



We are delighted you are here!

If you would like to join our church family this morning, please come forward at the end of the service. For more information about joining, please contact Rev. Lucas Tribble at [ltribble@fumcmontgomery.org](mailto:ltribble@fumcmontgomery.org).

**LITURGICAL SEASON: ADVENT**

The season of Advent starts the new Christian year. Advent is a season of four weeks, including four Sundays. Advent derives from the Latin word, adventus, which means “coming.” The season proclaims the comings of Christ - whose birth we prepare to celebrate once again, who comes continually in Word and Spirit, and whose return in final victory we anticipate. Each year, Advent calls the community of faith to prepare for these comings, with each Sunday having a distinctive theme. The fourth Sunday of Advent focuses on the events just prior to the birth of Jesus.

**IN MEMORY OF**

**Eileene Dempsey Griffith**

Stephen Ministry: *Gayle Page, Seaspray Condominium Association; Memorial Fund: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Chappell, Mr. and Mrs. Flem Spain; Cathedral Builders: Mr. and Mrs. Keith Norman*

**George William Thompson, Jr.**

Building Fund: *Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cook*

**Betty Ann Britton Norris**

Building Fund: *Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cook*

**Hugh Raymond Evans, Jr.**

Building Fund: *Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cook*

**IN HONOR OF**

**Susan Haigler**

Respite Ministry: *Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stakely*

**Mr. and Mrs. Frank Johnston, Sr.**

Respite Ministry: *Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stakely*

**Mr. and Mrs. David Mobley**

Respite Ministry: *Mr. and Mrs. Mervin G. Coxwell*

**Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Stone**

Respite Ministry: *Mr. and Mrs. Danny Reese*

**Mr. and Mrs. Waldo Reese**

Respite Ministry: *Mr. and Mrs. Danny Reese*

**Mr. and Mrs. Ken Upchurch**

Clare Bowman Garden: *Mr. and Mrs. Sam Campbell*

**AROUND THE CONGREGATION**

**BAPTISM**

**Edward Taylor Williams**

*December 8, 2019*  
Son of Taylor and Elizabeth Williams

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Price Chrenleigh McLemore, Jr.**

*December 5, 2019*

**Cecile Morgan Webb**

*December 15, 2019*

**Betty G. Murray**

*December 15, 2019*

**SYMPATHY**

To Rhonda and Mike Bentley and their family upon the death of Rhonda's father, *William L. "Bo" Milam*

To Clare Cardinal, Anne and Ken Upchurch and their families upon the death of Clare and Anne's sister, *Harold Nicrosi*

To Charles and Donna Mac Savage and their families upon the death of their daughter, *Caro Louise Jehle*

**NEW MEMBERS**

**Brynn McGlamery**

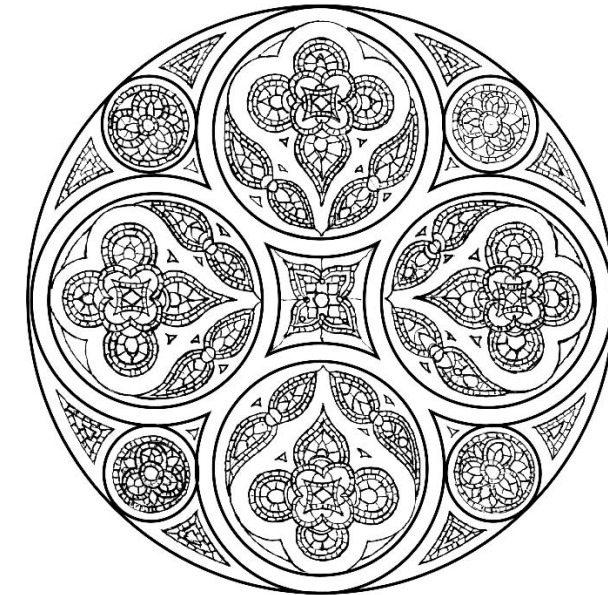
Brynn joins us by transfer of membership from Due West UMC in Marietta, Georgia. She is the FUMC pastoral intern and a sophomore at Huntingdon College.

**Ben, Kimberly, Bella, Benjamin, and Liam**

The Bakers join us by transfer of membership from a local congregation. Ben is an attorney with Beasley Allen Law Firm and Kimberly is the Director of Development at Valiant Cross Academy.

**No Wednesday Night Chapel and Holy Communion | December 25**

*If you are in need of a minister after hours or on weekends, please contact [pastoralcare@fumcmontgomery.org](mailto:pastoralcare@fumcmontgomery.org).*



**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

*a Stephen Ministry Congregation*

**DECEMBER 22, 2019**  
**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

*Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

**Reverend Jay D. Cooper**

*Senior Minister*

**Reverend Lucas S. Tribble**

*Associate Minister*

**Reverend Gillian L. Walters**

*Associate Minister*

**Dr. C. Jason Borders**

*Theologian in Residence*

**Reverend Ben A. McDavid**

*Associate Minister*

**Reverend G. Charles Kendall**

*Associate Minister*

**Dr. Karl K. Stegall**

*Pastor Emeritus*

**Bishop David W. Graves**

*Bishop Alabama-West Florida Conference*

**Dr. James H. Seay**

*Director of Music*

**Reverend Allen Newton**

*District Superintendent Montgomery-Prattville District*

**Dr. Joshua H. Coble**

*Organist/Assistant Director of Music*

# MORNING WORSHIP

## LITURGICAL COLOR: PURPLE

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**Prelude** (8:45) *God Rest You Merry* arr. Arnold Sherman  
Cathedral Bell Choir

(11:00) *O Hanukkah* arr. Eileen Laurence  
Allegro Bell Choir

**Welcome and Parish Notices** Rev. Jay D. Cooper

**Chiming of the Trinity**

**Introit** *His Name Shall Be Called Emmanuel* arr. Karle Erickson

**\*Processional Hymn** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* 213

**\*Call to Worship** Rev. Ben A. McDavid  
Leader: We are watching!  
**People: We are waiting!**  
Leader: Restore us, O Lord God of hosts;  
**People: Let your face shine, that we may be saved!**

**\*Invocation**  
Leader: The Lord be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**  
Leader: Let us pray together.  
**All: O God of Mary and Joseph, you visited your servants with news of the world's redemption in the coming of the Savior. Make our hearts leap with joy, and fill our mouths with songs of praise, that we may announce glad tidings of peace, and welcome the Christ in our midst. Amen.**

**\*Affirmation of Faith** 881  
**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.**

**\*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.*

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath** (8:45) **The Sellers Family**  
Greg, Christy, Dawson, and Brice  
(11:00) **The Rains Family**  
Thomas, Jennie, Bae, and Shepherd

**Response** *Angels We Have Heard on High* Refrain  
*Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*  
*Gloria, in excelsis Deo!*

**Concerns of a Caring Fellowship** Rev. Lucas S. Tribble

**\*Preparation for Prayer** *Come to Me* arr. Hal Hopson  
Cathedral Choir

**Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer** Rev. Lucas S. Tribble  
**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. For ever. Amen.**

**Offertory** *The Hands That First Held Mary's Child* arr. Dan Forrest  
Cathedral Choir  
Katerina Juraskova, Cello

*The hands that first held Mary's child were hard from working wood. From boards they saved and planed and filed and splinters they withstood. This day they gripped no tool of steel, they drove no iron nail, but cradled from the head to heel our Lord, newborn and frail. When Joseph marveled at the size of that small breathing frame, and gazed upon those bright new eyes and spoke the infant's name, the angel's words he once had dreamed poured down from heaven's height, and like the host of stars that beamed blessed earth with welcome light. "This child shall be Emmanuel, not God upon the throne, but God with us, Emmanuel, as close as blood and bone." The tiny form in Joseph's palms confirmed what he had heard, and from his heart rose hymns and psalms for heaven's human word. The tools that Joseph laid aside a mob would later lift and use with anger, fear, and pride to crucify God's gift. Let us, O Lord, not only hold the child who's born today, but charged with faith may we be bold to follow in His way.*

**\*Presentation of the Tithes and Offerings**

**Doxology** VENI EMMANUEL  
*Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;*  
*praise Him, all creatures here below;*  
*praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts;*  
*praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.*  
*Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

**Children's Minute** Brynn McGlamery, Pastoral Intern  
Throughout the month of December, there will be no Children's Church following the Children's Minute. All children are encouraged to participate in the services with their families.

**\*Hymn of Preparation** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* 230

**\*Scripture Lesson** Matthew 1:18-25  
pg. 1, New Testament

**Sermon** *Dare to Dream* Rev. Jay D. Cooper  
Dr. Blake Horn, United Methodist Children's Home

**Invitation to Christian Discipleship**  
Those desiring to unite with the church, either by profession of faith or by transfer of membership, are invited to join the ministers at the chancel rail during the singing of the first stanza of the Hymn of Invitation.

**\*Hymn of Invitation** *Angels from the Realms of Glory* 220

**\*Benediction** Rev. Gillian L. Walters

**\*Benediction Response** *Be Near Me, Lord Jesus* arr. Lester Siegel

**\*Postlude** *Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella* arr. Keith Chapman

*After the service, please turn and greet those nearest you.*  
*\*Please stand as you are able.*

The chancel arrangement is given to the glory of God by the Worship Committee and the Flower Guild for the month of December.

The wreath on the columbarium is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Joe F. Lassiter III by Clare and Bill Ward, Christine Lassiter, Emily Lassiter (Mary Jane and Camille), and Nancy and David Belser.