



# FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*a Stephen Ministry Congregation*

**DECEMBER 6, 2020  
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
EIGHT FORTY-FIVE AND ELEVEN O'CLOCK**

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

**Dr. Jay D. Cooper**  
Senior Minister

**Reverend Lucas S. Tribble**  
Associate Minister

**Reverend Gillian L. Walters**  
Associate Minister

**Reverend Ben A. McDavid**  
Associate Minister

**Dr. C. Jason Borders**  
Theologian in Residence

**Dr. James H. Seay**  
Director of Music

**Dr. Karl K. Stegall**  
Pastor Emeritus

**Bishop David W. Graves**  
Bishop Alabama-West Florida  
Conference

**Dr. Joshua H. Coble**  
Organist/Assistant Director of Music

**Dr. Jeff L. Wilson**  
District Superintendent  
Montgomery-Opelika and  
Montgomery-Prattville Districts

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
2416 West Clovedale Park | Montgomery, Alabama 36106

# MORNING WORSHIP

## LITURGICAL COLOR: PURPLE

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Prelude

*What is this Lovely Fragrance*

Paul Manz

Welcome and Parish Notices

Dr. Jay D. Cooper

Chiming of the Trinity

*The three chimes signify the presence of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit*

Introit

*Prepare the Way of the Lord*

arr. Karle Erickson

\*Processional Hymn

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

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*1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son! Hail in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun! He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free; to take away transgression, and rule in equity.*

*2. He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong; to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong; to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light, whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.*

*3. He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth; love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth. Before him, on the mountains, shall peace, the herald, go, and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.*

*4. To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend; his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end. The tide of time shall never his covenant remove; his name shall stand forever; that name to us is love.*

\*Call to Worship

Rev. Ben A. McDavid

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord,

**People: Make his paths straight.**

Leader: Righteousness will go before him,

**People: And will make a path for his steps!**

\*Invocation

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray together.

**All: God of hope, you call us from the exile of our sin with good news of restoration; you build a highway through the wilderness; you come to us and bring us home. Comfort us with the expectation of your saving power made known to us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

(8:45) **The Mowery Family**  
David, Michelle, Matthew, and Mays

(11:00) **The Barton Family**  
Chip, Emily, Sarah Kate, and Benjamin

Response

*Angels We Have Heard on High*  
*Gloria, in excelsis deo! Gloria, in excelsis deo!*

Refrain

Sacrament of Baptism (11:00)

**Sidney Duffner Mauldin**  
Son of Jacob and Sady Mauldin

Concerns of a Caring Fellowship

Dr. C. Jason Borders

Invitation to Communion

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sins and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession and Pardon

**People: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us, for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

All Pray in Silence.

Leader: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

**All: Glory to God. Amen.**

**Offertory** *And the Glory of the Lord from MESSIAH* **G.F. Handel**  
Cathedral Choir  
*And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see it together: For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.*

**\*Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* **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. Amen.  
Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

**Children's Minute** **Rev. Gillian L. Walters**  
*At 8:45 only, children ages three through first grade will be escorted to Children's Church. Visitors are welcome to accompany their children. Children can be picked up at the close of worship in Room 114 of the Children's Building.*

**Scripture Lesson** **Isaiah 40:1-11**

**Sermon** *Down to Earth: Comforting Us* **Dr. Jay D. Cooper**

**Celebration of Holy Communion**  
*All are invited to come forward and receive the elements, take them back to your seats, and partake in them as a family for a time of prayer and meditation.*

**Music During Holy Communion** *Comfort Ye and Every Valley from MESSIAH* **G.F. Handel**  
James Seay, Tenor

**Invitation to Christian Discipleship**  
*Those desiring to unite with the church, either by profession of faith or by transfer of membership, are invited to contact Rev. Lucas Tribble, [ltribble@fumcmontgomery.org](mailto:ltribble@fumcmontgomery.org).*

**\*Hymn of Invitation** *What Child is This* **219**

<i>1. What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?</i>	<i>2. Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.</i>
<i>Refrain: This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.</i>	<i>Refrain: This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.</i>
<i>3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own him; the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.</i>	
<i>Refrain: This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.</i>	

**\*Benediction** **Rev. Lucas S. Tribble**

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

**Postlude** *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 661* **J.S. Bach**

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

The font flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the baptism of Sidney Duffner Mauldin by Mr. and Mrs. Journey P. Mauldin and David V. Duffner.

The narthex flowers are given to the glory of God by the family of D W and Frances Moody in their memory and in honor of Frances' 100th birthday on Dec 8.

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.

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### LITURGICAL SEASON: ADVENT

The season of Advent, which comes from the Latin word *adventus* meaning "coming" or "visit," begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. Advent is the beginning of the church year for Christians. The liturgical color during Advent is purple.

**IN MEMORY OF**

**Thomas Winfrey Oliver, V**

Memorial Fund: *Mr. and Mrs. Shot Thames, Mr. and Mrs. John Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce M. Hattaway, Mr. and Mrs. Alan Worrell, The Disciple Group, Dr. and Mrs. Charles McLemore, Mrs. Gretchen McCorquodale, Mr. and Mrs. Woody Lamar, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Golden, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Courson, III, Paula Mathis, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Figh;*  
Cathedral Builders: *Claire Smith*

**John Franklin Hubbard**

Respite Ministry: *Mr. and Mrs. Larry Mobley, Jeff Bond, Susan Goff, Mr. and Mrs. Courtney Williams*

**Jan Mock Gill**

Pastor's Discretionary Fund: *Sowers Class, Mr. and Mrs. Darrell Phillips;* Memorial Fund: *Marilyn Rittenour Dozier, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Reifenberg*

**Frances Threadgill Ward**

Cathedral Builders: *Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Holcomb;* Memorial Fund: *Mr. and Mrs. Rod Frazer, Shannon C. Smith, Mary Lu Lampton*

**Gail Stewart Shegon**

Respite Ministry: *Mr. and Mrs. Mike Henig and family, Mr. and Mrs. Courtney Williams*

**Rutherford M. "Rud" Poats**

Sacred Arts Ministry: *Mr. and Mrs. Pete Land;* Memorial Fund: *Karen Kitchens Newman;*  
Respite Ministry: *Mrs. Diane Buckner*

**Atwood Bullock Rush, Sr.**

Respite Ministry: *Mrs. Marilyn Gillespie*

**Walton Elizabeth Savage Skelley**

Music Ministry: *Libby Norris*

**Paul Jene Robertson, Sr.**

IMPACT: *Tom Norris*

**Judy Rutland Pratt**

Sacred Arts Ministry: *Libby and Richard Norris*

**Margaret Peddy Beck**

Memorial Fund: *Patricia Mathis and Paula Mathis*

**Helen Rapp Rittenour**

Joseph Ministry: *Patricia R. Banks and Trey and Ann Banks*

**Lewis Jeffrey Stabler**

Memorial Fund: *Patricia Mathis, Pat Mathis;* Cathedral Builders: *Claire Smith*  
Respite Ministry: *Ethel Dozier Boykin, Mary Anne Moorhead*

**Paul Vere Robertson, Sr.**

Cathedral Builders: *Claire Smith;* Memorial Fund: *Patricia Mathis, Paula Mathis*

**IN HONOR OF**

**Mr. and Mrs. Gaines McCorquodale**

Sacred Arts Ministry: *Mr. and Mrs. Pete Land*

**James Seay**

Music Ministry: *Mrs. Jean Goodwyn*

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**AROUND THE CONGREGATION**

**SYMPATHY**

To Jennifer and Jay Robertson and their family upon the death of Jennifer's father, *Michael Goodwin Campbell.*

**NEW MEMBER**

**Joan Beasley**

Joan joins us by transfer from a local congregation. Joan is a retired legal secretary.

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**POINSETTIAS**

The church is offering the opportunity to place poinsettias in the sanctuary in memory or in honor of a loved one. Poinsettias will be placed in the chancel area on Sunday, December 20th. The names of those persons being remembered or honored, along with the name of the giver, will be listed in the worship bulletin on Sunday, December 20th. Please visit [www.fumcmontgomery.org/poinsettias](http://www.fumcmontgomery.org/poinsettias), for more information or to order. **The deadline to order poinsettias is Monday, December 7.**