

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.** Serendipity Class—Village Commons; Upper Room Class—Upper Room (Room 235)
- 10:55 a.m.** Open Hearts Class—Village Commons

ORDER OF WORSHIP

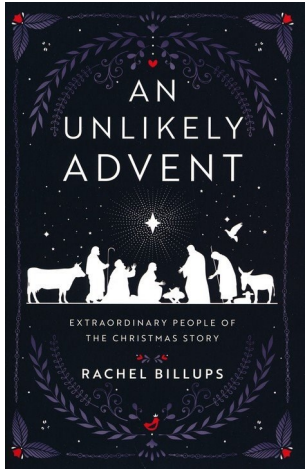
*Please rise in body or spirit.

Prelude	Partita on 'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel'	by John Barr Karen Stoody, organ
Welcome		Rev. Brad Laurvick Rev. Cynthia Paquette
Advent Candle Lighting	Light One Candle	by Natalie Sleeth Sanctuary Choir and Congregation
*Music for Reflection	O Come, O Come Emmanuel	arr. Parker/Shaw FUMC Choral Scholars
*Call to Worship		9:30 Joan Carter 11:00 Sandy Merriweather
*Hymn of Praise	O Come, O Come Emmanuel	UMH #211 (v. 1, 2, 7)
Chorus (9:30)	Away In A Manger	UMH #217
Children’s Message		Barb Grauberger
Chorus (9:30)	Away In A Manger	UMH #217
Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer		
Anthem	The Holly and the Ivy	arr. Parker/Shaw Sanctuary Choir
Scripture	Isaiah 9:2-7	
Sermon	Christmas Together- The Nativity	
Offering Our Gifts to God		
Giving to God through First Church: 1. Give online at fcfumc.net . 2. Check or cash. All loose one dollar bills go to those in need. 3. Offering your time, talents, gifts, service and witness.		
Offertory	Wachet Auf (Wake, Awake)	by J.S.Bach Karen Stoody, organ
*Doxology	Angels We Have Heard On High	UMH #238
*Sending Prayer		
*Hymn of Dedication	O Little Town of Bethlehem	UMH #230
*Benediction		
Postlude	People, Look East!	Kristina Langlois

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent Study 2023

DATES: NOVEMBER 29 – DECEMBER 20
DAY & TIMES: WEDNESDAYS NOON OR 7 PM
ROOM: VILLAGE COMMONS or ON ZOOM



This four-week Advent study helps us see how God works in unexpected ways as we join Rachel Billups in focusing on the experiences of four sets of often overlooked characters in the Nativity story -

Elizabeth and Zechariah, Herod, the Magi, and the shepherds. Each set of unexpected characters has something to teach us about living faithfully on the journey to Christmas. To be a part of this study, please sign up online or in person on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall. Books can be purchased at the Fellowship Hall for \$16 each.



First Church Community Personal Information and Picture Update

You are important to us, and we want to remain connected with you. Please scan the QR code to update your personal information and picture so your church community can get to know you better, your records are updated on First Church Database, and you are in the New Church Pictorial Directory.



FIRST CHURCH CONNECTION CARD

(Please fill out and drop in offering plate OR Scan appropriate QR codes below)

Date _____	Service Time 9:30 <input type="checkbox"/> 11:00 <input type="checkbox"/>	Last Name _____	First Name _____
Email _____	Address _____		City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____	I am a First Time Guest <input type="checkbox"/> Returning Guest <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Attender <input type="checkbox"/>		Regular Attender 
Please let me know about volunteer opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Please contact me about membership <input type="checkbox"/>			
Please add me to the "First Wire" weekly email list <input type="checkbox"/>			
Prayer Requests _____			

First Time Guest 

UPCOMING EVENTS AT FIRST CHURCH

USHERS/COMMUNION SERVERS:

9:30 Rich Raab, Pam Raab, Christi Bickley, Randie Bell
11:00 Shan Watkins, Sandra Stille

WORSHIP CARE TEAM MEMBER: Anne Moyer

ALTAR FLOWERS: Today's altar flowers are given by Bob and Julie Firebaugh in celebration of Krystal Matthews 40th birthday.



CHRISTMAS CRAFT FUN DAY

JOIN US FOR A FUN AFTERNOON FULL OF CRAFTING, ACTIVITIES AND TREATS FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES!

WANT TO HELP? IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HOST A CRAFT STATION OR HELP IN SOME WAY VISIT:

DECEMBER 3RD

2 PM-4 PM

FELLOWSHIP HALL



Life Together Group - Sing Along Join us **11am-noon on Sundays in Rhythm Road classroom** at the far east end of the education wing on the 2nd floor starting December 3rd. Come sing seasonal favorites!

Life Together Group - FUMC Travel Group Do you enjoy travel? Or just enjoy talking about it? Then you're perfect for the FUMC Travel Club! Our next meeting is **Monday, November 27, at 7pm in Room "Club 5.0"** (2nd floor).

SCREENAGERS NEXT CHAPTER

ADDRESSING YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Whether you have children/teens in your life, or you just want to better understand how technology affects the

mental health and development of young people, you are invited to join our community screening of *Screenager's: Next Chapter*. Let's learn together how to approach the ever-changing nature of technology in our lives! **\$5 suggested donation** upon entry **Wednesday, November 29th 6:30 PM in the FUMC Parlor**, Childcare will be provided—please RSVP with the QR code:




COMMUNICATE REQUEST FORM

If you have an announcement to include in the Sunday bulletin, please submit the details by Wednesday before, using the QR code:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ONLINE ADVENT STUDY: THE COSMIC CHRIST


Homebrewed Christianity Presents




The Cosmic Christ

Advent and the Coming of God


Join us for an Online Pop-Up Learning Community hosted by:



Tripp Fuller
Luther Theological Seminary



Philip Clayton
Claremont School of Theology



Diana Butler Bass
Public Scholar of Religion

Sign Up using this QR code:

LIVE PREVIEW OF THE COURSE:

Monday, November 27th (11 AM MST)

LIVE SESSIONS:

Monday, December 4th (11 AM MST)

Thursday, December 7th (11 AM MST)

Monday, December 11th (11 AM MST)

Monday, December 18th (11 AM MST)

ASYNCHRONOUS CLASS: You can participate fully without being present at any specific time. Replays are available on the Class Resource Page.

COST: A course like this is typically offered for \$125 or more, but we invite you to contribute whatever you can to help make this possible for everyone!



Musical Happenings at First Church!

Mark your calendars. Join us for our special **Music Sunday** services on **December 3rd (9:30 & 11:00)**. Worship will be filled with beautiful sounds from our Sanctuary Choir, Carillon Handbell Choir, and Church Orchestra.

Then, come and hear our children present their seasonal **Christmas pageant** on **Wednesday, December 6 at 6:30pm** in the Sanctuary.

Connect With Our Pastors

Rev. Brad Laurvick
Lead Pastor
brad@fcfumc.net

Rev. Cynthia Paquette
Pastor of Congregational Engagement
c.paquette@fcfumc.net

First United Methodist Church
1005 Stover Street • Fort Collins, CO 80524 • (970) 482-2436



FIRST United Methodist CHURCH

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Christmas Together



Traditions & Relationships
that feel like home...

November 26, 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!