

ORDER OF SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2017

10:00 a.m.

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER CONCERNS

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRELUDE

* CALL TO WORSHIP AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Please respond with the words printed in bold.

The Lord is with us. Holy Spirit, power of the Most High;
come upon us and overshadow us.

**Our souls magnify the Lord and our spirits rejoice in God,
for God has looked with favor on us, God's servants.**

God has lifted up the lowly. God has filled the hungry with good things.

We open our hearts to God, that we may be instruments of God's will.

**He has come to the help of his servant Israel,
for he had remembered his promise of mercy.**

On this fourth Sunday of Advent,
the morning of Christmas Eve, we light the candle,
turning toward the One who comes to make a home among us.

Light all four Advent candles.

Let us pray: **Our souls rejoice in your presence, O God.**

Speak now your word that our lives may rejoice in your way.

All: (sung) **"Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel."**

* HYMN NO. 238 "Angels We Have Heard on High"

OFFERTORY

* CHRISTMAS DOXOLOGY (Tune: O Tannenbaum)

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 hosts.

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Let all creation praise the Lord with love and adoration.

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-4

First Carol no. 196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Second Reading: Isaiah 40:9-11

Second Carol no. 242 "Love Came Down at Christmas"

Third Reading: John 1:26-27

Third Carol no. 211 (vs. 1, 6 and 7) "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Fourth Reading: Luke 1:26-38

Fourth Carol no. 230 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Fifth Reading: Luke 1:46-55

Fifth Carol no. 198 "My Soul Gives Glory to My God"

Sixth Reading: Psalm 89:1-4

Sixth Carol "Et in Terra Pax" Purifoy

Seventh Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Seventh Carol no. 234 (vs. 1, 2 and 3) "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

TIME OF PRAYER

Call to Prayer "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Intercessory 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.

* BENEDICTION

* SONG OF BLESSING "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,

O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.

Come and behold him, born the King of Angels;

O come, let us adore him. O come, let us adore him.

O Come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

* POSTLUDE

* Please stand as you are able

Lectionary for December 31

Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148;

Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

OUR VOLUNTEERS

Sunday, December 24

10:00 a.m. Worship: Rev. Robert Countiss

Greeters: Marsha Demase and Diane McCormick

Acolytes: Josie Thiessen and Ellie Ruble

Ushers for Worship Service: Team C

Offering Stewards: Kenneth and Deanna Reynolds

Flowers: Poinsettias

No Children's Church

Sound: Tanner Cook, Roger Edwards and Brent Treash

Photographer: Bobby Bolling

Sunday, December 31

10:00 a.m. Worship: Rev. Robert Countiss

Greeters: Lewis and Lillian Spicer

Acolyte: Ellie Ruble

Ushers for Traditional Worship: Team D

Offering Stewards: Tom and Liz Bowen

Flowers: Robert and Carla Countiss

Children's Church: Brittani Clayman

Sound: Tanner Cook, Roger Edwards and Brent Treash

Photographer: Bobby Bolling

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Robert Countiss, D.Min., Pastor

Glenn Patterson, Director of Music

Lindsey Blackwell, Music Ministry Assistant

Lisa Withers, Organist/Accompanist

Sean Collier, Music Intern

Suzanne Rankin, Program Director

Brittani Clayman, Director of Students

Michele Carpenter, Office Manager

Bill Gibson, Contemporary Music Director

Moises Martinez, Student Intern

Kitty McCormick, Infant Nursery Worker

Jessica Hawks, Infant Nursery Worker

Wendy Long, Toddler Nursery Worker

Laken Price, Toddler Nursery Worker

Butch and Peggy Jones, Custodians

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sun. Dec. 24 9:00 a.m. Fellowship and Refreshments
10:00 a.m. Service of Lessons and Carols
7:00 p.m. Traditional Christmas Eve Service
9:00 p.m. Contemporary Christmas Eve Service
Mon. Dec. 25 Office Closed
Tues. Dec. 26 Office Closed
Wed. Dec. 27 6:30 a.m.Men’s Prayer Breakfast JMH

PICTORIAL DIRECTORY FOR 2018

Don’t forget that we are asking you to submit a photo for our new 2018 Directory that will be published in January. You can send a digital file to suzannerankin@abingdonumc.org. If you are unable to send a photo, we will have another opportunity for you to have your photo taken by a staff member on Sunday, December 31 after the service.



**UPCOMING WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
TONIGHT**

7:00 p.m. Traditional Christmas Eve Service
9:00 p.m. Contemporary Christmas Eve Service

December 31

10:00 a.m. Combined Worship Service

(Bring an appetizer/party food for a fellowship time after the service)

CHURCH BOOKS CLOSING

The 2017 Church books will close on Monday, January 8, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. This is the deadline for turning in donations that you want credited to your 2017 contributions record. Please call the church office if you have any questions about your 2017 contributions.

PRAYER LIST

In an effort to keep the Prayer List updated and current, requests will be removed from the Prayer List after 4 weeks. Please let us know of any corrections, updates or additions you may have.

New Requests: Jan Thrasher, Art Boyd, Don Cumbow, Denise Haley (Susan Howard)

Condolences to Beverly Keener in the death of Annabelle on December 18.

Prayer List: Carol Brunty, Bill Graves, June Smith

Treatment Pending/Continuing: Conner Bartz (Sandra Jonas), Rusty Cline, Dorothy DeBord, June Donch (Marsha Demase), Mike Ferrell, Ellee Large (Becky Matney), Ann Johnson (Kendall Johnson), French Moore, Jr., Audrey Salazar (Roger and Alta Edwards)

Homebound, Independent Living/Retirement, Assisted Care and Rehab Facilities: Harry Arnold, John and Phyllis Deadmore, Peggy Donaldson, Carol Hearl, Bob Johnson, Nancy Johnson, Charlie Krum, Jan Thrasher, Mae Turner, Mary Ruth Vaught (Judy Casey’s mother), Madge Via, Gene Widener, Millie Woody

Abingdon United Methodist Church



101 East Main Street
Abingdon, Virginia 24210
(276) 628-2321
abingdonumc.org

December 24, 2017
Fourth Sunday of Advent
10:00 a.m. Service

