

ORDER OF WORSHIP
Sunday, December 18, 2016
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Poinsettia Sunday

ENTRANCE

The people come together in the Lord's name.

PRELUDE

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST AMONG US

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP arr. Joseph M. Martin
"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: This is the fourth Sunday of Advent, a time to rejoice in the wondrous things that God is doing.

ALL: Our hearts are filled with the hope that is coming into the world.

One: The time is fast approaching, not for parties or presence, but for the awareness of God's loving gift to us--the gift of the Christ child.

ALL: Help slow us down, Lord, that we may realize your gift of love is at the center of our lives and our celebrations.

One: Thanks be to God who again reminds us of God's eternal love.

ALL: Open our hearts, O Lord, to receive your blessed gift.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Lord of all life and all seasons, help us to hear the words of promise and love that you send to us. Like Joseph, may we trust in your abiding love and power. Prepare us to receive your gift of grace and peace. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen

***HYMN OF PRAISE, UMH 211** VENI EMMANUEL
"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (vv. 1-7)

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

COMMUNITY CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

HYMN OF PRAYER, UMH 204 MCGEE
"Emmanuel"

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER, UMH 895

***CHORAL RESPONSE** "Gloria in excelsis Deo" arr. Joseph M. Martin

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES Parker Family

One: May the visitation of the Holy Spirit make us ready for the coming of Jesus, our peace, our hope, our joy and our love.

All: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!

ADVENT SONG, TFWS 2090

ADVENT CANDLE SONG

"Light the Advent Candle" (vv. 1-4)

PROCLAMATION

The Scriptures are opened to the people.

CHILDREN'S SERMON "Your Name is Important"

BLESSING OF THE GOWNS

ANTHEM "Celtic Advent Carol" arr. Joseph M. Martin

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE, OT 570 Isaiah 7:10-16
NT 1 Matthew 1:18-25

SERMON "Choose the Good"

RESPONSE

The people respond with acts of commitment and faith.

BLESSING OF THE ANGEL GIFTS

OFFERING
Offertory "Silent Night" arr. Fred Bock
*Doxology, UMH 95
*Dedication of the Offering

SENDING FORTH

The people are sent into ministry with the Lord's blessing.

***HYMN OF PROMISE, UMH 217** AWAY IN A MANGER
"Away in a Manger"

***THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES FORTH**

***BENEDICTION** "Come, Holy Child of Peace" Carl Ashley
Come, Holy Child of Peace, Now as we leave this place,
Come, Holy Child of Peace; Enter our hearts this day;
As we await the coming of our Lord, Give us the strength to do your blessed will
Our hope will never cease. with joy upon each face.

***POSTLUDE**

* = Please stand as you are able.

OT = Old Testament, NT = New Testament

TFWS = The Faith We Sing, UMH = United Methodist Hymnal

SUPPORTING THE CHURCH

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the glory and praise of Almighty God and in loving memory of Mayo and Mary Ann Smith by Martha Smith.

BY OUR PRAYERS...

Unless otherwise requested, prayer requests remain on this list for thirty days. We have an active prayer chain. If you have need for immediate prayer, please call the church office or Joanne Taylor at 910-892-7034.

Lou Allred	Brandon Eaton	Ida Lawrence	Glenda Weisner
Tammie Arnold	Jerry England	Janice Lever	Roger White
Mary Lemuel Blalock	Elliott Gifford	Frances Opperman	Blount Whiteside
John Brown	Pattie Godwin	Teeny Perry	Jennett Whiteside
Chris Byrd	Mary Hardison	Rochelle Pope	Debra Winstead
Kim Byrd	Susan Horton	Chloe Ray	Cynthia Wood
Larry Carmichael	Sandra Jackson	Joanne Taylor	Ronnie Wood
Nancy Cooper	Family of Henry Jacobs	Nancy Thomas	
James Cooper	Family of Jeannie Jones	Irvin Warren	

BY OUR PRESENCE AND GIFTS...

Sunday School Attendance	23	Offering Received	\$ 4,726.00
Worship Attendance	87	Weekly Cash Needs	\$ 6,830.05

Memorials for **Henry Jacobs** have been given by Pete and Barbara Bynum, Patsy Coats and Rhett and Sharon Raynor.

BY OUR SERVICE AND WITNESS...

	<i>Serving This Week</i>		<i>Serving Next Week</i>
ACOLYTE	Dec 18 Beth Cowling	Dec 25	Christopher Parker
ALTAR FLOWERS	Dec 18 Martha Smith	Dec 25	Mike and Cherry Ennis
CHILDREN'S CHURCH	Dec 18 Martha Smith, Samantha Butts	Dec 25	No Children's Church
FINANCE	Dec 18 Larry Opperman	Dec 25	Jim Schmidlin
GREETERS	Dec 18 Cindy Coats	Dec 25	
	Thomas and Betsy West		
LITURGIST	Dec 18 Grace Wilson	Dec 25	Sarah Grace Gaines
NURSERY	Dec 18 Addison Apperson	Dec 25	Brenda Johnson
YOUTH VOLUNTEERS	Dec 18 Coats, Crumpler, Wilson	Dec 25	No Youth Activities
	Dec 21 No Wednesday Activities	Dec 28	No Wednesday Activities
	<i>Serving This Month</i>		<i>Serving Next Month</i>
ALTAR GUILD	Dec Joyce Draughon, Cherry Ennis	Jan	Sharon Raynor, Joanne Taylor
USHERS	Dec Herman Medlin, Steve Parker, Larry Opperman	Jan	Dal Snipes, Sherrell Taylor, Cory Wilson



A Place to... Belong... Believe... Become



December 18, 2016

Divine Street United Methodist Church

Rev. Elizabeth Gaines, Pastor
Rev. Kristina Yeatts, Director of Christian Education
Dr. Carl Ashley, Director of Music Ministries
Mrs. Anna Bunn, Organist
Mrs. Patti Queipo, Preschool Director

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