also include room and board, if needed! For more information, please contact Sean at 408-439-5625 or email her at director@buckhorncampco.org. You can also learn more about the camp at buckhorncampco.org

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 _____ First Name _____ City, State, Zip _____


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 _____

Regular Attender 

First Time Guest 

TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

USHERS: 9:30 a.m. Karen Kiser, Randie Bell, Dana Sampson
11:00 a.m. Eric Wilkinson, Sandy Merriweather

9:30 WORSHIP CARE TEAM MEMBER: Kandy Moore



Special Advent Moments

Please be sure these are on your calendar!

- 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

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.

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 Stooddy, *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*
Julian Tertzag, *Custodian*

Coming Next Week: December 18 2022

"The World Revolved from Night to Day"

Isaiah 29: 18-21



I Heard the Bells:
*A Voice, a Chime
a Chant Sublime*

Rev. Bradley Laurvick

December 11, 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!