

Order of Worship
Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2023—11 a.m.
“Enter to worship. Depart to serve.”

Our worship service is broadcast on the radio each Sunday morning at
8:00 AM on KELB, 100.5 FM

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Weldon Bares

CHIMES

PRELUDE “Prepare the Way, O Zion” David Paxton

CHORAL INTROIT **2090 vs. 2**

ADVENT READING AND CANDLELIGHTING

The Struchtemeyer Family

Reader: On this second Sunday of Advent, we remember the shepherds, the workers for the common good, the steadfast watchmen, isolated and alone, doing the job no one wants. And yet God saw them. God valued them, and God revealed the greatest news of all to them, the lowly.

Response: **Today we give thanks for the shepherds among us, back-breaking laborers on whom our world depends, those we overlook or rarely see, the ones who can teach us to watch for God in the darkness.**

Reader: We light the second candle as a symbol of the shepherds, agents of the gospel and redeemers of the world.

Response: **The candle of peace ignites our lives. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.**

*OPENING HYMN “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” No. 211

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Ann Courville

HYMN “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” No. 216

*PSALTER Psalm 85 Verses 1-7 No. 806
Rev. Mel Yorks

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER **204**

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Weldon Bares

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*THE SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 3:1-12
Rev. Steffanie Pace

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON “John the Baptist Prepares the Way” Rev. Weldon Bares

“Advent pilgrims on the way to the manger must pass through the desert where John is preaching.” - - Fred Craddock

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles’ Creed No. 881

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI No. 70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

OFFERING

ANTHEM “Come, Emmanuel, Come” by Jay Rouse

*DOXOLOGY “Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow” No. 95

*CLOSING HYMN “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken” No. 731
Verses 1 & 4

*BENEDICTION

CHIMES

*POSTLUDE Toccata on “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Grimoaldo Macchia

*Please stand if able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Text in Church: Don't forget to check in today and every Sunday via "Text in Church". If you have not connected before, text "CONNECT" to 217-247-1263. After connecting, text "HERE" to register attendance, "GIVE" to submit an offering, and "PRAY" to submit a prayer request.

Church-Wide Advent Study: "The Angels of Christmas" led by Rev. Weldon Bares continues next Sunday, December 17 at 10am in the Worship Center. All are welcome!

Church-Wide Christmas Celebration: The Children's Choir, Chancel Choir, and Asbury Ringers present our Church-Wide Christmas Celebration today at 5pm in Paxton Hall. Join us for an evening of music, food, and fellowship - featuring "The Incredible, Gigantic, Humongous VeggieTales Christmas Show!"

Christmas Caroling: Join us for Christmas Caroling on Monday, December 11! We will be singing Christmas carols to the residents of Rest Haven at 1:30pm and the Gardens at 3pm. We will also be singing at The Verandah on Tuesday, December 12 at 2pm. All are welcome!

Christmas Cantata: Our Chancel Choir will be presenting "A Night for Rejoicing" Cantata on Sunday, December 17 at the 11am Traditional Service in the Sanctuary.

Christmas Eve Services:

10 am Traditional Worship Service in the Sanctuary
4pm Candlelight Communion Service in the Worship Center
5:30 & 7 pm Candlelight Communion Service in the Sanctuary

Next Sunday, December 17 is CATCH-UP SUNDAY, where we are encouraging anyone who might be behind on their pledge to catch up. With your help, we will enter the new year with a balanced budget, enabling us to continue reaching out to so many in our community with the Good News of Jesus Christ. **IMPORTANT REMINDER:** All donations must be received by Sunday, December 31, 2023 in order to be included on your 2023 Contribution Statement. Thank you!

Confirmation Registration is open to all kids 6 grade or above who have not been confirmed yet. If you would like to register, please contact Rev. Steffanie Pace. Classes start January 7th during the Sunday School hour.

Collection Corner: We have many opportunities for donations at FUMCLC. Our collection table outside Paxton Hall is now accepting Community Coffee labels for Kaufman Elementary, cake mix and icing for Faith and Friends Food Pantry, and Bingo prizes for Kaufman Elementary. Thank you for supporting our local community!



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
LAKE CHARLES, LA
TRADITIONAL WORSHIP



Rev. Weldon Bares
SENIOR MINISTER

Rev. Steffanie Pace
ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Rev. Mel Yorks
ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Emmie Gonsoulin
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