

ORDER OF SERVICE  
 Second Sunday of Advent  
 December 10, 2017 Altar Color: Purple

We come together greeting each other in the name of Jesus Christ.  
 We enter reverently as we prepare our hearts and minds to worship God.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

GREETING  
 WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Joy Has Dawned – LaBenke David Price, Organist

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs. 2 & Refrain) 211

O Come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh;  
 to us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go.

Refrain: Rejoice, Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

\*INVOCATION

\*OPENING HYMN Angels from the Realms of Glory 220

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH Spike & Melissa Tilden  
 CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Sung

OFFERTORY PRAYER  
 OFFERTORY David Price, The Klauber Harpsichord  
 In the Bleak Mid Winter – Holst

BIDDING PRAYER – LORD’S PRAYER

“SING JOY TO ALL THE WORLD!”

A Christmas Celebration – Lloyd Larson

Overview Narrators: Joanne Thomason and Don Hocker

ANTHEM Tidings of Comfort and Joy!  
 1<sup>st</sup> Reading Isaiah 9: 2 Isaiah 9: 6 Narrators

ANTHEM A Light Shall Shine  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Luke 1: 11-17 Isaiah 40: 3-5 Luke 3: 4-6 Narrators

ANTHEM Prepare the Way – Quoting VENI EMMANUEL  
 by Thomas Helmore, 1854; adapted from Plainsong

3<sup>rd</sup> Reading Luke 1: 26-28 Luke 1: 38 Narrators

ANTHEM David’s Royal City Tunes – IRBY, Gauntlett, 1849  
 and ST. LOUIS, Redner, 1868

4<sup>th</sup> Reading Luke 2: 4-7 Luke 2: 13-14 Narrators

ANTHEM Glory in the Highest! Words by Larson and Gloria, French Carol  
 5<sup>th</sup> Reading Isaiah 40: 7 Luke 1: 46-55 Narrators

6<sup>th</sup> Reading Luke 2: 10 Narrators

ANTHEM Worship Christ, The Newborn King – GREENSLEEVEs, English

\*HYMN OF PARTING Joy to the World, ANTIOCH, Handel 246

\*BENEDICTION Rev. John Jordan

\*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY David Price, Organ  
 Gloria – Barnes / Lovelace

\*All who are able, please stand.

# THE MESSENGER

Sunday, December 10, 2017

9:45 a.m.  
 10:30 a.m.  
 11:00 a.m.

5:00 p.m.

Monday, December 11, 2017

6:00 p.m.  
 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 13, 2017

7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 17, 2017

9:45 a.m.  
 10:30 a.m.  
 11:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE:  
 12/3

2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday School  
 Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
 Worship / Chancel Choir: “Joy to All the World”  
 Christmas Caroling

Men’s & Women’s Christmas Dinner (FH)  
 Young Adult Small @ The Ashley’s Home

Centering Prayer (CR)

No Jimmy Townsend Handbell Ringers  
 Chancel Choir

3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday School  
 Chancel Choir Rehearsal  
 Worship

S. SCHOOL WORSHIP  
 24 65



HEALTH MISSION PROJECT  
 The Missions Committee will continue to collect **FRUIT CUPS** during the month of **DECEMBER** for the Laurens County Memorial Home. There is a blue box inside the Church Office to place your fruit cups.

SOCK TREE

We will be collecting new socks during the month of December for the children and youth at Epworth Children’s Home in Columbia. Please place socks on the small tree located in the back of the Small Sanctuary.



UPSTATE SYMPHONIC WINDS

The Upstate Symphonic Winds will present two evenings of exciting Christmas music and stirring hymn settings.  
 December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at Belk Auditorium, Presbyterian College  
 December 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Mauldin First Baptist followed by dinner  
 Please note that these are free concerts and are open to everyone in our area.

HARPSICORD

We are very pleased to have the Klauber Harpsicord at Laurens FUMC. Additional tuning will occur during the next couple of weeks and we will use it at various times during the Christmas season.



CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE  
 Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>  
 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary of First UMC

We will celebrate the birth of Jesus with a Candlelight Christmas Eve Service on **Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.** in our Sanctuary.

\$\$\$\$\$ REMINDER \$\$\$\$\$

According to income tax regulations, a contribution must be received by December 31<sup>st</sup> in order to be counted as a donation in 2017. A check that is dated in December but not received until January, while it can be counted toward your 2017 pledge, must be reported as a 2018 contribution for tax purposes. **The only exception to this rule is a check that is mailed and postmarked in December 2017.**

MEMORIALS

In Memory of: **Libby Boone**  
 Given by: Jon & Diane Allen; Teresa & Buck Crabtree;  
 Jane Compton; Fred Crenshaw; Gene & Carol Curry;  
 Kelly & Randy Hillmann & Family; Jeanne S. Lindley;  
 Jackie O’Bryant; Jim & Louise Rambo;  
 Jim & Ellen Simpson; Jane Stroud;  
 Michael & Dianne Sutton; Betty Jo Templeton

In Memory of: **James R. (Jim) Stroud, Jr.**  
 Given by: Jon & Diane Allen; Vernon & Annette Anderson;  
 Deena S. Blackwell; Jane Compton; Lucy Crowder;  
 Dallas & Deena Dendy; Betty Faircloth;  
 Michael & Sarah Flynn; Lee & Glenda Gordon;  
 Mr. & Mrs. Langdon Long; Sam & Betty Lowry;  
 Gene & Jean Madden; Jim & Louise Rambo;  
 Jim & Ellen Simpson; Claire & Sissy Taylor;  
 Mary Townsend; Universal Packaging;  
 Mr. & Mrs. J. Edward Wells



CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

In the spirit of Christmas, memorials and honorariums this Christmas season will be given to help with the Hanging of the Greens, Minister’s Discretionary Fund and Food Pantry. Please fill out the form below and place your form and money in the offering plate or turn in to the church office by **Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>**. All memorials and honorariums will be listed as an insert in the bulletin on **Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>**.

\_\_\_\_\_ Hanging of the Greens = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Food Pantry = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Minister’s Discretionary Fund = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_  
 In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Given by \_\_\_\_\_

**SERVING THIS MORNING: Sunday, December 10, 2017**

**Worship Greeters:** Jon & Diane Allen

**Ushers:** Tom Ashley, Calvin Culbertson, Allen Prince,  
Susan Prince, Ron Spencer

**Lighting of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent Candle:** Spike & Melissa Tilden

**Nursery:** Angie Bigham, Vicky Culbertson

**Sunday Driver:** Joanne Thomason

**Flowers:** The flowers in the Sanctuary are given in memory of Col. & Mrs. Frank Simpson and Mr. & Mrs. Leon Davis placed by Jim & Ellen Simpson.

### Welcome Guests

We bid you a warm welcome and pray that you will know God's presence in worship with us.



### THANKS TO OUR CHANCEL CHOIR

Thanks so much to our Chancel Choir members for their talent, devotion, and love for Laurens FUMC. It is indeed a pleasure to have such a fine group representing our church. Our prayers are with each of you and we thank God daily for your talent.

### Prayer Concerns

**Susan Belk** – recuperating at home following recent hospital stay

**Melvin Bolt** – recovering at home following foot surgery

**Teresa Crabtree** – undergoing physical therapy following hip replacement surgery

**Mary Lou Finley** – cataract surgery on 2<sup>nd</sup> eye scheduled for Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>

**Michael Flynn** – undergoing treatments at home for lung rejection

**Kay Jordan** – several medical issues

**Janet Lyles** – having severe back pain

Also, remember those who are homebound, in nursing facilities, and with on-going health issues:

Nancy Babb	Verna Jenkins	Bruce Sumerel
Susan Belk	Doris McDowell	Rosalind Sweat
Thomas Gallman	Louise Rambo	Dot Wilson
Dot Gray	Nannie Roberts	

### MINISTRY OF ENCOURAGEMENT

**Dot Wilson** – 112 Forest Dr., Laurens, SC 29360

**Thomas Gallman** – NHC of Laurens, 301 Pinehaven St. Ext., Rm. 423A

**CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to:

- Frank (Kim) Boone & Bill Boone & Family on the death of their mother, **Libby Boone**, who passed away on November 30, 2017.

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In Memoriam

**Elizabeth Dial (Libby) Boone**

April 1, 1938 – November 30, 2017

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

At First United Methodist Church we challenge each other to be **BOLD**, to step out in faith as disciples of Jesus Christ.



### THIS SUNDAY IS CHOIR SUNDAY

Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> our Chancel Choir will present "Sing Joy to All the World!" a Christmas celebration by Lloyd Larson. Everyone please plan to attend! Please be sure to thank each singer for their devotion to this group. Our choir members are so faithful to Laurens FUMC.

### CHRISTMAS CAROLING

We would like to get a group together to go Christmas caroling to visit our nursing home and homebound members. Please meet at the church this **Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.** Please let Hope Deason, Joanne Thomason, or Susan Roberts know if you would like to join us!!



### METHODIST MEN'S & WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS DINNER

**Monday, December 11, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.**  
in the Fellowship Hall of First UMC

Cost: \$12.00

(For those who signed up, please pay the night of the dinner.)

Rev. Lawton Neely and The Kings Strings will be providing a Christmas musical and a wonderful meal will be provided by Rosa Margaret Thompson.



### LONGEST NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE

Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup>

6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary of First UMC

Please join us for this special service for those of us who may be experiencing grief and loss of the midst of this time.

### STAFF MEMBERS

Pastor	John Jordan
Music Director / Organist	David Price
Financial Secretary	Lucy Crowder
Church Secretary	Karen Reeder
Ministers	Entire Congregation

### Church Phone Numbers

984-7696 or 984-2969

### e-mail addresses

fumclarens@prtcnet.com  
jdjordan@umcsc.org  
wmdavidprice@bellsouth.net

### Web Page Address

firstmethodistlaurens.com



*The First United Methodist Church*  
*244 West Main Street*  
*Laurens, South Carolina*

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*Rev. John Jordan*  
*Minister*

