



1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

“PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD”

CELEBRATION WORSHIP

November 28, 2010

8:30 & 11:00 am

Ministers	All Members of the Congregation
Senior Pastor	Rev. Matt Gaston
Associate Pastor	Rev. Lisa Marshall
Associate Pastor	Rev. Jessica Wright
Associate Pastor	Rev. Deana Ferguson
Intern / Christian Education	Cassie Newton

SHINE GOD’S LOVE INTO EVERY LIFE

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

201 S. Locust Street

Denton, Texas • 940.382.5478

[www. fumc-denton.com](http://www.fumc-denton.com)

WE GATHER

Welcome

John Priddy

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Rev. Jessica Wright and David Taylor

Pre - pare ye the way of the Lord!

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All: *Prepare Ye the Way* (sung)

Reader: Today we light this candle as a symbol of Christ as our Hope.

Reader: For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.
Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your
dawn. (Isaiah 60:2-3)

All: **May the joyful promise of your presence, O God, make us rejoice in the hope of salvation.**

All: *Prepare Ye the Way* (sung)

Prelude

Cindy Clark, organist

If you have prayers of joy or concern to share with the congregation and the Prayer Ministry Team, please write those on a blue Prayers of the People card located in the pew rack in front of you. These cards will be picked up during the first hymn.

***Call to Worship**

One: O God, whose will is justice for the poor and peace for the afflicted,
let your herald's urgent voice pierce our hardened hearts and
announce the dawn of your kingdom.

Many: **Before the advent of the One who baptizes with the fire of the Holy Spirit, let our complacency give way to conversion, oppression to justice, and conflict to acceptance of one another in Christ.**

One: We ask this through the One whose coming is certain, whose day
draws near,

All: **Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

(Sacramentary, U.S.A. 20th Century)

***Hymn 196**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

*The Prayers of the People will be picked up during the singing of this hymn.
The children are invited to the front for Children's Time.*

WE PROCLAIM

A Time for Our Children

Rev. Deana Ferguson

Hymn 210 v 1,2

All Earth is Waiting

Call to Prayer 626 v 1 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

*Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.*

Pastoral Prayer

Cassie Newton

Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Our Offering

In Dulci Jubilo

Dale Wood

Chamber Singers (8:30); Chancel Choir (11:00)

Please register your attendance on the registration pads. After you have completed your information, pass it down the row, and then back up the row so that everyone can see who is sitting nearby.

***Doxology**

the people singing

*So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king to own him;
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.*

Scripture

Matthew 3:1-12

Page 2 in the New Testament of your pew Bible

Anthem

But Who May Abide the Day of His Coming

Handel

Dewey Reikofski, bass-baritone

Message

"Prepare the Way of the Lord"

Rev. Lisa Marshall

***Response to the Word**

One: Visit your family, O God. Give us love, joy, and your peace. Purify our thoughts, words, and deeds, so that when Jesus Christ comes, he will find a place prepared for his coming.

Many: **O heavenly Father, as we prepare ourselves for the coming of your Son, fill our hearts and lives with praise. Grant that we may be just and merciful, ready to help in the needs of our neighbor and conscious of your great love for all the world. Fill the Christian family with your spiritual gifts of forgiveness, patience, mutual love, and unending joy. All this we ask in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

WE RESPOND

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

If you would like to explore becoming a part of this church family, please come down at the close of the service to express that desire and see one of the pastors who will be happy to guide you in those next steps through our Methodism 101 class.

***Hymn 213** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

***Blessing**

Postlude

Our interim organist, Cindy Clark, is a Wisconsin native who moved with her husband to Crossroads from Plano in June. She has been playing the organ in churches since she was 14 and teaches music at a private school in Plano. We are thrilled to have Cindy playing for us as we begin the search process to find a successor to Dale Peters, our organist emeritus.

The acolytes today are Will Borchardt and Quint Rickert (8:30);
Eric Myrick and Cameron Mutis (11:00).

The banner bearers today are Audrey Springer and Meredith Wylie (8:30);
Laney Braack and John Fredrickson (11:00).

Childcare is provided for newborns through Pre-K on the 1st Floor
of the East Wing during worship.

A television is set up downstairs in Miller Center Dining Room during the 11:00 am
worship service for those who feel the need to leave the Sanctuary
but still wish to be a part of the service.

New members are always welcome at First United Methodist Church of Denton.
For more information, call one of our pastors at 940.382.5478.

One of your pastors is always available for after hours emergencies at 940.566.6500.

A Stephen Minister is available to help you through a difficult time. All you need
to do is call one of our pastors, 940.382.5478.

Mission Corner Collection for December is diapers for the Denton Diaper Depot.

Today . . .

Angel Tree adoptions continue in Miller Center for the Salvation Army's holiday program to provide Christmas gifts for children in need. Gifts are to be returned by December 5.

The Gifts of Christmas: Stories and Songs of the Season

an Advent Worship Service, 4:00 – 6:00 pm, Sanctuary.

Relax, refresh, and rediscover the joy and wonder of Christmas as we share favorite songs and classic stories, words old and new.

Youth Ministry

- 9:40 am Youth Sunday School on the 3rd Floor in the Youth Loft area
3:00- 3:55 pm Youth Band Rehearsal
4:00-5:25 pm Credo Youth Choir for grades 6th-12th, Room 331
5:30-7:30 pm United Methodist Youth Fellowship (UMYF) – Family Groups.

This Week . . .

November 30 Youth Disciple Bible Study, 6:00-8:00 pm, Youth Loft.

December 1 Wednesday Bible Study, noon, Flinn Hall, brown bag lunch,

Advent Communion Service, 6:30 pm, with a message by Rev. Matt Gaston and Dale Peters as organist.

Prayer & Meditation, 7:15-8:00 pm, Cole Chapel.

Children's Activity in Room 238: Chocolate dipped pretzels

December 2 An Evening in Bethlehem – Celebrating the reason for the season with the Denton community on the night of the Tree Lighting on the Square. **Enjoy a Living Nativity**, 5:30 – 7:30 pm, Ivey Garden -- live animals to pet, storytelling, crafts, food, wassail, music.

Coming . . .

December 5 2nd Sunday in Advent
Communion Sunday and Angel Tree gift return

December 8 Advent Communion Service, 6:30 pm, with a message by Rev. Lisa Marshall and Dale Peters as organist.

Children's Activity in Room 238: Christmas cookies

December 11 Parents' Shopping Day, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. Let us entertain your children while you Christmas shop without them in tow. Cost: \$15/child with a \$35/max per family. Family provides sack lunch; church provides other snacks. Reservations only; no walk-ins please. RSVP reservations to Beth Wilson at bwilson@fumc-denton.com by December 8.

December 12 3rd Sunday in Advent
The Music Ministry of the church offers a seasonal music selection – *A Day for Dancing* – during the 8:30 & 11:00 am worship services.

December 15 Advent Communion Service, 6:30 pm, with message by Rev. Jessica Wright and Dale Peters as organist.

Children's Activity in Room 328: Hot chocolate with Santa

December 19 4th Sunday in Advent

December 22 Advent Communion Service, 6:30 pm, with a message by Rev. Deana Ferguson and Dale Peters as organist.

December 24 Christmas Eve Services
Traditional Candlelight & Communion Services – 3:00, 7:00, 11:00 pm
Family Service for families with young children – 5:00 pm

Poinsettia Purchases Help HOPE, Inc.

Remember a loved one by placing a poinsettia in the sanctuary during the Advent season and help HOPE, Inc. care for those fighting homelessness. For each \$15 you spend on a poinsettia, \$13 will benefit HOPE, Inc. Make checks payable to First UMC-Denton. Fill out the form below, attach your check and return to the church or place in the offering plate. Orders will be taken through Wednesday, December 2.

The flowers will decorate the sanctuary December 12 - December 25, with dedications printed in the worship guide. Honorees and/or Donors may take the flowers home following the 11:00 pm Christmas Eve Service.

Given in honor or memory of :

Given in honor or memory of (circle one): _____

By: _____

Please complete the following information:

Donor name: _____

Donor's Daytime Phone Number: _____



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