



**FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**
LEXINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA

*Carols with the
Chancel Choir and Orchestra*



At First United Methodist Church we are each alive in Christ, united in nurturing fellowship, reaching out to share God's boundless love.

December 14, 2025

11:00 a.m.

Third Sunday of Advent: "Son of Mary"

Like the iconic figures gathered around the Christ Child in our nativity scenes, we gather together because we want to know Jesus more as we seek to bring his Reign of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love on earth.

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome

Rev. Kirk Tutterow

Orchestral Voluntary - "O Little Town of Bethlehem" arr. by John Rutter

Advent Candle Lighting: Candle of Joy Elaine Cory & Nancy Roach

Sung Response

What Child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?

Leader: We relight the candle of Hope for those who long for Good News.

We relight the candle of Peace for those who yearn for God's Shalom.

Today we light the candle of Joy for those who need it most.

People: For all whose despair feels endless.

Leader: For all who find little joy in daily living.

People: For all whose disappointment runs deep.

Leader: Our question for today at the scene of the nativity is this:
"How can we proclaim a deep joy
'in spite of' hardship in our time?"

**People: What child IS this? This, this is the Son of Blessed Mary
who reigns with joy forever.**

Sung Response

This, this is Christ, the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, haste to bring him laud
the Babe, the Son of Mary!

Prayer for the Journey

Here, at the nativity of your birth,
give us the courage to face this moment with uncanny joy.
Open us to new understandings
of the unfolding story of your presence among us.
Show us how to praise you
even when songs and carols feel empty.
We pray these things in the name of the Child,
the One who uplifts our hearts and lives. Amen.



Godly Play

All children are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary for a time just for them! Afterwards, children in kindergarten thru 2nd grade are invited to follow the leader to the Godly Play Room for Children's Church.

*We invite you to stand, as you are able, when invited by the music director.

***Carol of Praise - "O Come, All Ye Faithful"** arr. by John Rutter

Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant, O come, ye, O come ye,
to Bethlehem. Come and behold him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

True God of true God, Light from light eternal, lo, he shuns not the
Virgin's womb; Son of the Father, begotten, not created;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; O sing, all ye citizens of heaven
above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

We Worship with our Tithes and Offerings

Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)

God of hope and peace,
we offer these gifts so that they may be transformed
into your good news for the sake of the world. Amen.

***Carol of Presence - "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"** by Charles Wesley
arr. by John Rutter

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain: Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ by highest heaven adored; Christ the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.

Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th' incarnate Deity,
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. **Refrain**

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. **Refrain**

The First Reading - Isaiah 11:1-10

Rev. Cheryl Skinner

Anthem - "Noel"

Kelly Jackson, Torrey Jackson, Jacob Gordon, & June Bunce, soloists
Sung in Kituba dialect

TRANSLATION

Noel! Noel! Jesus has come to live with us.
If you want to know the Child,
You have to come kneel.

Anthem - "Glory to God in the Highest"

by G. B. Pergolesi

Dora Cardona & Torrey Jackson, soloists

Glory to God in the highest, to God in the highest,

Glory, glory in the highest,

Glory to God in the highest, to God in the highest,

Glory, glory in the highest,

Glory to God in the highest, to God in the highest,

Glory, glory in the highest,

Glory, glory, glory, glory in the highest,

Glory, glory, glory, glory in the highest,

Glory to God in the highest, to God in the highest,

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Glory, glory in the highest,

The Second Reading - Luke 1:46-55

arr. by Mack Wilberg

Anthem - "Ding! Dong! Merrily on High"

arr. by Mack Wilberg

Ding! dong! merrily on high in heav'n the bells are ringing!

Ding! dong! verily the sky is riv'n with angels singing!

Gloria, hosanna in excelsis! Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen,

And "I-o, i-o, i-o!", by priest and people sungen!

Gloria, hosanna in excelsis! Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

Pray ye dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers!
May ye beautifully rhyme your evetime song, ye singers!
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis! Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

Anthem - "Angels From The Realms of Glory" arr. by Dan Forrest

Angels from the realms of glory wing your flight o'er all the earth
Ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth.

Refrain:

Come and worship, Come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn King!

Shepherds in the field abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, Yonder shines the infant light. **Refrain**

Sages, leave your contemplation, Sages, brighter visions beam afar.
Seek the great Desire of Nations, Ye have seen His natural star. **Refrain**

All creation join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son.
Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One! **Refrain**

The Third Reading - Isaiah 9:2-7

***Carol of Joy - "Joy To the World"** arr. by John Rutter

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Sending Forth

Leader: As we prepare to go into the world,
let us ask and answer the question we came with.

People: What child IS this?

Leader: This is the one born into a time when people longed for a
Savior.

People: What child IS this?

Leader: This is the one whose birth would stir the world from
slumber and challenge us to live in right relationship with
one another.

People: What child IS this?

Leader: This, this is the "Son of Mary" who shows us the song of joy
that is possible when we open our hearts and lives to God.

Sung Response

This, this is Christ, the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing.
Haste, haste to bring him laud
the Babe, the Son of Mary!

Choral Benediction - "Three-Fold Amen"

First UMC Chancel Choir and Orchestra

Danish

Chiming of the Trinity

Postlude - "Toccata on 'God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen'" by Douglas Wagner
Phyllis Jones, organ

Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in memory of
our parents, Helen & Charlie Hall and Elizabeth Baxter and Delbert
McColley by Mike and Lauren Hall.

Thank You Notes

To my church family, Thank you for your love & support, cards, phone
calls, food, and most of all, your prayers. I could not have gotten this far
in my recovery without those prayers.

Sincerely, Peggy Everhart

Thank you for sharing your nativity sets to be displayed at the Fellowship
Lunch last Sunday. Everyone is invited to drop by the fellowship hall to
see some of the nativities that will remain on display throughout the
season of Advent and Christmas. We appreciate your support and hope
you will plan to join us for the exciting events coming in 2026.

Sincerely, Evangelism & Hospitality Team

A Note of Sympathy

Sympathy of the ministers and members of the congregation is extended
to Lane (Wendy) Norris, Blake Norris, Claire (Ayden) Prevatte and family
upon the occasion of the death of his mother, Cheryl Norris, on December
10, 2025.

Ways To Give financially back to God through the ministries of First UMC.
offerings in the plates provided at the back of the church.

Mail to First UMC, 310 S. Main Street, Lexington, NC 27292.



Online Giving for mobile device users, the QR code on
the right will take you to a secure mobile site for Online
Giving from your smartphone or tablet. **On your first visit**,
you will need to create a profile.

Text to Give - 855-222-3109—Text the amount you wish
to give and follow the directions.

United in Nurturing Fellowship

Sunday, December 14

8:45am Early Worship, Fellowship Hall
9:45am Sunday School for ALL Ages
11:00am Carols with the Chancel Choir & Orchestra, Sanctuary
11:00am LIVE Stream on YouTube at First UMC Lexington NC
6:00pm Community Love Feast Candlelight Service sponsored by Greater Lexington Alliance Ministerial Association, **First Reformed UCC**

Monday, December 15

6:00pm Spruill Koinonia Fellowship Christmas Dinner, Yarborough's Restaurant

Tuesday, December 16

10:00am Companions in Christ, Conference Room
12:00pm Prayer Warriors Lunch, B-B-Q Center
5:45pm United Methodist Men provide evening meal, DC First Hope Ministries

Wednesday, December 17

12:00pm Midday Prayer Service, Sanctuary
7:00pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Thursday, December 18

Friday, December 19

Saturday, December 20

Sunday, December 21

8:30am United Methodist Men, Fellowship Hall
8:45am Early Worship, Sanctuary
9:45am Sunday School for ALL Ages
11:00am Morning Worship, Sanctuary
11:00am LIVE Stream on YouTube at First UMC Lexington NC
7:00pm Carols and Love Feast, Sanctuary



Chancel Choir

Altos

June Bunce
Kinsey Calderone
Dora Cardona
Karen Coleman
Ellen Crago
Debbie Hill
Charlotte Lankford
Nancy Roach
Cheryl Skinner

Tenors
Jacob Gordon
Wayne Olson
Jack Tookey
Kirk Tutterow

Basses

Paul Crago
Asher Ellis
Kelly Jackson
Randall Jackson



Gifts for the instrumentalists have been given
to the glory of God and in memory of:

- ♦ Sonny Conrad by Nancy and the Conrad Family
- ♦ Gail & Joe Biesecker by the FUMC Biesecker Endowment

Gifts for the instrumentalists have been given
to the glory of God:
♦ by J. M. Glover of Pleasant Hill, NC

Violin

Colleen Chenail
Luci White
Susan Gallimore
Jorge Ochoa

Flute

Debi Pivetta

Oboe

Lauren Derflinger

Clarinet

Adella Carlson

French Horn

Kai Summerlin

Trombone

Jim Lane
Jared Mangrum

Trumpet

Tyler Sessions
Jack Kannan

Percussion

Faye Moser

Harp

Bethany Lancaster

Organ

Phyllis Jones

