

Gathering

Prelude	“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child - Tempus Adest Floridum” Dr. Katie Meloan, <i>organ</i>	M. Burkhardt
Welcome		Dr. John McLarty
The Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle <i>The Candle of Love</i>		Scott & Stephanie Bavousett, with Khloee, Avery, and Willow
Hymn*	“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”	203

1. **Hail to the Lord’s Anointed, great David’s greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.**
2. **He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.**
3. **He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.
Before him, on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go,
and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.**
4. **To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never his covenant remove;
his name shall stand forever; that name to us is love.**

The Sacrament of Baptism

United Methodist Hymnal 33

Paisley Ann Richardson

Pastor- Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include Paisley now before you in your care?

People- With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround Paisley with a community of love and forgiveness that she may grow in her trust of God, and be found faithful in her service to others. We will pray for her, that she may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.

Prayer

Baptism

Congregational Response

Pastor- Members of the household of God, I commend Paisley to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase her faith, confirm her hope, and perfect her in love.

People- We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church, we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

Special Music

“I Saw Three Ships”
Chancel Choir; Asbury Ringers
Debbie Renton, *piano*

arr. Mack Wilberg

Congregational Prayer

Rev. Georgia Harrison

Loving God, your peace surpasses all understanding. Help us find that peace today. Grant us humility, gentleness, and patience as we seek to be peacemakers in our homes, communities, and beyond. Teach us to love as you love, to forgive as you forgive, and to seek unity in your Holy Spirit. May we become instruments of your peace in a world that so desperately needs it. Amen.

Call to Prayer and Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer and 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.**

Proclamation

Hymn*

“Love Came Down at Christmas”

242

- 1. Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, Love divine;
Love was born at Christmas; star and angels gave the sign.**
- 2. Worship we the Godhead, Love incarnate, Love divine;
worship we our Jesus, but wherewith for sacred sign?**
- 3. Love shall be our token; love be yours and love be mine;
love to God and all men, love for plea and gift and sign.**

Children’s Sermon for All Ages

Kim English

Scripture

Romans 12:14-18

162

Pastor: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Peace with Others

Dr. John McLarty

Response

Affirmation of Faith*

The Apostles’ Creed

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.**

Act of Praise*

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.**

Receiving of the Tithes and Offerings

*To give by phone text a dollar amount to (940) 241-9831.
To give online visit www.fumcwf.org/donate
Mail gifts to FUMC, P.O. Box 2125, Wichita Falls, TX, 76307*

Offertory

“We Three Kings”
Asbury Ringers

arr. K. McChesney

Doxology*

95

**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.**

Sending Forth

Invitation to Christian Discipleship*

Hymn*

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

224

- 1. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
News, news! Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today, Christ is born today!**
- 2. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:
News, news! Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven’s door, and ye are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!**
- 3. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave:
News, news! Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save!**

Benediction*

Postlude

“Fanfare for a Festival”
Dr. Katie Meloan, *organ*

J.J. Mouret, arr. Lani Smith

*The Congregation will please stand.

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Upcoming at FUMC

Christmas Eve Services Join FUMC for our Candlelight Service in the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve at 6:00 p.m. or watch live online and TV-KJBO. The Candlelight service will be rebroadcast on FOX (KJTL) at 9:30 p.m.

Blessing of the Toys Join FUMC for a Blessing of the Toys during the Children's Sermon at 10:30 a.m. worship on December 29. All ages are welcome and encouraged to bring their favorite toy to be blessed during the service.

Sunday School Updates Children's and Youth Sunday School classes will not meet on Sunday, December 29. Adult classes may meet on a class by class basis. Nursery care will be available for worship only. All classes will resume on Sunday, January 5, 2025. Contact your Sunday School Class Leader or Georgia Harrison at garrison@fumcwf.org for more information.

Office Closures The church office will be closed for the Christmas holiday beginning at noon on Christmas Eve, December 24, through Thursday, December 26. Regularly scheduled office hours resume on Friday, December 27. The church office will also be closed on New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1, 2025.

End of Year Giving Gifts and donations to apply towards 2024 contributions and for Federal income tax purposes must be given (dated/postmarked) to the church by December 31, 2024.

"First" Wednesday Dinner Our first Fellowship meal of 2025 will be on January 8, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. The cost of the meal is \$5/person or \$20 max/family.

Crockpot Cookoff Mark your calendars and get out your best recipes for the 2025 Crockpot Cookoff on January 26, 2025, after worship! Sunday School classes and other fellowship groups team up at this special event to compete for Best Dish, Best Dessert, and Best Decorated Table prizes to raise money for 2025 Missions projects!

Thursday Morning Bible Study will resume on Thursday, January 9. All are welcome to join Bible Study on Thursdays beginning at 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the Hospitality Room (110).

Youth Bible Studies will resume on Wednesday, January 8. The Rock opens to all youth at 4:30 p.m. Junior High Bible studies are from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. Senior High Bible studies are from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Music and MORE will resume on Wednesday, January 15. All children age 4 through 5th grade are invited to attend Music and More on Wednesdays from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. in the Undercroft.