



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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WORSHIP SERVICE

10:30 am Traditional

First United Methodist Church

where God meets people face to face!

December 1, 2024 – 10:30 A.M.

First Sunday of Advent – Hanging of the Greens

“I will guide you along the BEST PATHWAY for your life!” Psalm 32:8

**For your children, activity bags are available in the foyer.
Child care is available during the service.*

(Stand, if able.)*

MUSIC TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(respond in bold)*

Liturgist: The Lord will fulfill all the promises given to God's people.

People: Praise be to God.

L: The days are coming when all shall be revealed.

P: Thanks be to God.

L: The signs of God's Good News are all around us.

P: The darkness has overshadowed them.

L: God will bring to us a new light for all generations.

P: Open our eyes, Lord, to see your promises fulfilled. AMEN.

***OPENING HYMN**

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

UMH # 238

(verses 1 – 4; interlude between verses 2 and 3)

***OPENING PRAYER** *(In unison)*

Liturgist

Lord, we can hardly believe it. The Advent season is upon us. We usually translate that into the buying season in preparation for THE BIG DAY. But Lord, when we place our hope in the tinsel, wrappings, tape and boxes, we forget the most glorious gift of all, the gift of God's love. Lord, open our hearts and our spirits today to behold God's love for us in the fulfillment of all God's promises. AMEN.

SHARING GREETINGS *(Please greet someone that you do not know.)*

LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Reading

Claudene Griffith

Hanging of the Chrismons

**Prayer (in unison) Holy Lord, may this tree, arrayed in splendor,
remind us of the life-giving cross of Christ, that we may always
rejoice in the new life that shines in our hearts. Amen.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE one:

Chavana Family

Reading

Isaiah 60: 2-3

Congregational Response Carol “Light the Advent Candle” (Verse 1)

TFWS # 2090

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Yohan Baek

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

“See Him Lying on a Bed of Straw”

Choir

***DOXOLOGY**

“Gloria, in excelsis Deo”

UMH # 238

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 20:35

Liturgist

“Than in receiving, there is more Happiness in giving!”

MY FAVORITE CHRISTMAS CAROL

Adult Bible Study Group

HYMN

“O Holy Night”

~Insert

MESSAGE

“Giving”

Rev. Yohan Baek

Note 1: John 3:16

“God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son...”

Matthew 2: 11

“Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold,
frankincense and myrrh.”

Note 2: 1 Samuel 1: 27-28

“I prayed for this child, and the Lord has granted me what I asked of him.
So now I give him to the Lord.”

Note 3: **Giving Deepens Relationships (it draws us closer to each other!)**

Note 4: Harvey, Debra K., M.D. <dkharvey@houstonmethodist.org>

Tue 11/27/2018, 1:49 PM

Pastor Baek, Thank you so much for the beautiful Centerpiece. It is lovely.
It is especially meaningful that you sent this. My mother used to send me
a centerpiece every Christmas.... Brings back many nice memories of her!

Fondly, Debra Harvey

Houston Methodist Hospital, Leading Medicine.

Note 5: This Christmas season many gifts will be given: many relationships will be offered. Underneath the wrappings and ribbons are **relationship opportunities** that can be shared in the name of Jesus!

Note 6: Depression is America's number one health problem. Many women and men struggle with depression on a regular basis. They are not happy with themselves.

Note 7: One of the quickest ways to pull yourself out of depression (unhappiness) is by getting your focus off you and getting your focus on somebody else (others).

Note 8: Philippians 4:1

“Dear brothers and sisters, I love you. And I miss you because you are my joy.”

Note 9: Philippians 2: 17-18

“If I have to offer my own blood as a sacrifice, I will be happy and full of joy. And you should be happy and full of joy too, if you offer your life as a sacrifice in serving God...”

Note 10: One of the reasons why many people are not happy is because they think that happiness comes from self-gratification. Happiness comes from self-.....

HOLY COMMUNION

A Communion Prayer for Advent:

Pastor: Lord Jesus, whose coming we celebrate in this advent season, we invoke your Spirit now in this bread and cup of salvation.

People: Receive us in your grace and fill our hearts with great thanksgiving for every mercy we have received.

Pastor: And when we have eaten and drunk of your gifts,

People: Send us forth to our homes with new excitement to be your witnesses, that your coming may be felt not in our lives only, but in the lives of all those we know and love. Amen.

***HYMN OF INVITATION**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

UMH # 234

(verses 1 – 3; interlude between verses 2 and 3)

BENEDICTION

Rev. Yohan Baek

***POSTLUDE**

“Hallelujah Chorus”

UMH (The United Methodist Hymnal – red hymnal)

TFWS (The Faith We Sing – black hymnal)