



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

907 West Lake Drive, PO Box 530, Taylor, Texas 76574

512-352-2593 office @fumctaylor.org

For updates sent via text message: please text @fumctaylor to number 81010

fumctaylor.org

www.facebook.com/fumctaylor

WORSHIP SERVICE

10:30 am Traditional

First United Methodist Church

where God meets people face to face!

December 15, 2024 – 10:30 A.M.

Third Sunday of Advent

“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

Liturgist: The glory of God shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together.

People: Come, Lord Jesus, come soon!

L: Sing to the God who gives courage and strength.

P: Come, Lord Jesus, come soon!

L: You whose hearts are heavy, whose problems seem insurmountable: listen!

**P: Soon God’s salvation will come; God’s deliverance will be revealed.
For a woman shall conceive and bear a son and shall call his name
Emmanuel: God with us!**

*OPENING HYMN

“The First Noel”

UMH # 245

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

*OPENING PRAYER *(In unison)*

Liturgist

Eternal Creator, with you, each moment of life is full of wonder and surprise. Holy God of Joy, we rejoice in the reality of who you are. We live within the joy of your love for us. Our contentment comes and goes. Our happiness ebbs and flows. Our feelings depend upon our circumstances, our physical health, our brain chemistry. But our joy is deeply rooted in our identity as your beloved children! And we give you thanks. Amen.

SHARING GREETINGS *(Please greet one another with signs of Christmas joy and love!)*

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Tiffany Charles

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE three:

The Larson Family

Reading

***Congregational Response Carol** “Light the Advent Candle” (Verse 3)

TFWS # 2090

***SONG**

“Jesus Messiah”

~Insert

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS & PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Yohan Baek

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

“Jesus Sweet Messiah/Away in a Manger”

Choir

***DOXOLOGY**

“Gloria, in excelsis Deo”

UMH # 238

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 2: 1-6

Liturgist

Jesus was born in the town of Bethlehem in Judea during the time when Herod was king. When Jesus was born, some wise men from the east came to Jerusalem. They asked, “Where is the baby who was born to be **the king of the Jews?** We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.” When King Herod heard this, he was troubled.....

Herod called a meeting of all the leading priests and teachers of the law and asked them where the Christ would be born. They answered, “In the town of Bethlehem in Judea. The prophet (Micah) wrote about this in the Scriptures: ‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not just an insignificant village in Judah. A ruler will come from you who will be like a shepherd for my people Israel.’”

MY FAVORITE CHRISTMAS CAROL

Adult Bible Study Group

***HYMN**

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

UMH # 230

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

MESSAGE

“Losing Control and Zero Curiosity”

Rev. Yohan Baek

Note 1: Herod’s fear: I don’t want anybody to be in control except me.

I want to run my own life.

Note 2: John 18:37

“I was born for this purpose. I came to bring truth to the world.”

Note 3: If you don't build your life on truth (if you build your life on faulty information), then you'll go through life making bad decisions and having unnecessary stress and problems.

Note 4: John 8:32

"Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Note 5: We can become so familiar with something that it doesn't amaze us anymore.

Note 6: Everybody knew. Everybody was familiar with where Jesus was going to be born. They said, "Oh yeah. The book of Micah tells us, "The Messiah, the Son of God, the Savior of the world will be born in Bethlehem." *The familiarity, the lack of curiosity is stunning.

***SENDING HYMN**

"Do You Hear What I Hear?"

~Insert

BENEDICTION

Rev. Yohan Baek

**Lord, we wait with hope; we wait with courage; we wait with joy
unspeakable, full of glory; we wait with the assurance that you will
come in power and in peace. Amen.**

***POSTLUDE**

"Hallelujah Chorus"

UMH (The United Methodist Hymnal – red hymnal)

On Christmas Eve, about 70% of Americans will go to church. People want to come to church on Christmas Eve. They are looking for a house of worship. People are actually waiting for someone to ask them to come. What an opportunity for you to reach out and give an invitation to another person!

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Yohan Baek, Pastor

Brian Gray, Liturgist

Hunter King, Violinist

Jeeyoung Baek, Pianist

Tiffany Charles, Director of Children's Ministry and Mother's Day Out

Julia Coward, Nursery Director & Children's Church

Robert & Tenny Swonke, Greeters

Jim Curik and Glynn Tucker, Ushers