



December 23, 2018  
8:30 am & 11:00 am  
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Greeting Rev. Steve Goodier

Prelude "Joy to the World" - arr. Ritter  
Judith Pearson, Organist

This is the day the Lord has made. (8:30 am) Sue Cox  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!** (11:00 am) Karin Bierstein

Lighting of the Advent Candle (8:30 am) Carol Beier  
(11:00 am) Ed & Celia Frey

\*Call to Celebrate

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

**Celebrate the coming of the Light.**

O sing to the Lord a new song, God's salvation is at hand.

**Celebrate the coming of Salvation.**

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us.

**Celebrate the coming of the Prince of Peace.**

I bring you good news of great joy for all the people.

**Celebrate the coming of Christ!**

\*Song "Angels from the Realms of Glory" #220

\*Opening Prayer (Unison)

**God of light and love,**

**shine upon us this Christmas season**

**and in the year ahead.**

**Guide us out of darkness**

**and into your joyous light.**

**May our lives reflect your glorious love,**

**that others may see your Christmas Spirit in us,**

**each and every day of our lives. Amen.**

Special Music "Long-awaited One" - arr. Nolan  
Chancel Choir, Dr. David Dunbar, Director

Children's Message Sarah Clegern

Scripture Reading Luke 2:1-7, NRSV

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church

**Response: Amen.**

Message Unlikely Heroes: Herschel the Innkeeper Rev. Jeremiah Harris

Song "What Child Is This" #219 (vss. 1 & 2)

Morning Prayer Rev. Steve Goodier

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.**

Prayer Response "What Child Is This" #219 (vs. 3)

Peeking Through *The Window*

Offering

Offertory "Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day" - arr. Gardner

\* Thanksgiving and Praise (Tune: O Christmas Tree)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow in every generation.**

**Praise God all creatures here below who gives to us salvation.**

**Praise God above, ye heavenly host.**

**Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

**Let all creation praise the Lord with love and adoration.**

\*Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

**God of all good things: This morning, as we draw closer to the blessed**

**birth, we remember Mary and how your blessings come to the world in**

**the most unexpected ways and often through the most unlikely people.**

**Give us eyes this day to see the wealth of ways you have blessed us and**

**the opportunities you have placed before us to be an unexpected**

**blessing to others. Use the gifts we bring to you this morning to bless**

**those who need the good news the most. We pray this in the name of**

**Jesus, who gave in love all there was to give for us. Amen.**

\*Song "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" #196

\*Postlude "Ding, Dong, Merrily on High" - arr. Wilson

Music provided by



"Come On, Ring Those Bells"

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Candle

"Candles Burning"

God's Holy Word Luke 2:1-7, NRSV Mary Hannon

Message Unlikely Heroes: Herschel the Innkeeper  
Rev. Jeremiah Harris

Peeking through *The Window*

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

"Jingle Bell Rock"

Prayers of the People

"What Child Is This?"

"Born Is The King (It's Christmas)"

*We hope you enjoy this morning's music. You may stand up and sing along. Or you may sit down and nod along. You may sing. You may hum. You may listen. No expectations! Please worship however you best connect with God*

\*People standing, as able. **Bold** type, response of the people

**Prayers:** Kay Jones. The Buehler family - Valerie's father passed away. The Landon family - Janesa's father passed away.

For more prayer concerns, visit our website:

[www.fumcleveland.com](http://www.fumcleveland.com)

or

Complete the prayer request card located in the Friendship Pad at the end of each pew. You may place the card in the offering plate or drop it by the church office.

**Missionaries:** Dr. Steve & Rev. Alene Burgert, Emmanuel & Florence Mefor, Donna Pewo.

**Attendance:** 12/16/18 - 343

**Gifts & Service:** Thank you to all who baked cookies, bought cookies and helped set up the cookies for the Cookie Jar sale. The youth made \$1,586.50 to go toward their summer mission trip. Also, thank you to all who went Christmas caroling last Sunday to our homebound friends.

**Altar Flowers:** Provided by Kevin, Cecilia and Kristina Ball in loving memory of the Orrell and Ball families.

**Acolytes:** (8:30 am) Emman Pfertsh  
(11:00 am) Emily Whittemore & Elisa Vasenden

**Hearing Devices:** Hearing devices are available during the worship service. Please ask an usher to assist you if you would like to use one.

**Large Print Bulletins & Hymnals** are available from an usher.

**Weekly Scripture Reading for the week of December 23-31**

December 23 - Psalm 89:1-4

December 24 - Luke 2:1-14

December 25 - Matthew 1:18-25

December 26 - Galatians 4:4-7

December 27 - Isaiah 63:7-9

December 28 - Isaiah 61:10 - 62:1

December 29 - Psalm 148

December 30 - Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

December 31 - Psalm 8

## Welcome to Worship!

**Learning about FUMC:** If you are new to this community and are interested in learning more about what we offer, speak to Rev. Jeremiah or any member of the staff. Keep an eye out for our bi-monthly *Next Steps Lunch* – it is a time to learn more about the church from the church staff. An informal lunch will be provided.

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Parents -

**Children are always welcome in worship!** However if you feel more comfortable taking your child out of the sanctuary, there is a well-staffed nursery available as well as a “cry room” located above the sanctuary. Feel free to ask an usher for directions.

**Child Care:** The nursery is located by the church office and is available for children ages infant – 5 years. Child care is always available during all worship services. In addition, if there is a meeting or program during the week you would like to attend, you may always request child care by contacting the church office or Ann Kessler 24 hours ahead of time.

**Children's Worship Bags:** Pick up your bag from the rack at the back of the sanctuary and return it to an usher or place in the “Used Bags” bin near the rack after the service so they can be re-stuffed with fun for the next week.

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**Fellowship Hour:** Coffee, pastries, breads and fruit are available in Coy Hall from 9:30 - 10:45 am. We invite you to stay and enjoy the fellowship.

**Shawls at the end of the pews:** Shawls may be used by anyone if you are feeling chilly. Please enjoy the warmth of these shawls that were made with love by women in the congregation.

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*We welcome everyone seeking a spiritual home. We are an inclusive and safe community that values unconditional love. We embrace diversity and strive to live in harmony with the teachings of Jesus Christ.*



*First United Methodist Church  
Spiritual home, inclusive community, unconditional love.  
Welcome!*

Find us on Facebook at: First United Methodist Church Loveland

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Office hours: M –Thurs. 8:30am - 3:30pm; Friday: 8:30am - 12:00pm

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