

Join us for **Christmas Sweater Sunday on December 26**

Let's continue the Christmas spirit by wearing festive, funky, fancy, or funny Christmas sweaters, shirts, vests, ties, and other accessories.

Wednesday Night Fellowship begins on January 5. Dinner begins at 5:45 and classes at 6:30. The teaching portion will also be available to watch online. The adult group will be studying Adam Hamilton's [The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life](#). Nursery will be available.

Choir practice resumes on Wednesday, January 5 at 7:30. Contact Billy Walker at billy.walker@1stchurchjc.org for more information. Nursery will be available.

If you purchased poinsettias in memory of someone or if poinsettias were purchased in your honor, please take your poinsettias today or Sunday.

Offering boxes are located at the front and rear of the sanctuary and in the narthex.



First United Methodist Church

900 Spring Street Johnson City, TN 37604

Welcome to First Church. We are glad you are here!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 24, 2021

Christmas Eve

FIRST THINGS FIRST

PRELUDE "I Wonder and I Wander" Elisa Wardeska, flute

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Billy Walker

Leader: We have heard the promise proclaimed by the prophets.

People: Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son.

Leader: Unto us a child is born; unto us a Son is given.

People: The angels are singing and a star is shining.

Leader: Let us go now to Bethlehem.

All Sing: O come let us adore Him.

Leader: Let us see this thing God has made known to us.

All Sing: O come let us adore Him.

Leader: The promise of God is lying in a manger.

All Sing: O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Leader: Emmanuel has come. God is with us.

***HYMN OF ADORATION** "O Come, All Ye Faithful" #234

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE The Cradic Family

FIRST LESSON Micah 5:2-5 Frankie Cradic

***HYMN OF WONDER** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" #230

SECOND LESSON Isaiah 11:1-5 Amy Pfeiffer

VIDEO "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

THIRD LESSON Luke 2:1-7 Chloe DeWitt

ANTHEM "Sweet Little Jesus Boy" Dan Mahoney

FOURTH LESSON Luke 2:8-14 Sammi Uelhof

***HYMNS OF REJOICING**

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" #240

"Angels We Have Heard on High" #238

"Angels From the Realms of Glory" #220

VIDEO "Tell Me About Christmas" FUMC Kids

FIFTH LESSON Luke 2:15-21 Michelle Cradic

ANTHEM "A Celtic Noel" Debbie Eddy & Elisa Wardeska

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE "Christmas Gift" Rev. Gary Ihfe

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION Rev. Jodie Ihfe

ANTHEM "O Holy Night" Fred Sharpe

SIXTH LESSON Philippians 2:5-11

***LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

Taking their light from the Christ candle of the Advent wreath, the minister and acolytes will light the candles of the persons seated at the ends of each row.

Those persons will then light the candle of the person seated next to them.

*Please handle the lighted candles with great care. Hold your burning candle straight (**do not tilt it**) while the person seated next to you lights their candle from yours. You may keep your candle or place your extinguished candle in a box at the doors to the sanctuary.*

***HYMN OF REFLECTION** "Silent Night" #239

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright

Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild,

Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light

Radiant beams from thy holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace,

Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;

With the angels let us sing, Alleluia to our King;

Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

***BENEDICTION** John 1:1-5, 14

***POSTLUDE** "Silent Night" Arr. Robert Lau