

Order of Worship

First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2020

The liturgical color is purple,
symbolizing the watching and waiting for the Messiah to come.

*We lift up prayers for the community, our church family, staff, ministers,
and for the work of Christ in the world.*

Prelude “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” arr. D.S. Ferguson

Call to Worship “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” arr. Wohlgemuth
Heather Whitley, Kim Alexander, Norman McQueen, Terrence Piette—Quartet

Welcome Rev. Dr. George K. Howle

Lighting of the Advent Candle *Candle of Hope* Jean Clemmons, Julia Brooks **8:30**
Tara Howser, Toby Ward **11:00**

Prayer for Advent

O Lord, help us to be alert in these weeks, anticipating the joyful celebration of your Son’s arrival into our chaos filled world. As the Advent lights keep darkness at bay, may they also keep us from wandering from your ways. Amen.

Congregational Response “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

* **Opening Hymn** “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus” UMH #196

* **Affirmation of Faith**

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.

* **The Gloria Patri**

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.

Special Music “The King Shall Come When Morning Comes” arr. McCartha
Heather Whitley, Kim Alexander, Norman McQueen, Terrence Piette—Quartet
Colin Scholl, Cello

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Dr. George K. Howle

The Lord’s Prayer

* **Hymn of Preparation** “People, Look East” UMH #202

Children’s Message Julia Brooks

Anthem “Light of the World” Lauren Daigle

Grant Nesmith, Guitar; Ava Hussey, Vocal

Sermon “No One Knows When He Will Return” Rev. Meredith M. Dark

* **Closing Hymn** “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” UMH #211

* **Benediction** Rev. Meredith M. Dark

Postlude “People, Look East” arr. Richard Lind

(* Please stand as you are able.)

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

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 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.

“People Look East”

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
 Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
 People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall ring,
 shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
 People, look east and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.

Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth.
 Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
 People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
 that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Root of Jesse’s tree, an ensign of thy people be;
 before thee rulers silent fall; all peoples on thy mercy call. *[Refrain]*

Scripture Mark 13:24-37

“In those days, after the suffering of that time, the sun will become dark, and the moon won’t give its light. The stars will fall from the sky, and the planets and other heavenly bodies will be shaken. Then they will see the Human One coming in clouds with great power and splendor. Then he will send the angels and gather together his chosen people from the four corners of the earth, from the end of the earth to the end of heaven.

“Learn this parable from the fig tree. After its branch becomes tender and it sprouts new leaves, you know that summer is near. In the same way, when you see these things happening, you know that he’s near, at the door. I assure you that this generation won’t pass away until all these things happen. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will certainly not pass away.

“But nobody knows when that day or hour will come, not the angels in heaven and not the Son. Only the Father knows. Watch out! Stay alert! You don’t know when the time is coming. It is as if someone took a trip, left the household behind, and put the servants in charge, giving each one a job to do, and told the doorkeeper to stay alert. Therefore, stay alert! You don’t know when the head of the household will come, whether in the morning or at daybreak. Don’t let him show up when you weren’t expecting and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: Stay alert!”

Flowers

The Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of my brother, Franklin “Jimmy” Gore, on his birthday November 26th by Clayllene Gore and Kenny Rapoport

Flowers are needed for the following dates: Dec 13, Jan 3, 10, 17, 24, 31. To place flowers in honor or in memory of a loved one, please contact Jennifer Julian in the church office, 843-448-7164 x207 or jennifer@fumcmb.org.

Thank you to the Quartet for their musical offerings during Advent: Heather Whitley, Soprano; Kim Alexander, Alto; Norman McQueen, Tenor; Terrence Piette, Bass.

We welcome those visiting with us today and pray that you will experience the presence of Christ in our worship together.

Sunday Worship may be viewed Live on Facebook at 8:30AM or on the website (www.fumcmb.org), on our mobile app, or on FOX TV Sundays at 10AM on channel 7 (one week delay).

Assisting in Worship**Ushers**

8:30 Ann Andrews, Ron Andrews, Marion Bellamy, Harry Branton, Jerry Champion, Greg Clemmons, Ronald Eldridge, Judy Hall, Roger Hall, Jack Rebeck, Toby Ward

11:00 Daniel Shuler, Don Myers, Neal Bowers, Preston Bowers