

# 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	<i>Go Tell It On the Mountain</i>	arr. David Winkler
Welcome		Rev. Brad Laurvick Rev. Cynthia Paquette
Advent Candle Lighting	<i>Light One Candle</i>	by Natalie Sleeth
*Music for Reflection	<i>Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming</i>	arr. Hugo Distler
*Call to Worship		9:30 Hope Barnhart 11:00 Kate/Rick Norton
*Hymn of Praise	<i>Angels We Have Heard On High</i>	UMH #238
Chorus (9:30)	<i>Away In A Manger</i>	UMH #217
Children’s Message		Barb Grauberger
Chorus (9:30)	<i>Away In A Manger</i>	UMH #217
Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer		
Anthem	<i>Wexford Carol</i> <i>Verleih’ uns Frieden</i> <i>Gloria</i>	arr. Elaine Hagenberg by Felix Mendelssohn by Randol Alan Bass
Scripture	Micah 5:2-4	
Sermon	Christmas Together – Music	
The Sacrament of Holy Communion	Handbell Christmas Carol Medley	
Offering Our Gifts to God		
<b>Giving to God through First Church:</b> 1. Give online at <a href="https://www.fcfumc.net">fcfumc.net</a> . 2. Check or cash. All loose one dollar bills go to those in need. 3. Offering your time, talents, gifts, service and witness.		
Offertory	<i>Let’s Worship and Adore Him</i> <i>I Extol You</i> <i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	arr. Tom Fettkel by Jennifer Randolph arr. Wade & Fettke
*Doxology	<i>Angels We Have Heard On High</i>	UMH #238
*Sending Prayer		
*Hymn of Dedication	<i>Peace, Peace</i> <i>Silent Night</i> (Congregation Sing v. 1 & 3 on Cue)	arr. Fred Bock UMH #239
*Benediction		
Postlude	<i>People, Look East!</i>	Kristina Langlois

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Upcoming Christmas Services 2023

### Blue Christmas Service -

A service for anyone who is stressed, lonely, or hurting. A reflective service in the sanctuary that creates space for all the feelings and realities of life.

**\*Sunday, Dec. 17th, 7pm**

### Christmas Eve Services - Dec. 24th

**Children and Families - \*9:30am and \*2pm**

**Traditional - 11am**

**Candlelight - \*5pm, and 7pm**

**\*Online Livestream Service Available**



[christmasevefortcollins.com](https://christmasevefortcollins.com)

### First Church Community Personal Information and Picture Update



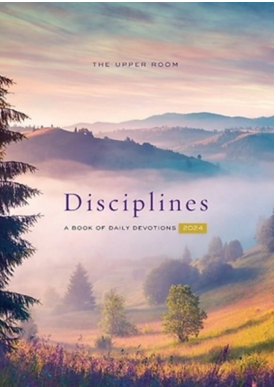
You are important to us, and we want to remain connected with you. Please scan the QR code to update your personal information and picture so your church community can get to know you better, your records are updated on First Church Database, and you are in the New Church Pictorial Directory.

### Greeters Needed on Christmas Eve

Each Christmas Eve, First Church welcomes many. This year, we have worship services at **9:30 AM, 11 AM, 2 PM, 5 PM, and 7 PM**. If you feel welcomed the first time you stepped into the church building, you might want to consider being welcoming to our church community and guests by volunteering to be a Greeter. Greeters greet, hand out candles and bells to people who come through the entrances. All ages are welcome to greet. You can greet as a family. Children younger than 10 need to be accompanied by an adult. Follow the link on the QR code to get signed up.



### The Upper Room Disciplines 2024:



A Book of Daily Devotions is available. Contact Rev. Cynthia via Email or call the church office to purchase and pick up one.

Cost: \$14 each.

## TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

### USHERS/COMMUNION SERVERS:

Mark Yergler, Randie Bell, Sara Gerhardt, Lukas Helin,  
Simon Helin, Sandy Merriweather, Mateo Molina, Curtis  
Bridges, Lois Quintana

**WORSHIP CARE TEAM MEMBER:** Lisa Cole



### Life Together - Parenting Group

**Sundays at 10:45 a.m. in the Children's Ministry Wing**

Looking for a judgment free zone and a supportive parenting environment? This might be the group for you! Join us anytime that works for you! We meet at 10:45 a.m. in the Club 4/5 classroom upstairs in the children's wing for 45 minutes to an hour. **Childcare is provided.** I am looking forward to creating a community of support and friendship where we grow together, while supporting our First Kids. This group will be a drop in, no preparation group. Each week we will view, read or listen to something that might make your parenting easier or better! We will discuss and also have time to make connections and create a village of support for each other. Our group covers all ages and stages of childhood development.

Questions? Contact Barb Grauberger at [childrensdirector@fcfumc.net](mailto:childrensdirector@fcfumc.net)

## 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

Sign Up using this QR code:

#### 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!

Come and hear our fabulous First Kids present their seasonal **Christmas pageant** on **Wednesday, December 6 at 6:30pm** in the **Sanctuary**.



### New Life Together

**Group - Songs For Life** Join us **11am-noon on Sundays in Rhythm Road classroom** at the far east end of the education wing on the 2nd floor starting **Today**. Come sing seasonal favorites!

### Life Together Group: Centering Prayer

"Silence is God's first language." -John of the Cross (16th century mystic)

Join us in the **Chapel on Tuesday mornings at 11:00** for 30 minutes while we practice centering prayer, a prayer based on silence and listening to God. Each week a peer leader will lead our small community in silent contemplation of God's presence. To learn more about centering prayer, check the website for Contemplative Outreach by following the QR code:



## Connect With Our Pastors

Rev. Brad Laurvick  
Lead Pastor  
[brad@fcfumc.net](mailto:brad@fcfumc.net)

Rev. Cynthia Paquette  
Pastor of Congregational Engagement  
[c.paquette@fcfumc.net](mailto:c.paquette@fcfumc.net)

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



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## Music Sunday - December 3, 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!