

SUNDAYS AT FIRST CHURCH

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Traditional Worship | 9:30 & 11:00 am | Sanctuary
DiscipleChurch | 7:15 am | Community Breakfast | Wesley Hall
8:30 am | Worship | Chapel
The Gathering | 9:30 am | Wesley Hall | 11:00 am | Room 350
eleven:eleven celebration | 11:11 am | Wesley Hall

OTHER OFFERINGS

Chapel Communion | 10:35 am | Chapel
Connections | 10:30 – 11:00 am & noon – 12:30 pm | Garden & Wesley Hall

SUNDAY MORNING NURSERY (3 MONTHS – PRE-K)

8:30 am – noon | Children's Wing
Contact: Paula Wagstaff | pwagstaff@myfumc.org | 817-546-4414

CHILDREN'S ACADEMY SUNDAY SCHOOL (K – 5TH)

9:15 – 10:50 am | Children's Wing
Contact: Mark Burrows | mburrows@myfumc.org | 817-339-5097

CONFIRMATION (6TH GRADE)

September – January | 9:30 – 10:45 am | Justin Youth Building
Contact: Rev. Casey Orr | corr@myfumc.org | 817-339-5067

YOUTH SUNDAY PROGRAMMING (7TH – 12TH GRADE)

Sunday School | 9:30 – 10:30 am | Justin Youth Building
Cornerstone Youth Choir Rehearsal | 4:30 – 5:30 pm | Choir Room
The Refuge | 5:30 – 7:30 pm | Justin Youth Building
Contact: Kat Bair | kbair@myfumc.org | 817-339-3882

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

First Talks | All ages | 9:30 am | Room 230
Wesley Bible | All ages | 9:30 am | Room 340 – 341
Veriditas | All ages | 9:45 am | Room 332
Quest | All ages | 11:00 am | Room 333
Foundations | Age 30s – 40s | 9:30 am | Room 336
Genesis Couples | Age 30s – 40s | 9:45 am | Room 351
Aldersgate | Age 30s – 50s | 9:30 am | Room 333
Good Neighbors | Age 40s – 60+ | 11:00 am | Room 340 – 341
New Horizon Singles | Age 50s – 60s | 9:30 am | Room 231
Koinonia | Age 60s – 70s | 9:30 am | Room 224
Loyalty | Age 60s – 70s | 9:30 am | Room 334
Sojourners | Age 60s – 70s | 9:30 am | Room 335
New Passages | Age 60s – 70s | 11:00 am | Room 230
Covenant | Age 70+ | 9:30 am | Room 331
Inquirers | Age 70+ | 9:30 am | Room 352
Twosome | Age 70+ | 9:30 am | Room 154
Contact: Rev. Chuck Graff | cgraff@myfumc.org | 817-339-5065

CHOIRS

Contact: Robert Stovall | rstovall@myfumc.org | 817-339-5074

USHERS & GREETERS

Contact: Lisa Helm | lhelm@myfumc.org | 817-339-2403

NOTES

MORE WAYS TO WORSHIP

Live Stream | Join us live online on Sunday mornings at fumcfw.org/live at 9:30 am for The Gathering, 11:00 am for Traditional, and 11:11 am for eleven:eleven celebration.

WRR Radio | Listen to each previous week's sermon and music on Sunday mornings at 7:30 am on WRR 101.1 FM.

GET THE NEWS

Get your FUMCFW Weekly newsletter and CONNECT Magazine here at the church. Read the news online and sign up for emails at fumcfw.org/news.



Discipleship is the process of being shaped by the Holy Spirit through spiritual practices to become more like Jesus. **Healthy Plate Discipleship** uses a variety of practices to help you more faithfully follow Jesus Christ. Try all six areas to grow strong in faithful discipleship.

WORSHIP
Gathering to focus on
God together

SERVE
Being God's people
in the world

GIVE
Putting God first
in all things

LEARN
Discovering and
understanding who God is

PLAY
Enjoying the good
life God gives

PRAY
Talking and listening
to God's direction



First Light



“The Light of Joy”

Dr. Tim Bruster
Isaiah 9:2-7

11:00 am
December 17, 2017

Welcome to First United Methodist Church of Fort Worth — we are so glad that you are worshipping with us today! Let us know you are here by filling out an attendance registration card. Just take one from the pew pocket in front of you and then place it in the offering plate. If you would like to join our church family, fill out the How to Join card and bring it with you during the closing hymn.

Large-print bulletins, hearing enhancement devices, and children's activity packets are available. Our ushers would be happy to assist you at any time. Please silence your cell phone as we prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services December 24

Midday Candlelight Service | 11:00 am
Family Candlelight Services | 3:30 & 5:00 pm
Traditional Candlelight Services | 7:00, 9:00 & 11:00 pm
“Silent Night” | Dr. Tim Bruster
Holy Communion served at all services

Word of the Day

Memory Verse

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

WE GATHER

Tower Bells

Prelude

Prepare the Way
James Mansfield, arranger

Welcome

Choral Call to Worship

Small, Dancing Light
Taylor Davis, composer

*See, light dances; see, light dances on a thin, vast horizon.
See, warmth shimmers; see, warmth shimmers on the cold,
cold edge of night.*

*All earth awakes in strange anticipation:
darkness dispersed by a small, dancing light.
Light is dancing hope, peace, and love.
Warmth is spreading peace, love, and joy.
Light is dancing hope, peace and love.
Light is dancing peace, love and joy.*

*Is there a word for this? There must be a word for this!
Yes, there's a word for this: the word is "dawn!"*

Lighting of the Advent Candle

***Affirmation of Faith**

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

**who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

**to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus,
crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God. 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. Amen.**

Please be seated. Ushers will assist in seating at this time.

LESSON 1 — HOPE

Scripture reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

Special Music

*Red leaves fall; can it be said the tree that loses leaves is dead?
The evergreen in that same scene says "No, no not at all."
A redbird lands where leaves once grew to ask, "Is this tree dead?"
Then falling snow says, "No, no, no, in time all will be new."
Is there a word for this when red leaves fall and redbirds call?
Yes, there's a simple word for this; the word is "hope."*

***Carol 230**

**Verse 1 – All
Verse 2 – Women
Verse 3 – All
Verse 4 - All**

O Little Town of Bethlehem

LESSON 2 — PEACE

Scripture

Isaiah 2:2-5; 11:1-2, 6-9

Faith Like a Child

***Passing the Peace**

Special Music

One Silent Melody

*One straight path through teeming throngs,
one silent melody amid loud songs,
One small good surrounded by wrongs; in this a child shall lead us.
One sure truth to measure claims,
one deep identity though many names,
One clear call 'midst meaningless games; in this a child shall lead us.
Is there a word for this? There must be a word for this.
Yes, there's a word for this. The word is "peace."*

***Carol 240**

**Verse 1 – All
Verse 2 – Women
Verse 3 – All**

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

LESSON 3 — LOVE

A Time of Giving

Offertory

Someday

*Someday fear will leave us. Someday strangers will be welcomed.
Someday differences will be a thing of beauty.
Someday we will open hearts and hands to counter hate.
Someday.
Someday greed will leave us. Someday poverty will call us.
Someday people's pain will touch our hearts and hurt us.
Someday we will all know suffering to be our own.
Someday.
Someday pride will leave us. Someday we'll embrace the world.
Someday we will live on earth, God's heavenly kingdom.
Someday we'll allow the coming child to shape our hearts.
Someday.
Is there a word for this? Give us a word for this!
And a word moves toward our prayer: the word is "love."*

Red Leaves Fall

LESSON 4 — JOY

Scripture reading

Isaiah 9:2-7

God speaks to us through the reading of scripture.
Thanks be to God

Meditation

The Light of Joy

Special Music

A Rising Fountain

*We sense a fountain, a rising fountain, welling up in our hearts.
We sense a stirring, a stubborn stirring,
A sense that God will come among us,
God will live within us,
God will be there with us in the struggles of this life.
Is there a word for this, this strange new knowing,
this welling up inside?
Yes, there's a word for this! The word is "joy!"*

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

***Carol 246**

Joy to the World

**Verse 1 – All
Verse 2 – Women
Verse 3 – Men
Verse 4 – All**

***Benediction**

Our gathering will soon be ended, where will we go, and what
will we do?

We will go out to be God's people in the world.

May grace, peace, hope, love, and joy forever accompany you.
Amen.

***Postlude**

Joy to the World
David Cherwien, arranger

The poinsettias in the Sanctuary are given in loving memory of Mr. and
Mrs. A.J. Broderick and Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Smith.

Worship Leaders:

Dr. Tim Bruster, Senior Pastor

Mr. Robert Stovall, Director of Music & Worship Arts

Mrs. Peggy Graff, Organist/Associate Director of Music & Worship Arts

Liturgists: Dr. Mike Marshall, Rev. Casey Orr

Faith Like a Child: Mister Mark, Landon Peugh, helper

Choir: Adoramus Chamber Choir

Instrumentalists: Violins-Brandie Phillips and Shannon Bohall, Viola-Dan
Sigale, Cello-Craig Leffer, Bass-Kirby Nunez, Flute-Pam Adams, Oboe-Jane
Owens, Clarinet-Danny Goldman, Bassoon-Jorge Cruz,
Harp-Barbara Biggers, Piano-Sally Harrel

Acolytes: Nick Lindstrom, Grady Frazier, and Pearson Payne

Procession: Ida Cate Parsons, Hattie Beth Parsons, Alex Parsons, Addison
Kerr, Carter Kerr, Cooper Kerr

**Please stand as you are able.*