

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
COMMERCE, TEXAS
December 10, 2023

Come Home for Christmas

We Gather

Prelude “Prelude on ‘The Holly and the Ivy’” H. Sumsion
Enter with Acolytes Wyatt Bourcy
Call to Worship “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”
Gathering and Welcome Rev. Cheryl Murray, Pastor
[You are invited to sign our attendance register. Fill out
your contact information to receive emails about activities
going on in the church.]

We Praise

* Words of Worship

An unmarried teenage girl was invited –

To carry Christ into this world.

An ordinary carpenter was invited –

To be a father to a child unlike any other.

The shepherds were invited –

Outcast and isolated, included at the manger.

The Magi were invited –

Foreigners and seekers, included at the manger.

And if she was invited and he was invited and they
were invited –

Then we can trust that we too are invited.

This story is for us.

This love is for us.

Family of faith, this is our invitation. Welcome
home.

Amen.

* Carol “O Come All Ye Faithful” (vss. 1-3) UMH 234

* Advent Candle Candle of Hope

In God’s house, there is hope –

For God loves us too much to leave us just as we are.

Light the candle of hope.

In God’s house, there is peace –

For all that separates us from God falls away.

Light the candle of peace.

* Pass the Peace Peace be with you. **And also with you.**

We Proclaim

Children’s Moment Pastor Cheryl

Anthem “On This Day Angels Sing” G. Gilpin

Quartet-Meagan Jones, Linzie Vanpelt,

Chris Snyder, and Alijah Bass

Prayer for Illumination Julia Robinson

The Story of Mary Luke 1:26-35

Reader: Julia Robinson

* Carol “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” UMH 216
(vss. 1 & 3)

The Story of Joseph Matthew 1:18-23

Reader: Jim Patton

* Carol “Emmanuel” UMH 204

The Story of the Census Luke 2:1-5

Reader: Jim Patton

* Carol “O Little Town of Bethlehem” UMH 230
(vss. 1 & 4)

The Story of a Birth Luke 2:6-7

Reader: Carolyn Trezevant

* Carol “Once in Royal David’s City” UMH 250
(vss. 1-2)

The Story of the Shepherds Luke 2:8-14

Reader: Carolyn Trezevant

* Carol “Angels We Have Heard on High” UMH 238
(vss. 1-2)

The Story of the Shepherds, Part 2 Luke 2:15-18

Reader: Monty McGuyer

Anthem “What Child Is This” M. Tunney

Mindful Prayers Pastor Cheryl

Who was a gift of presence to you this week?

How did you offer yourself as a gift of presence?

How can you let God’s peace flow through you to others in
coming days?

The Lord’s Prayer

Invitation to Generosity Pastor Cheryl

Offertory “Sleep, Lovely Jesus” H. Schroeder

(Alsation carol)

* Doxology

The Story of the Magi Matthew 2:1-2, 7-10

Reader: Oliver Roberts

Carol “The First Noel” UMH 245
(vss. 1-2, 4-5)

Final Words **Make Your Home in Me** Pastor Cheryl

* Carol “Joy to the World” UMH 246

(vss. 1 & 4)

We Go Forth

Sending Forth Pastor Cheryl

Choral Benediction “Three Fold Amen”

Postlude “Angels We Have Heard on High” P. Stearns

* You are invited to stand.

Worship Leaders

Cheryl Murray, Pastor

Gene Lockhart, Choir Director

John Burkett, Organist

John Mark Dempsey, Sound Tech

Claire Floyd, Video Tech

Thank you all for your generosity to sponsor the
Thanksgiving Day Community Meal hosted at
Omega’s. About 1,000 plates were served dine-in and
take-out throughout the day.

Prayer List

- All who are affected by the war in Israel
- Carlos Rickman
- Jack McDaniel
- Mary Lambert Smith
- The family of Hilario De Leon
- Mike Pebbles
- Mike Smith
- Dale Massey
- Sgt. Kyle Ray Capps
- Don Daffron
- Bob Clark
- Kerry Clark
- Clarence Jensen
- Eliana Rodrigues
- Jack Kelly, Jill Grove's father
- Vance Underhill
- Glenda Helton
- Joe Milligan
- Rob Lee
- Rita Thompson
- Suzanne Kizer Carter
- Priscilla McFarland
- Michael Vickers, Ginny Haight's father
- Jack Gray
- Richard Stapleton, Al Stapleton's brother
- Tom Bailey
- Pete and Ann Chamberlain
- Rev. Dennis Wilkinson
- Bill Heitholt
- Janet & Jim Payne, family of Becky Coker
- Manuel Harrison
- Georgia Gholston
- Melanie Cortea
- Judy Cortea

Our December Mission of the Month is Operacion Abrigo. Every dollar bill dropped in the collection plate (or check with "Operacion Abrigo" in the memo line) will benefit this mission. Scan the QR code to give online and select Mission of the Month.



Children's Sunday School meets in the Family Ministry Center right after the Children's Moment during worship. The Friendship Class meets in the Friendship Classroom after worship. Everyone is invited.

Upcoming Activities

- December 11-Prayer Shawl at 9:30am
- December 12-Men's Breakfast group meets at Texas Diner Café at 8am
- December 12-Trustees at 6:30pm
- December 13-Little Ark Chapel at 11am
- December 13-Country Home Estates Worship at 2pm
- December 13-Choir Rehearsal at 7pm
- December 14-Serve meets at 10:30am
- December 14-M&M & Youth Christmas Parties
- December 17-Youth-led Worship Service
- December 17-Angel Tree Christmas Party from 2-4pm

Ministers

Pastor
Office & Communications
Financial Secretary
Children/Youth Director
Children's Music Director
Little Ark Director
Choir Director
Organist
Custodians

All Members of the Congregation

Rev. Cheryl Murray
Sharon Duncan
Mariann Andrews
Ashlyn Woods
Meagan Jones
Jennifer Knight
Gene Lockhart
Dr. John Burkett
Sandra & Fernanda Medrano



Second Sunday of Advent Lessons & Carols

First United Methodist Church

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**December 10, 2023
10:00am Sanctuary**