

First United Methodist Church
11:00 AM Service of Worship
December 2, 2018
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

GATHERING

Before the Service Begins

Please write your praises or prayer concerns and either give them to the ushers or bring them to Pastor Mike during the Passing of the Peace. Prayer request slips are available in the Registration Pads in each pew and on the table in front of the Church Office.

WELCOME, REGISTRATION OF ATTENDANCE, ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Mike Brown
(Please sign and pass the attendance pad down your pew.
Guests: please include your phone number and complete address.)

OPENING VOLUNTARY "Divinum Misterium"...12th centurysetting, Mary Ellen Kerrick
LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIPRev. Brown and Congregation

People of faith, prepare for the coming reign of Christ!

**As we gather to pray and sing and listen,
a spirit of anticipation and hope fills us.**

The days are surely coming, says our God,
when justice and righteousness will prevail.

**May our worship illuminate our hearts and minds,
freeing us to respond joyfully
to God's call in the days to come.**

-- From "The Abingdon Worship Annual," edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu, Copyright © Abingdon Press.

OPENING PRAYERRev. Brown and Congregation

**Holy Source of life and hope,
as we come together this day,
open our ears to hear,
open our eyes to see,
and open our hearts to love,
that we may come to know Your ways
and follow Your paths.**

**Help us grow in love for one another,
and for all creation,
as we prepare for the coming of the One
Who calls us to turn from our false gods
to You, Holy One,
the True Source of our salvation. Amen.**

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***HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 211** (sts. 1, 3, 4, 5) "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Grayson Flowers Family

Prayer: Father, during the Advent season may we be reminded of Your promises to us and Your fulfillment of them. Help us to prepare our lives for His Advent within us. In the precious Name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

--Mt. Bethel United Methodist Church, Marietta, GA, alt.

SHARING PRAISES AND CONCERNS

CALL TO PRAYER "Veni Emmanuel" M. Shepperd Chancel Choir
PRAYER OF ADORATION Rev. Brown and Congregation

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

Lord Jesus, preaching good tidings to the people, proclaiming release to captives, setting at liberty those who are bound:

We adore You.

Lord Jesus, Friend of the outcast and the poor, Feeder of the hungry, Healer of the sick:

We adore You.

Lord Jesus, denouncing the oppressor, exposing the hypocrite, overcoming evil with good:

We adore You.

Lord Jesus, Pattern of gentleness, Teacher of holiness, Prophet of the kingdom:

We adore You.

Lord Jesus, dying to save us from our sin, rising to give us eternal life, ascending to prepare our heavenly home:

We adore You.

All: O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord! Amen!

[--http://www.beswick.info/rcresources](http://www.beswick.info/rcresources), alt.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION NO. 626 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

OFFERTORY PRAYER Rev. Brown

OFFERTORY/ANTHEM "Lost in the Night" K. Haugen Chancel Choir

*PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS NO. 95 "The Doxology"

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Ida Cooksey
(Children, Kindergarten and younger, are invited to leave the Sanctuary for age-appropriate learning activities.)

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE Jeremiah 33:14-16 Rev. Mike Brown

SERMON "The Church in Advent: Hopeful" Rev. Mike Brown

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation/Confession and Pardon UMH p. 12

The Great Thanksgiving /The Lord's Prayer UMH p. 15-16

Breaking the Bread/Giving the Bread and Cup

Music for Communion

*HYMN OF COMMITMENT NO. 196 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

SENDING FORTH

*BENEDICTION Rev. Mike Brown

*RESPONSE "Amen" from Ave Maria Chancel Choir

CLOSING VOLUNTARY "All My Heart This Night Rejoices" setting, Piet Post

*PLEASE STAND (AS ABLE)

Bulletin Baskets: are found at the back of the Sanctuary for your convenience to discard your bulletins.

Reminder to parents: Safe Sanctuary Policy - "No child left unsupervised for any reason at any time". Parents are encouraged to take their children to the restroom before any worship service begins. If a child needs to go to the restroom during worship, an adult or buddy needs to be with them.