# An Order for the Worship of God

irst Sunday of Advent November 28, 2021 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Paraments – Blue

\*Please stand as you are able.

Please remember to turn off cell phones and pagers.

Vision Statement of First-Centenary United Methodist Church:

Build a healthy and diverse community of disciples of Jesus Christ.

Mrs, Laurie Zeigler, flute; piano and organ **Gathering Music** (10:30)

Flute selections include:

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus I Wonder as I Wander

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming arr. Purifoy arr. Ledgerwood

arr. Purifoy arr. Purifoy

Invocation

**Voluntary** 

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

J. Walther

\*Call to Worship (please stand)

(8:30) Shannon Smith (10:45) Mimi Italia

**Leader:** Our Lord, we enter this season of Advent, and our hearts echo the church's plea.

Come. Lord Jesus.

Come into these days too filled

and hours too hurried and be our peace.

Come. Lord Jesus.

**Leader:** Come into this troubled and hurting world

and be our hope. Come. Lord Jesus.

Come into this dark world and be our true light.

Come, Lord Jesus.

**Leader:** Come into our lives and be life for us.

now and forevermore.

Come and be Emmanuel - God with us. AII:

God for us. Amen!

\*Hymn 196

Come. Thou Long-Expected Jesus

#### **Lighting the First Advent Candle**

(8:30) Renee and David Hudson (10:45) Chris and Al Bowles

**Prayer** 

Lord, in this season of Advent, help us to listen for your quiet voice speaking words of comfort and hope. Amen.

Meditation

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus M. Miller (8:30) James Harr, solo (10:45) The Chancel Choir

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us: let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart. Born to save, born to heal, come. O Savior, come. While we wait, while we pray, come, Savior, come. Hope of all heaven and earth, come, Jesus, come, O Jesus, come.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king, born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring. By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by thine all sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne. Born to save, born to heal, come, O Savior, come. While we wait, while we pray, come, Savior, come. Hope of all heaven and earth, come, Jesus, come, O Jesus, come. (Words: Charles Wesley, 1744)

#### Sacrament of Holy Baptism (10:45)

(The children are invited to the Chancel steps to witness the Baptism.) Abigail Blake Akins, daughter of Brian and Lindsey Akins, will receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

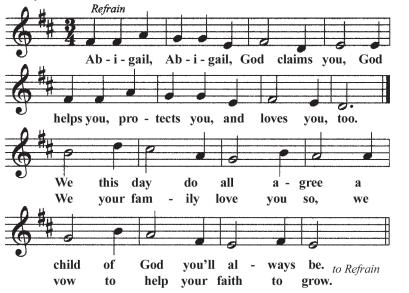
#### **Congregational Commendation and Pledge**

Pastor: Members of the household of faith, I commend to your love and care, Abigail, whom we this day recognize as a member of the family of God. Will you endeavor so to live that she may grow in the knowledge and love of God through our Savior Jesus Christ?

People: With God's help, we will so order our lives after the example of Christ, that this child, surrounded by steadfast love, may be established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

**Musical Response** 

God Claims You



**Concerns and Celebrations** The Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer Rev. Laura Shearer

Luke 1:39-56

\*Gospel Lesson (CEB)

Lo. How a Rose E'er Blooming arr. J. Purifoy Laurie Zeigler, flute

Sermon Sounds of the Season: Whispers Dr. C. Mark Gooden

#### Response

**Solo** (8:30)

In a cynical and despairing world, O God, give us a quietly prophetic voice to proclaim your hope. In a violent and angry world, O God, give us a quietly prophetic voice to proclaim your peace. In a dismissive and disinterested world, O God, give us a quietly prophetic voice to proclaim your compassion. In a lonely and inhospitable world, O God, give us a quietly prophetic voice to proclaim your love. In a grieving and weeping world, O God, give us a quietly prophetic voice to proclaim your joy. May we be so captivated by your hope, O God,

that we cannot help but to whisper,

to sing, and to enact.

the message of your reign which is always coming into our world; And may our quietly prophetic lives, be channels of your restoring grace wherever we may go.

Now the Heavens Start to Whisper TUNE: BEACH SPRING

Now the heavens start to whisper, as the veil is growing thin. Earth from slumber wakes to listen to the stirring, faint within: seed of promise, deeply planted, child to spring from Jesse's stem! Like the soil beneath the frostline, hearts grow soft to welcome him.

Heavy clouds that block the moonlight now begin to drift away. Diamond brilliance through the darkness shines the hope of coming day. Christ, the morning star of splendor, gleams within a world grown dim. Heaven's ember fans to fullness; hearts grow warm to welcome him.

Christ, eternal Sun of justice, Christ the rose of wisdom's seed, come to bless with fire and fragrance hours of yearning, hurt, and need. In the lonely, in the stranger, in the outcast hid from view: child who comes to grace the manger, teach our hearts to welcome you.

> (Words: Mary Louise Bringle, 2015. ©2006 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-702258.)

#### **Benediction**

**Voluntary** 

People, Look East

M. Barker

\*Congregation standing as they are able

The Call to Worship was written by Peggy A. Haymes from Be Thou Present: Prayers, Litanies, and Hymns for Christian Worship. © 1994 by Smyth & Helwys Publishing, Inc. The Advent Liturgy was written by Cindy Stulce, a longtime member of the church and Chancel Choir. The Response was written by John van de Laar, and posted on Sacredise.com. God Claims You - Words and music © 1981 Stanley M. Farr. Used by permission.

Assisting in today's services: Acolytes - Belle and Brie Wallin & Cornelius Kandakai

# We are glad you are here!

Please register your attendance on the yellow cards in pews.

Nursery, Children's Sunday School and Worship now open. Please check-in in the Children's hallway. • 10:45 Service telecast on Channel 12, WDEF-TV, 6 & 11:30 a.m. each Sunday. Visitors please stop by the Visitors' Information Desk in the Narthex.



ASSISTIVE LISTENING AVAILABLE - ASK USHERS FOR ASSISTANCE.

THE VINE WORSHIP SERVICE (10:45 a.m.) Dr. Will Lauderback SUNDAY NIGHT SERVICE (5 p.m.) Rev. Barry Kidwell

Starting today, and continuing through Advent, our Music Ministry will provide Sounds of the Season during the gathering time. This is our gift to the congregation as we prepare in our hearts and in our lives for the coming of Christ at Christmas. Music will begin at 10:30 each Sunday. We ask that you enter the Sanctuary quietly so those around can hear and enjoy the beautiful music that has

been prepared and presented by our handbell choirs, instrumentalists, organ and piano.

# THIS WEEK AT FIRST-CENTENARY

#### Sunday, November 28

8:30 a.m. Worship

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

10:45 a.m. Worship

10:45 a.m. The Vine Worship

5:00 p.m. Sunday Night Worship

6:00 p.m. OSP Rehearsal

# Monday, November 29

Noon Charge Conference 12:30 p.m. Prayer Requests

6:00 p.m. OSP Rehearsal

# Tuesday, November 30

10:00 a.m. Crafty Capers 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

6:00 p.m. OSP Rehearsal

# Wednesday, December 1

3 - 7 p.m. Advent Wreath Creation

5:15 p.m. Prime Time Dinner

6:00 p.m. Prime Time Classes

6:00 p.m. Chancel Ringers 6:00 p.m. OSP Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

# Thursday, December 2

1:30 p.m. Aldersgate Vibrations

6:00 p.m. OSP Rehearsal

# Friday, December 3

7:30 p.m. OSP Performance

### Saturday, December 4

7:30 p.m. OSP Performance

# PRIMETIMES Wednesdays:

# **Prime Time Wednesday continues!**

Dinner at 5:15 p.m. and Classes & Activities at 6 p.m. Youth and Children's programming starts at 6 p.m.

Advent Series -- Vecember 1, 8, 15

Join Pastors Mark, Laura, Barry, and Will for an Advent study and conversation! Each night your pastors will be sharing some of their favorite stories and scriptures to help prepare our hearts for Christmas!

# Go to firstcentenary.com/prime-time-wednesday for dinner reservations.

December 1: Baked Spaghetti, Salad, Garlic Bread, Bread Pudding, Grilled Chicken Salad Please make dinner reservations by 4 p.m. Monday.

DINNER COSTS Adults \$10 each (meal or salad)

Children - \$5 3 and under free Family max - \$30

Wednesday Nights for Children! The Oak Street Center parking lot

Playground Devotions 6 -7 p.m.

No Children's Choirs. Rain Plan Location: Elementary Wing

There are several ways to make your faith commitment and return your commitment card:

- Return your card during the worship service.
- Drop off your card at the Welcome Center any time
- Make an on-line commitment at www.firstcentenary.com.
- Email Karen Gates at kgates@fcumc.org to make your commitment.
- Mail your card P. O. Box 208, Chattanooga, TN 37401

#### **First-Centenary Mailing Address**

Please use the post office box when mailing to the church.

First-Centenary United Methodist Church
P. O. Box 208 Chattanooga, TN 37401

(Mail is not delivered to the 419 McCallie Avenue street address.)

#### Commendation and Welcome - New Members

Pastor: Brothers and sisters, I commend to your love and care these persons whom we this day receive into the membership of this congregation. Do all in your power to increase their faith, confirm their hope, and perfect them in love.

Congregation: We rejoice to recognize you as members of Christ's holy church, and bid you welcome to the First-Centenary congregation of The United Methodist Church. With you we renew our vows to uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness. With God's help we will so order our lives after the example of Christ that, surrounded by steadfast love, you may be established in the faith and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

## CHURCH STAFF

MARK GOODEN Senior Minister LAURA SHEARER Minister, Congregational Care **WILL LAUDERBACK** Minister of Teaching & Contemporary Worship Minister of Mustard Tree Ministries & Outreach **BARRY KIDWELL** Minister of Faith and Work **CLARK TAYLOR RICHARD C. LOONEY** Bishop in Residence **ALBERT J. BOWLES** Minister Emeritus **CHARLES NEAL** Minister Emeritus **DAVID HARR** Minister Emeritus

**ANITA BASINGER** Communications The Vine Worship Leader/College & Young Adult Ministry **JEFF BLAKE DEBBIE DONOHUE** Congregational Development **MICHAEL EDWARDS** Facilities **KAREN GATES Business Manager TROY HAMILTON** Youth Ministry Director **SARA HOLLEY** Youth Ministry Co-Director **JERRY LAWSON Facilities JANICE McNAIR** Worship & Music Ministry **JONATHAN McNAIR** Music Assistant **NANCY MORGAN** Secretary **ROBERT MORGAN** Facilities **MARY GREY MOSES** The Centenary Director **DAVID PATTON Organist CINDY RUFF** Administrative Assistant JIM SCHWARTZ **Facilities Manager RACHEL SMITH** Multimedia Specialist **BETH SPEARS** Children's Ministry

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MARSHA VANDER MEULEN

**TONIA TAYLOR** 

Gather/

OUR MISSIONARIES
Harry Howe, Marion, VA
Ray & Lidia Zirkel, Costa Rica

Reading from the Lectionary
Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalm 25:1-10
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36

Children's Enrichment Center

Membership Secretary

For medical emergencies during worship services, contact the ushers. They will call 911. Defibrillator & Oxygen in see-through hallway cabinet near back of Sanctuary, where we hang our coats.





November 28, 2021

8:30 & 10:45 a.m.



