

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The greens on the altar are given
by Karen and Bill Skelton
to the Glory of God
and in honor of their fortieth wedding anniversary.

To donate flowers, please contact Becky Kirtley at 252-331-3431.

LICENSES

Some music for our worship experience is offered with express
permissions granted by One License A-734965.

ASSISTING IN TODAY’S WORSHIP SERVICE

- Rev. Karen Easter-Bayne — *Lead Pastor*
- Rev. Erin Yow — *Associate Pastor*
- Rev. Steve Coss — *Associate Pastor*
- Michael S. Brannon — *Director of Music*
- Scott and Julie Stevenson — *Advent Wreath Liturgists*
- Greg Turnage — *Acolyte*
- Dr. Leslie Turnage — *Cross Bearer*
- Musicians*
- Chancel Choir
- Christy Sharp, flute
- Lynn Killian, violin
- Joshua Lee Dunn, bodhrán
- Sandie Salvaggio-Walker, soprano
- Lawrence Stewart, baritone
- Craig Etheridge, bass
- Carolyn Dibble, soprano
- Sissi Carroll — *Reader*
- Jean Greene — *Altar Guild Volunteer*
- Jason Gardner, Keith Anderson — *Sound Technicians*

GIVING

To support the ministries and missions of
First United Methodist Church, place a gift
in the offering plate, give online through the
QR code below, send a check to the church, or
give through regular bank drafts.
Thank you for your generosity.



NOVEMBER 2025 GIVING

Funds Needed - \$107,500.00
Funds Received - \$101,610.52

2025 YTD GIVING

Funds Needed - \$1,182,500.00
Funds Received - \$1,024,133.30



204 Sixth Avenue West
Hendersonville, NC 28739
828-693-4275
fumchvInc.org

A warm welcome to
all guests and
newcomers. Please
fill out the
attendance register
on your pew.
All persons are
welcome at First
United Methodist
Church, as
Jesus Christ has
welcomed us into
the love and grace
of God. Our mission
is to change lives
and make disciples
of Jesus Christ.

At the chiming
of the Trinity,
please silence your
mobile devices
and prepare
your hearts
and minds
for worship.

† Please rise in body
or in spirit

FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
DECEMBER 21, 2025
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



GATHERING IN GOD’S PRESENCE

- Chiming the Trinity
- Opening Voluntary Hark, the Glad Sound! Paul Manz
- Advent Wreath Liturgy
Congregational Response
O come, O come, Emmanuel. Prepare our hearts and world for your coming.
- Choral Introit O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Taylor Scott Davis
- †Hymn 209 Blessed Be the God of Israel MERLE’S TUNE
Blessed be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free,
who visits and redeems us, and grants us liberty.
The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release;
God shall fulfill the promise to bring our people peace.

Now from the house of David a child of grace is given;
a Savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven.
Before him goes the herald, forerunner in the way,
the prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.

On prisoners of darkness the sun begins to rise,
the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner’s eyes,
to guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace;
O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!
- †Affirmation of Faith
The Apostles’ Creed
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.

†Responsorial Hymn 71
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.

GREATOREX

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Anthem Noel! from *Light of Peace* Karen Marrolli

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 11:1-9

†Hymn 216 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming ES IST EIN ROS
Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung.
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior, when half spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispel in glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
True man yet very God, from sin and death now save us, and share our every load.

Anthem Creation Sings from *Light of Peace* Karen Marrolli

†Hymn 218 It Came upon the Midnight Clear CAROL

Anthem Peace on Earth from *Light of Peace* Karen Marrolli

New Testament Lesson I John 4:7-16

†Hymn 219 What Child Is This GREENSLEEVES

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Invitation to Offering

Anthem The Call from *Light of Peace* Karen Marrolli

†Responsorial Hymn 95 Doxology VENI EMMANUEL
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.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

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

SENDING FORTH

Anthem Alleluia! from *Light of Peace* Karen Marrolli

†Hymn 238 Angels We Have Heard on High GLORIA
Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song? *Refrain*

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King. *Refrain*

See him in a manger laid, whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise. *Refrain*

†Dismissal with Blessing

†Choral Response Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes Hal H. Hopson

Closing Voluntary Prepare the Royal Highway Paul Manz

As our time of worship comes to an end, our time of service begins; we depart to be the church in the world.

The closing voluntary is offered as the final act of praise of God. Go forth as the music ends to continue praising the Lord with your life.