

Order of Worship

December 7, 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

Attendance Cards: Please complete & drop in offering plate.
We're glad you're here!

Welcome/Announcements/Prayer Concerns

PRELUDE "In Faith I Quiet Wait" Bach

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

Lighting of the Advent Candle

One: Let us continue our observance of Advent.

In Isaiah 11:9, the prophet declares,
They will not hurt or destroy on all
my holy mountain; for the earth shall be
full of the knowledge of God,
as the waters cover the sea.

We light this candle as a sign of hope
that truth will prevail, and justice be done,
for all people.

(The second Advent candle is lit.)

As we pray and work
for truth, compassion, and justice, near and far –

**All: Risen Christ, Light of the world,
shine in our lives
and shine among us now.**

***OPENING HYMN** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"
UMH 196

*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God who delivers us

you long for us to receive your peace,
yet we often feel removed from your shalom.

When conflict and war seem to win,
remind us that you are God of the wolf and the lamb
and you call us together.

Expand our heart and our imaginations

so that your peace may find a home in us.

And when we long for the past thinking it a simpler time,
keep us ever mindful that you call us forward
into a future where you already dwell.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

ANTHEM "Advent Prayer" Wood

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 11:1-10 p. 558 Santa Biblia p. 549

***GOSPEL LESSON** Matthew 3:1-12 p. 784 Santa Blibia p. 734

SERMON "Peace " Rev. Dr. Suzanne Allen

RESPONSE "Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love" see screen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PASTORAL PRAYER

Lord in your mercy

Hear our prayer

CHORAL AMEN

OFFERTORY "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" arr. Lau

***DOXOLOGY** UMH 94

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION UMH 12

The Great Thanksgiving

Lord's Prayer

Receiving of the Bread and Cup

Prayer

***CLOSING HYMN** "Let There Be Peace on Earth" UMH 431

*BENEDICTION

***CHORAL BENEDICTION** "May the Hope of Jesus Find You"
see screen

POSTLUDE "Come, O Precious Savior" arr. Burkhardt
**Please rise*

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🎵 Music Notes

Today's anthem, "Advent Prayer", features a plaintive melodic line and a marvelous text. That text poses a question ("how will we know Him, Lord?"); happily, it provides several answers. But – as in many matters of faith – the answers can lead to further questions.

Those answers include all four of our Advent candles, each accompanied by references to light: "seek in the radiance of hope and of peace" "in the bright flame of joy" "in the light of love". But they also include an answer that, for me, leads to more questions: "seek Him first in your heart". What are we looking for there?

Perhaps one clue is in the hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus", which is also cited in this anthem. I recently heard that prayer restated (in my heart!) as "come, thou *unexpected* Jesus". The truth is, Jesus comes to us in many ways and at many times – often unexpected. "Seeking Him first in my heart" makes most sense when I keep my heart open to His coming, in whatever form that takes.

Advent is a time of preparation. Seek Him first in your heart – and be prepared for the unexpected!

Stephen Garrett



*The altar flowers this morning are
given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of
Pat Lyke
by Rick Lyke
and in honor of
My children
by Debbie Milligan*

Guest wi-fi:

FUMC Guest Welcome!

The QR Code will take you
to the Give button on our
website



This Week at First Church

SUNDAY 7-2nd Sunday of Advent

9 am Sunday School — IN PERSON & ONLINE
10:30 am Worship — IN PERSON & ONLINE

Nursery: Patty & Dave McGraw

Jr. Church: Barb Orth & Betsy Koval

MONDAY 8

8 am Breakfast Club

TUESDAY 9

10 am Staff Meeting

2 pm Pantry

2 pm Congregational Care

5:30 pm Community Christmas Dinner

WEDNESDAY 10

6 pm Hispanic Bible Study

3 & 7 pm Choir rehearsal

THURSDAY 11

FRIDAY 12

SATURDAY 13

10:00 Christmas Play Practice

SUNDAY 14– 3rd Sunday of Advent/Christmas Play

9 am Sunday School — IN PERSON & ONLINE

10:30 am Worship — IN PERSON & ONLINE

Nursery: Luanne Fugate & Sue Faulkner

Jr. Church: Christmas Play

UWIF Cookie Walk—before & after Worship

Prayer Concerns

Members of the Church Family:

Bob Rogers	Bob Weineke
Judy Smith	Jerry Slama
Kathy Wright	Debbie Ellis
Bill Schaefer	Tom Atkinson
Glenna Combs	Wilma Mucha
Patt Gibson	Karen Walke
Pastor Kim	Kathy Wright
All Our Homebound Members	
Family & Friends of Sharyn Edelen	

Betty Risner
Gene Goecke
John Regensburg
Herman Emmert
Karen Deddens
Carolyn Tucker

Family & Friends of the Church:

Tracy Snyder, sister of Vickie Frazer
Laurie Rogers, daughter of
Bob & Becky Rogers
Carolyn J Howard, niece of Mary Maurer
Thomas Swank II, nephew of Steve
Swank & Melanie Alderton
Tim Brown, nephew of Mary Maurer
Marcia Young, friend of Glenna Combs
Pam Zenefski, aunt of Cory Smarzinski
Cade & Conner Herring,
nephews of Patt Gibson
Fred Parrella, uncle of Tammy White
Sandi Valandingham, friend of
Gloria Freeman
Ryeanne Raleigh, great niece of
Debbie Taylor & Betsy Koval
Morgan Rutledge, niece of Becky Rutledge
Kateri Bolton, daughter-in-law of
Norma Jean Bolton

Grant & Maureen Patterson,
friends of Pam Fugett
Charles Hankey, friend of
Tim Hezlep
David Hezlep & Kathy Hezlep
brother & sister
of Tim Hezlep
Mary Beatty, maternal aunt of
Jen Tucker & Rev.
Amy Haines
Roger Cundiff, family member
of Sharyn Edelen
Clark Williams, friend of Brenda
and Kerry Byrd
Darnell Williams, son-in-law of
Kerry & Brenda Byrd
Chris & Fran Amburgey, friends
of Rick & Pam Fugett
Kathleen, sister of Ken Krummrich

Announcements

ADVENT RESOURCES AVAILABLE

The season of Advent has started. Several resources are still available to help you observe Advent. We have an Advent Reading Plan, an Advent Coloring page, an Advent calendar and an Advent Scavenger game. In addition to these resources, the Ohio Episcopal Area has provided a Family Advent Devotion titled “All The Earth is Waiting”. All of these resources are located in the Commons on the display case. If you have any questions about these resources, please call the church office - we are glad to help!

CONGREGATIONAL CARE WITH CHRISTMAS CARDS

You are invited to join the Congregational Care team in providing holiday blessings to those members of our congregation that we do not get to see as often as we like. We are gathering Christmas cards and hand delivering them to our beloved friends. The list of recipients and instructions can be found on a table in the North Foyer. There will be a basket, located in the Commons, to place your signed cards. **Today is the last day to collect them.**

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER

Our Community Christmas Dinner will be held on **Tuesday, Dec. 9th at 5:30**. All are welcome. Make plans to share a holiday meal with us and our neighbors.

CHRISTMAS PLAY SUNDAY DEC. 14th

We are excited to announce we're having a play! Pastor Kim wrote this play several years ago and we will celebrate her return to our sanctuary by presenting the play during the church service. **Practice will be held on Saturday, Dec. 13th at 10:00 am.**

NUTS & COOKIES — UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

If you ordered items from the UWF Nut sale and have not picked them up, they are located in the Asbury room. If you missed ordering or would like extras, a UWF member will be in the room after worship to assist you in buying those items. The annual Cookie Walk will be held on **Sunday, Dec. 14th** in the Commons before & after worship. All items that have nuts/nut products will be located in the Wesley room.

Contact Us

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Office Hours:

Monday	9 am - Noon
Tuesday	9 am - 5 pm
Wednesday	9 am - 5 pm
Thursday	9 am - 5 pm
Friday	Closed

December 7, 2025
Second Sunday of
Advent



Serving in Worship

Senior Pastor
Associate Pastor
Guest Speaker
Organist
Worship Leader
Scripture Reader

Rev. Kim Armentrout
Rev. Daniel Cardenas
Rev. Dr. Suzanne Allen
Mary Ellen Clinard
Barb Weinrich
Rick Lyke

Media Team:

Johnny Schmitt
Brent Alexander
Reece Edgren
Rachel Hurley
Dave McGraw

Communion Servers:

Johnny Schmitt
Linda Schmitt
Lynda Goecke

CHRIST
SERVICE OUR LIFESTYLE