

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**December 22, 2024 - 10 a.m.**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\*GREETING**

**MUSIC FOR GATHERING**

Susan Finger  
"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

**\*LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF LOVE**

Dan, Staci, Claire, Sam & Emily Miller  
ONE: Today we will light the fourth candle in our Advent wreath.

ONE: Before we do that, we remember God's blessings, symbolized by the candles of hope, peace and joy.

*Light two purple candles and the pink candle.*

**ALL: The fourth candle helps us to remember that God is love.**

*Light the third purple candle.*

ONE: The Bible tells us that the greatest blessing is love. It is because God loved the world so much that Jesus came to share God's love. Mary sings her song in praise of God's love and goodness. Because God loves us, we must love and care for others.

**ALL: This candle reminds us to share our love with others through words and actions.**

ONE: Loving God, thank you for expressing your love through the life of Jesus, through our lives, and the lives of those around us. Help us to remember that your love will never end. Amen.

**\*HYMN** "Angels We Have Heard on High" #238

1. Angels we have heard on high  
sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:

Gloria, gloria, gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, gloria, gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
which inspire your heavenly song? (Refrain)

3. Come to Bethlehem and see  
Christ whose birth the angels sing,  
come, adore on bended knee,  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. (Refrain)

4. See him in a manger laid,  
whom the choirs of angels praise,  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
while our hearts in love we raise. (Refrain)

**OFFERING TO GOD**  
**GIFT APPRECIATED**

Susan Selby  
Letter from St. Vincent de Paul

**OFFERTORY**

Wesley Bells  
"Shepherd's Nowell"

**\*DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Susan Selby

**ANTHEM**

Wesley Bells  
"Sing We Now Of Christmas"

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Bill Brown

**LORD'S PRAYER (unison)**

**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.**

**HYMN**

"The First Noel" #245

1. The first Noel the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

2. They looked up and saw a star  
shining in the east, beyond them far;  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night. (Refrain)

4. This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;  
and there it did both stop and stay,  
right over the place where Jesus lay. (Refrain)

**\*GOSPEL**

John 1:1-14 (NLT)

Bill Brown

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He existed in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> God created everything through him, and nothing was created except through him. <sup>4</sup> The Word gave life to everything that was created, and his life brought light to everyone. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never extinguish it. <sup>6</sup> God sent a man, John the Baptist, <sup>7</sup> to tell about the light so that everyone might believe because of his

testimony. <sup>8</sup> John himself was not the light; he was simply a witness to tell about the light. <sup>9</sup> The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. <sup>13</sup> They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God. <sup>14</sup> So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.

**\*OLD TESTAMENT** Isaiah 9:6-7a (NLT)

<sup>6</sup> For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup> His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity.

This is God's Word for God's people today.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

"What Child Is This?" Rev. Boruff

**HYMN**

"What Child Is This"

1. 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?

Refrain:

This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the babe, the son of Mary.

2. Why lies he in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading. (Refrain)

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,  
come, peasant, king, to own him;  
the King of kings salvation brings,  
let loving hearts enthrone him. (Refrain)

**BENEDICTION**

Let the world know the love of God that comes to us in Jesus Christ.

**We will let the love of God shine in us for all to see at Christmas and always!**

**MUSIC FOR SENDING**

Susan Finger

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

# WELCOME

Welcome to worship on Sundays and all programs & ministries throughout the week!

## Announcements

- **GUESTS:** Welcome! There is a gift bag for you at the Welcome Center. Glad you joined us and hope you will come again!
- **COMMUNITY CAFE:** 86 guests were served last Sunday. It was a blessing to serve the community.
- **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE:** Please make us part of your Christmas celebration and attend our special worship service on Tuesday, December 24, Christmas Eve, in the sanctuary at 7:00 pm.
- **PICTORIAL DIRECTORY:** Have your photo taken as an individual, couple or family through the month of December on Sunday mornings before and after worship. If this is your church, you belong in the directory!
- **SNOWBALLS OF HOPE:** Bring new gloves, hats and socks to roll into "balls" and "deliver" them to Pastor Corinne and Ally at a designated time in the worship service on Jan. 5. Donations benefit our community in need.
- **RECOGNITION OF RETIRING STAFF:** Peg Peter and Kathy Kean will be recognized for their many years of service to this congregation and community. Let's say "Thanks!" on **Jan. 5.**
- **WELCOME NEW STAFF:** Judy Whitney will begin as the new full-time Office Manager on Dec. 30 and will be recognized in worship on Jan. 12. Stop by and make her feel welcome!
- **OFFERING ENVELOPES:** Are available on a table in front of the office. Don't find your name on envelopes? We have more! Let the church office know and you will receive them.

## Weekly Schedule

### Sun 12/22

|          |                       |             |          |
|----------|-----------------------|-------------|----------|
| 9:30 am  | Directory Photos      | Wesley Room | Downtown |
| 10:00 am | Worship               | Sanctuary   | Downtown |
| 11:15 am | Youth Christmas party | Youth Area  | Downtown |
| 2:00 pm  | Worship               |             | Primrose |
| 4:30 pm  | Food @ First          |             | Downtown |

### Mon 12/23

|         |                   |           |            |
|---------|-------------------|-----------|------------|
| 5:00 pm | Exercise Class    |           | Davis Park |
| 6:00 pm | AA Big Book Study | East/West | Downtown   |

### Tues 12/24

|         |                              |           |          |
|---------|------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| 9:00 am | Church open half day (9a-12) |           | Downtown |
| 7:00 pm | Christmas Eve Service        | Sanctuary | Downtown |

### Wed 12/25 Church Office closed all day

|         |                     |  |          |
|---------|---------------------|--|----------|
| 3:00 pm | Coffee with Corinne |  | Facebook |
|---------|---------------------|--|----------|

### Thurs 12/26 Church Office Closed all day

### Fri 12/27 Church Office Closed all day

|          |                   |  |          |
|----------|-------------------|--|----------|
| 12:00 pm | Downtown Devotion |  | Facebook |
|----------|-------------------|--|----------|

### Sat 12/28

|          |            |                    |          |
|----------|------------|--------------------|----------|
| 10:00 am | AA Meeting | North/South Parlor | Downtown |
|----------|------------|--------------------|----------|

### Sun 12/29

|          |                 |             |          |
|----------|-----------------|-------------|----------|
| 9:30 am  | Photo Directory | Wesley Room | Downtown |
| 10:00 am | Worship         | Sanctuary   | Downtown |
| 2:00 pm  | Worship         |             | Primrose |
| 4:30 pm  | FOOD@FIRST      |             | Downtown |

We give thanks for today's:

**Ushers:** Kathy Kean, Dale Mendenhall, Debbie Millikan

**Greeters:** Betsey Bachman, Charlie and Miriam Jones

**Fellowship Time:** Mark and Ingrid Childs family



## First United Methodist

FAITH FIRST. FAMILIES FIRST. ANDERSON FIRST.



**FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT**  
**December 22, 2024 ~ 10 a.m.**

Pastors: Corinne Boruff  
Director of Family Ministries: Ally Hall  
Ministers: Congregation