

# <u>Contemporary Worship</u>



**DECEMBER 7, 2025: 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT** 



## Rev. Min Lee "Interrupted"

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25 (Common English Bible)

<sup>18</sup> This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. When Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, before they were married, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Joseph her husband was a righteous man. Because he didn't want to humiliate her, he decided to call off their engagement quietly. <sup>20</sup> As he was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the child she carries was conceived by the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup> Now all of this took place so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled: <sup>23</sup> Look! A virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, and they will call him, Emmanuel. (Emmanuel means "God with us.")

<sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did just as an angel from God commanded and took Mary as his wife. <sup>25</sup> But he didn't have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a son. Joseph called him Jesus.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

**SERMON NOTES** 

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Next Sunday's Scrinture: Luke 2:22-40	



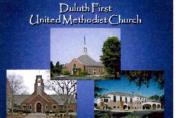
# The Sunday Supplement



DECEMBER 7, 2025

#### Welcome to Duluth First United Methodist Church!

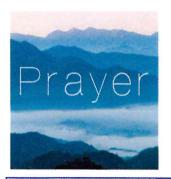
We are glad that you came to worship with us today. The mission of Duluth First United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ. If you are looking for more information about Duluth First United Methodist



of Jesus Christ. If you are looking for more information about Duluth First United Methodist Church and its ministries, Bible studies, and other programs and events, please be sure to visit our church's website at **www.duluthumc.org**.

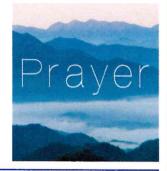
To join Duluth First United Methodist Church, please come forward as we sing the song that follows the Invitation to Church Membership.

If you have any questions regarding membership or you are visiting and would like additional information, please contact Rev. Dr. AnnaKate Rawles, Associate Pastor, by e-mail at **arawles@duluthumc.org**, or call 770-476-3776, ext. 128.



#### **Prayer Concerns**

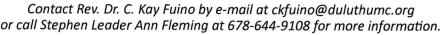
- Kathy Anderson
   Tracy Balkcom
   Bill Evans
- Don Greene Rosemary Hall Shamain Hallett
- Carol Hitchcock
   Carol Johnson
   Linton Jones
- Cheryl Otto Susan Paschal Charlie Pierce
- Lin Ramstead
   Ann Reifert
   Ethel Sales
   Abbie Stein
   Clara Truesdell
   Dale VanPelt
- Donna Bowman & family in the death of her granddaughter.
  - Frank Loose & family in the death of his mother.





#### WE ARE A STEPHEN MINISTRY CONGREGATION.

Duluth First UMC Stephen Ministers provide confidential, one-to-one emotional care and support to those in our church and community who are hurting.





#### This Morning's Communion Offering: AIDS Awareness Offering

Any gifts left on the altar rail or communion table will go toward this morning's communion offering, the AIDS Awareness offering. As United Methodists, we are committed to creating abundant health for all - a global connection striving for mental, physical and spiritual well-being. Lifesaving health ministries are enriching the lives of people around the world.

The communion offering is in addition to your regular giving to the Church.

#### Christmas Carol Sing-Along: Wednesday, December 10th

Join us Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, in Hinton Hall, located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center, as members of our **Music & Worship Arts Ministry** lead us in a **Christmas Carol Sing-Along**. Caroling will begin at 5:45 p.m. and will feature favorite sacred and secular songs.

We hope that you join us for Wednesday Night Dinner beforehand.



#### Youth Ministry Sunday Night Gatherings in December

Students in the 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades are invited to join us on Sunday nights for **Sunday Night Gatherings** from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank"), located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center (unless otherwise noted). **Sunday Night Gatherings** include great dinners, fun games, amazing worship, inspirational and relevant messages and lifechanging small groups.

#### Our schedule for the month of December is:

- Sunday, December 7th: Sunday Night Gathering at 5:30 p.m. in the Youth Center ("The Fish Tank");
- Sunday, December 14th: Christmas Party at 5:30 p.m. in Hinton Hall;
- Sunday, December 21st: Ice Skating from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Atlanta IceForum (2300 Satellite Blvd, Duluth).
- Sunday, December 28th: No Sunday Night Gathering.

Please visit the **Youth Ministry's** website at **https://dfumcstudents.org** for more information. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Min Lee, Director of Youth Ministries, by e-mail at **mlee@duluthumc.org**, or call 770-476-3776, ext. 119.

#### **Advent Devotional Videos**

The season of Advent is underway and students in our church's **Youth Ministry** are excited to share their Advent devotional videos with you! Every Wednesday (December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup>) during Advent, we will post a short devotional video by one of our students on our **Youth Ministry's** YouTube channel - **dfumcstudents**. They would love for you to journey with them by watching and sharing these videos with others! Also, please click on the **SUBSCRIBE** button to get notifications whenever they post new content on their YouTube channel.

#### **Advent Prayer Stations**

Our **Youth Ministry** students have created **Advent Prayer Stations** to help you engage more deeply with God this season. **Advent Prayer Stations** are located:

- In the cul-de-sac area near the offices on the 1st floor of the Sheldon Family Life Center;
- · Outside of the main entrance to Hinton Hall;
- In the Veterans Memorial Gathering Room

Each week of Advent you will find a new **Advent Prayer Station** designed to inspire and help you draw closer to God. We invite you to come experience it with us. May this Advent season overflow with hope, peace, joy, and love!

#### Wednesday Night Dinner in Hinton Hall: December 10th

Our **Food Ministry** staff, along with our amazing **Dinner Belles and Beaus** volunteers, prepare excellent meals at very reasonable prices. Enjoy fellowship around the table with family and friends. **The menu for Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, is fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, corn medley, biscuits, and dessert. For the kids – the same.** Dinner service hours are 5:00 to 6:30 p.m., with to-go boxes available from 6:00 to 6:30 p.m.

#### The prices for Wednesday Night Dinners are:

- \$10.00 for adults (including seniors and from 11 years up);
- \$7.00 for children 10 years and younger;
- \$30.00 for family meals (nuclear family members only husband, wife, their children under 18 years);
- \$7.00 for salad bar only, which includes the salad bar, a choice of baked potato or sweet potato, dessert and a drink.

Credit/debit card payments, as well as cash and checks, are accepted. **PLEASE NOTE: The Wednesday Night Dinner on December 10**<sup>th</sup> **will be the final one for the 2025 season.** Wednesday Night Dinners in Hinton Hall will resume on January 7, 2026. Have a blessed and safe Christmas and New Years holiday!

## Help Make This Christmas Special for a Child: Donate a Toy to the Hands of Christ Christmas Shop

Would you like to help make a difference in a child's life this Christmas? Duluth First UMC will be partnering with the **Hands of Christ Duluth Co-Op** this year in a toy drive to help stock the **Hands of Christ Christmas Shop**. The **Christmas Shop** will help families in need provide gifts for their children this Christmas.

If you would like to help us provide Christmas for all of these children in our community, your generosity can make sure that happens. You can bring in **unwrapped** toys and place them under the Christmas tree in the Veterans Memorial Gathering Room, or under the Christmas tree in the back of Hinton Hall. **We will be accepting toy donations through Wednesday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.** 

We hope that you will prayerfully consider helping to make Christmas a joyous day for all the families that **Hands of Christ** assists every day and every year. Thank for your generosity and your faithfulness!

#### Wednesday Night Food Drive: December 10th

The Wednesday Night Food Drive at Duluth First UMC for the Hands of Christ Duluth Co-Op is our weekly mission project, combined with the many Wednesday evening activities offered at the church. On December 10<sup>th</sup> we ask you to bring cans of vegetables/mixed vegetables. A table for donated items will be located outside of the main entrance to Hinton Hall.

Join us for a delicious dinner and fellowship in Hinton Hall, pick up a to-go dinner for your family, join us for any of our Wednesday evening activities, and drop off food items to help other families in need. We thank you for your support.

#### Ministry of Music & Worship Arts Christmas Music Program: Sunday, December 14th

On Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, our **Ministry of Music & Worship Arts** is excited to present its annual Christmas music program during the 11:00 a.m. Traditional Worship service in the Sanctuary.



#### Christian Beginnings Christmas Program: Thursday, December 18th

All are invited to attend our **Christian Beginnings Preschool & Kindergarten's Christmas Program** on Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Church members are invited to join our students' families to come and see each grade put on a holiday show. We look forward to seeing you there!

#### Christmas Eve Services: Wednesday, December 24th

#### Noon - Family Christmas Eve Service

- The Family Christmas Eve Service, with candlelight to close the service, will be held in Hinton Hall.
  - Music, featuring Christmas carols, will be led by the Contemporary Worship Praise Team.
- The service will be live streamed on the **Duluth First UMC Contemporary Worship** page on **Facebook**.

#### 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. - Candlelight Services

- The Christmas Eve Candlelight Services will be held in the Sanctuary.
- Music, featuring Christmas carols, will be led by members of the Ministry of Music & Worship Arts.
  - The services will be live streamed on the **Duluth First UMC Worship** page on **YouTube**.

NOTE: Children, newborn through pre-Kindergarten, are eligible for childcare at Childcare Corner.



#### Seeds of Hope

**Seeds of Hope** is a fund that is not a part of our general budget that we use to assist those in our community in need of help. One of the primary sources of funding for **Seeds of Hope** is the purchase of poinsettias through the season of Advent. These poinsettias will be available for purchase through Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> (see the Poinsettias insert for ordering information). We sincerely hope that you will prayerfully consider purchasing some poinsettias in memory or in honor of loved ones this season.

Your generosity and faithfulness in giving above and beyond to **Seeds of Hope** makes it possible for Duluth First United Methodist Church to provide necessities such as groceries, a meal, gas, clothing, and other needs to come about. More importantly, you help provide the resources that allow Duluth First UMC to provide hope for those in our community who are homeless, who are struggling, and who are lost. **Seeds of Hope** is a way to shine the light of Christ in our community and we show love, grace, and compassion to all those who are in search of help and hope. We thank you for your generosity in helping to fund **Seeds of Hope**.

#### **Christian Beginnings Festive Fundraiser**

This holiday season, our **Christian Beginnings Preschool and Kindergarten** are kicking off a festive fundraiser to support our general budget. Our talented teachers have been hard at work, turning plain Christmas trees into festive works of art!

From December 1<sup>st</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>, you can support our fundraiser by stepping into a winter wonderland on the Dorothy L. Rainey Fellowship Hall stage and exploring a charming display of beautifully decorated Christmas trees. Purchase \$5 tickets to vote for your favorite—each ticket counts as one vote! And if you fall in love with a particular tree, don't miss the silent auction, where the highest bidder will take home the fully decorated tree by the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Come enjoy the trees December 1<sup>st</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>, cast your votes, or sign up for the silent auction when our display is open Monday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cash, card, and check are accepted for both voting and auction bids.

Which tree is the prettiest? You decide! Buy your voting tickets and vote for your favorite. If you want to take one home, participate in the silent auction. All funds raised support **Christian Beginnings Preschool and Kindergarten's** general budget. Thank you for your continued support of our school and **Children's Ministry**!





### Duluth First United Methodist Church

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Website: www.duluthumc.org

Facebook: DuluthFirstUMC • Instagram: duluthfirstumc



#### **Church Staff Directory**

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Christian Beginnings Preschool & Kindergarten
Office Phone: 770-497-1743

#### Advent Calendar Hope, Peace, Joy and Love in the Names of Jesus



## December 2025

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

November 30th

First Sunday of Advent

**Advent Candle:** 

HOPE

Alpha and **Omega** 

"I am the Alpha and Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty." (Rev. 1:8) 1 HOPE

Son of God "The angel answered. 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the most high will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called

2 HOPE

Cornerstone "So this is what the Sovereign Lord says: "See, I lay a stone in Zion, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone for

a sure foundation: the one who trusts will never be dismayed." (Isaiah 28:16)

3 HOPE **Jesus** 

"She will give birth to a son. and you are to give him the name Jesus. because he will save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:21)

4 HOPE Light of the World

"When Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, "I am the Light of the World. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." (John 8:12)

5 HOPE Redeemer "The

Redeemer will come to Zion, to those in Jacob who repent of their sins," declares the Lord." (Isaiah 9:20)

6 HOPE Messiah

"...I know that Messiah (called Christ) is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us." (John 4:25)

7 Second Sunday of Advent

Advent Candle:

**PEACE** Prince of Peace

"And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6) 8 PEACE

the Son of

God."

(Luke 1:35)

Lamb of God "The next day John saw Jesus

coming toward him and said. "Look, the Lamb of God. who takes away the sin of the world!" (John 1:29)

9 PEACE

Advocate My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous."

10 PEACE Mediator

"For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the man Jesus Christ." (1 Timothy 2:5) 11 PEACE Good

Shepherd "I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd lays down sheep."

12 PEACE Glory of the Lord "And the Glory of the

Lord will be

revealed. and all mankind his life for his together will see it." (Isaiah 40:5)

13 PEACE King of the **Jews** 

"Where is the one who has been born the king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him." (Matthew 2:2)

14 Third Sunday of Advent

**Advent Candle:** 

JOY

The Word

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only. who came from the Father, full of grace and mercy." (John 1:14)

**15** JOY

Branch

"In that day the Branch of the Lord will be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the land will be the pride and glory of the survivors of Israel." (Isaiah 4:2)

**16 JOY** 

(1 John 2:1)

Author and Perfector of **Our Faith** 

"Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfector of our faith, who for the joy set before him, endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God." (Hebrews 12:2)

**17 JOY** 

The Great High **Priest** 

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses. but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are-yet was without sin." (Hebrews 4:15)

**18** JOY

(John 10:11)

**Prophet** 

"I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. I will put my words in his mouth, and he will tell them everything I command him." (Deuteronomy 18:18)

**19** JOY

The Builder

"For every house is built by someone, but God is the builder of everything." (Hebrews 3:4)

**20** JOY

Bread of Life

"I am the bread of life. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world."

(John 6: 48, 51)

21 Fourth Sunday of Advent

**Advent Candle:** 

LOVE

The Way, The Truth, The Life

"Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life." (John 14:6)

22 LOVE

Living Water

"Jesus answered her (Samaritan woman), 'If you knew the gift of God and who it is that asks you for a drink, you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water."(John 4:10) 23 LOVE

Sacrifice

"And live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God .: " (Ephesians 5:2)

24 LOVE **Immanuel** 

"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuelwhich means God with us." (Matthew 1:23)

25 LOVE

Savior

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord." (Luke 2:11)

Merry Christmas! May the hope, peace, joy and love of our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you this Advent season and always.

From The Volunteer Staff of The Louise McDaniel Memorial Library of Duluth First UMC. (Amy, Annette, Megan, Laurie & Mary)

#### <u>Order Your Christmas Poinsettias:</u> <u>Through Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup></u>

The Worship Committee invites you to remember or honor a loved one with a poinsettia this Christmas season. The poinsettias will be used to adorn the Sanctuary and Hinton Hall on Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, and on Christmas Eve. The cost per poinsettia plant is \$20. You may pick up your poinsettia/poinsettias

following the worship services on Christmas Eve. Printed copies of the poinsettia Remembrance/ Honor listings will be available at the worship services on Sunday, December 21st, and at the three worship services on Christmas Eve.



All proceeds go to **Seeds of Hope**, whose funds are used to help meet the needs of God's people living in Duluth and Suwanee--often strangers, widows, orphans, homeless, those who are lost, and those who are without hope--who come to Duluth First United Methodist Church seeking assistance. **In 2025 the number of assistance requests has been much higher than in the past.** If you would like to contribute extra above/beyond the cost of your poinsettia(s), we thank you for your additional support of **Seeds of Hope**.

You can place your order for poinsettias online with a credit/debit card payment. Anyone wishing to pay by credit/debit card must complete their order form online. To order online, please go to the church's website - www.duluthumc.org - and then click on the POINSETTIAS slide on the homepage.

If you wish to pay by check or cash, please complete the order form information below.

In Memory of		
	PLEASE PRINT	
In Honor of		
	PLEASE PRINT	
Ву:		
	PLEASE PRINT	
Phone #:	E-Mail Address:	
Order Total: \$	<del></del>	
Please display the po	oinsettia in the: SanctuaryHinton Hall. (PLEASE CHECK ONE)	

One "In Memory of" or "In Honor of" per form, one form per plant. Additional order forms will be available at the Information Centers in the Narthex (main entrance to the Sanctuary), in Hinton Hall, and in the Atrium.

Please place your completed form/forms, along with a check made payable to **Duluth First UMC** and marked **Poinsettias** in the memo section, or cash, in the Church Staff Drop Box located in the Atrium, or send to Duluth First United Methodist Church, Attn. Ken Willi, 3208 Duluth Highway 120, Duluth, GA 30096. **NOTE: All orders must be received by Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, by 5 p.m.**