

Worship on December 22, 2024

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT



[FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH](#)

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DECEMBER 22, 2024

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

() The congregation will please stand as able
(BOLD-FACED TYPE) Congregation responds*

THE CHURCH GATHERS

SILENT PRAYER AND TIME FOR CENTERING

Prelude

*CALL TO WORSHIP (***)

Glory to God in the highest!

And hope to every discouraged heart.

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace to every conflicted soul.

Glory to God in the highest!

And joy to every downcast spirit.

Glory to God in the highest!

And love to everyone.

Let us sing praises to our God.

Let us offer this light to the world.

*HYMN OF PRAISE

The Source of Hope

1. The source of hope is in the Word, a
2. Re - deem - ing grace re - veals God's care and
3. A re - vo - lu - tion is be - gun, not
4. Re - la - tion - ships, pri - or - i - ties, will
5. The won - der of this ho - ly birth can

time - less tes - ta - ment. The pro - phets speak 'til
mag - ni - fies the Lord, in - vit - ing peo - ple
just in heav'n a - bove. The world is changed and
soon be re - a - ligned; and we'll dis - cov - er
move an ach - ing heart. Re - claim once more your

all have heard the love that God has sent.
to pre - pare to wel - come Christ the Lord.
jus - tice won as God em - bod - ies love.
that God sees what's good for hu - man - kind.
sa - cred worth: Give love a place to start!

WORDS: F. Richard Garland, 2009 (Mic. 5:2-5a,
Lk. 1:47-55, Heb. 10:5-10, Lk. 1:39-45)

WINCHESTER OLD
CM

MUSIC: Est's *The Whole Booke of Psalmes*, 1592;
harm. from *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861

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LIGHTING OF THE *FOURTH* ADVENT CANDLE ()**

Reader One: When the people were looking for deliverance,
the prophet Micah declared,
“But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah...
from you shall come forth for me one
who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient day.” (Micah 5:2).

But what if Micah is also talking to us, proclaiming,
“But you, O First United Methodist Church
from you shall come forth for me...” What?
What might God be calling forth from us?

**Congregation: God invites us
to receive the promise of God’s salvation
and the sustenance of God’s mercy and grace,
enabling us to live the promise
as God-bearers to the world.**

**As Christ was born in Bethlehem,
so too we answer God’s invitation to have Christ
born among us today and every day.**

Reader Two: We light this candle of love as a sign of our
commitment to live as people of God’s promise, a promise of
salvation and flourishing for all people that springs forth from
God’s love for all creation.

THE PEACE OF CHRIST IS SHARED

THE CHURCH HEARS THE WORD OF GOD

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS -- Pg. 48 in UMH

ANTHEM The Angel Gabriel

Sabine Baring Gould (1834-1934/ Arr. Malcom Archer b. (1952

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
“All hail!” said he,” thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favored lady.” Gloria!

For known a blessed mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honor thee,
Thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold;
Most highly favored lady. Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,
“To me be as it pleaseth God,” she said,
“My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name.”
Most highly favored lady. Gloria!

Of her, Emmanuel the Christ, was born
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn.
And Christian Folk throughout the world will ever say,
“Most Highly favored lady!” Gloria!

Words: Original Basque Carol paraphrased by Sabine Baring Gould (1834-1924) Public Domain © 1983 Hymn Society, All rights reserved, Used by permission; Music: Arr. Malcom Archer (b. 1952) © 2000 Oxford University Press, Great Clarendon St. Oxford UK; Reprinted and recorded with permission under OneLicense.net # A-711296.



"Christmas Pageant "

The story of the first Christmas is one many are familiar with, whether they attend church regularly or only on the high holidays.

Just like we rewatch Christmas movies, such as *A Christmas Story* each year, we also listen to readings about the first Christmas.

Each time we hear the story it is likely we learn something new, or at least come away with a new understanding of the holiday.

This year, let's see how our cast of biblical characters can help differentiate between *A Christmas Story* and the ***original*** Christmas story.

THE CHURCH RESPONDS TO THE WORD OF GOD

JOY TO THE WORLD

ANTIOCH



1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth re -
2. Joy to the world! the Sav - ior reigns; Let us our
3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, Nor thorns in -
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the



1. ceive her King; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
2. songs em - ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills and
3. fest the ground; He comes to make his bless - ings
4. na - tions prove The glo - ries of his righ - teous -



1. room, And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
2. plains Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
3. flow Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is
4. ness, And won - ders of his love, And won - ders of his



1. sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
2. joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
3. found, Far as, far as the curse is found.
4. love, And won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: CM with repeats: based on Psalm 98; Isaac Watts, 1764–1748, alt.
Music: T. Hawkes' Collection of Tunes, 1833; George Frideric Handel, 1685–1759;
adapt. by Lowell Mason, 1792–1872, alt.

Words: Isaac Watts public domain; Music: ANTIOCH, George Frideric Handel, Public Domain. Reprinted and recorded with permission under OneLicense.net # A-711296.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
Sharing of Joys and Concerns

PRAYER SONG

Wait for the Lord

Ostinato Chorale

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!

Text: Isaiah 40, Philippians 4, Matthew 6:33, 7:7; Taizé Community, 1984
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
© 1982, 1983, 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

Words and Music: Taizé Community, Jacques Berthier © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, Gia Publications Inc, American agent; Reprinted and recorded with permission under OneLicense.net # A-711296.

Invitation to Prayer:

Leader: "The Lord be with you "

People: "And also with you..."

PASTORAL PRAYER

[The Lord's Prayer](#) (UMH p. 895)

PRAYER SONG *(from above)*

[Presentation of Tithes and Offerings](#)

During this time, we are grateful for your continuing financial support of our ministries.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

DOXOLOGY

Doxology

For Advent

Em G C D7 G D G C G
Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God, all crea - tures

5 Am Bm7 Em Am Em B7 Em A7 D Em
here_____ be - low. Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host. Praise

10 D Bm G C Am D7 G D Em Bm G
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -

15 C D7 Em D G C G Am Em Bm Em
man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674
Music: 15th Century French

VENI EMMANUEL
LM with Refrain

Text and tune adapted by Dean McIntyre, The United Methodist General Board of Discipleship, PO Box 340003, Nashville TN 37203-0003. Telephone 615-340-7073. Website <http://www.umcworship.org>. Email address: music@gbod.org. Text and tune are public domain.

Offertory Prayer:

THE CHURCH IS SENT TO SERVE

*HYMN OF DEDICATION

534 Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord



1. Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord!
2. Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his name!
3. Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his might!
4. Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of his word!



Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spir - it voice;
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
Pow'rs and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by;
Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.



Ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;
His mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;
Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord



In God my Sav - ior shall my heart re - joice.
His ho - ly name—the Lord, the might - y One.
The hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
To chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

Text: Luke 1:46-55; *Magnificat anima mea*; Timothy Dudley-Smith, b.1926. © 1962, Hope Publishing Co.
Tune: WOODLANDS, 10 10 10 10; Walter Greatorex, 1877-1949, © Oxford University Press

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*Benediction

Voluntary

Assisting with Worship today:

Liturgist:

Kenneth Downes

Video and Sound Engineer:

Kent Marzoli

Altar Flowers:

In Honor of the health and well-being of the congregation given by Marcia Brown

Cover Image:

Created by FUMC Staff

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***Worship elements by Steve Garnass Holmes at unfoldinglight.com & [Discipleship Ministries](http://DiscipleshipMinistries) online resources.

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Looking Ahead

Readings for December 29, 2024

The First Sunday After Christmas Day

1 Samuel 2:18-26 / Psalm 148

Colossians 3: 12-17 / Luke 2:41-52

Christmas Eve

*Lessons and Carols
Candlelight Service*

December 24 at 7 pm



You're invited to
Celebrate
the Birth of Jesus
at FUMC