



ST. JOHN'S  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH

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Richmond † Texas

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**  
**DECEMBER 28, 2025**  
**10:30AM**

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR LIVE WORSHIP**

You are invited to use this bulletin during our live worship service at 11:00am on Sunday morning. To access our live worship, please [click here](#).

**PRELUDER**

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP (*Isaiah 63*)**

Leader: I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy,

**People: according to the abundance of his steadfast love.**

Leader: For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not act deceitfully," and he became their savior in all their distress.

**People: It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.**

**All: Behold, our Emmanuel!**

**SONG OF PRAISE**

**"Joy To The World" #246**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n, and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ;  
While fields and floods,  
Rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;

He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders wonders of His love.

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**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;\*

The third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic\*\* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy ghost! As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

***Isaiah 63:7-9***

<sup>7</sup>I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us, and the great favour to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. <sup>8</sup>For he said, 'Surely they are my

people, children who will not deal falsely'; and he became their savior <sup>9</sup>in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

## PASTORAL PRAYER

### THE 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.

### SONG OF REFLECTION

*"Good Christian Men Rejoice"* #224

Good Christian friends, rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice;  
Give ye heed to what we say:  
News! News! Jesus Christ is born today!  
Ox and ass before Him bow,  
And He is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today, Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice;  
Now ye hear of endless bliss:  
News! News! Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven's door  
And ye are blessed forevermore  
Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice;  
Now ye need not fear the grave:  
News! News! Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all  
To gain His everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

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## PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

## OFFERING OUR GIFTS and TITHES

Thank you for your generosity! To contribute electronically, please see the QR code at the end of the bulletin.

## OFFERTORY

### DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

*Colossians 1:3-17*

<sup>3</sup>In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>4</sup>for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, <sup>5</sup>because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel <sup>6</sup>that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. <sup>7</sup>This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow-servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, <sup>8</sup>and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

<sup>9</sup>For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, <sup>10</sup>so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. <sup>11</sup>May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup>He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. <sup>15</sup>He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; <sup>16</sup>for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been

created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup>He himself is before all things, and in[i] him all things hold together.

## SERMON

*"Christmas Is Over...Now What?"*

Rev. Allyson Penny

## INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

### SONG OF INVITATION

*"Go Tell It on the Mountain"* #251

Go, tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain,  
That Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching  
O'er silent flocks by night,  
Behold throughout the heavens  
There shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled,  
When lo! Above the earth,  
Rang out the angel chorus  
That hailed the Savior's birth.

Down in a lowly manger  
The humble Christ was born,  
And God sent us salvation  
That blessed Christmas morn.

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## SENDING FORTH

### CHORAL RESPONSE

*"Be Born in Us"*

Be born in us, O Holy Child,  
And let the light of Your love shine within our lives.  
Be born in us, O Prince of Peace,  
Let the hope You bring this world be born in me.

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## GOING FORTH

Blessed by God's love and strengthened by God's Grace, let us be the church to the people we are with. Amen.

*The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God by Georganna Hall in honor and memory of her parents, Judy & George Hall and her grandparents, Fern & Gordy Wheatley and Georgia Mae & W.L. Hall.*

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*QR Code provided for your tithes and offerings.  
Thank you.*

