

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Celebration of Worship – *The Second Sunday of Advent* – 12.4.16

PRELUDE.....*O Run, Ye Shepherds to the Manger*.....E. Ray Peebles
Max Drischner

WORDS OF WELCOME & GREETING.....Rev. Wilkinson

INTROIT.....*Come and Worship (REGENT SQUARE)*.....Ensemble (8:30)
Chancel Choir (11:00)

CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION Rev. Wilkinson

† HYMN OF PRAISE“The First Noel” No. 245

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....No. 881.....Rev. Wilkinson

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Jimmy & Linda Ray (8:30)
Rivers & Gable Kendall
Sissy Mayeaux (11:00)
James & Peyton Mayeaux
Thomas, Graham & Maxfield

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*Shepherds’ Dance*.....E. Ray Peebles
Richard Elliott

† CONGREGATIONAL READING.....No. 208..... Rev. Wilkinson

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† 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.*

‡

**CHILDREN’S BLESSING.....Billie Tate

JOYS & CONCERNSDr. Day

MORNING PRAYER Dr. Rhoads

THE LORD’S PRAYER Congregation (speaks in unison)

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.

‡

HYMN OF PREPARATION.....“In the Bleak Midwinter”.....No. 221

OFFERTORY PRAYER Dr. Rhoads

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*Away in the Manger*.....Ensemble (8:30)
arr. Mack Wilberg Chancel Choir (11:00)

† DOXOLOGYNo. 94

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose
power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

SCRIPTURE READING.....Matthew 2:7-12..... Dr. Day
Old Testament, Page 2 in your Pew Bible

MESSAGE.....WHAT WILL YOU DISCOVER THIS CHRISTMAS?Dr. Day

- I. First, wise people find what they are looking for when they seek Jesus Christ

- II. Second, wise people discover they can find forgiveness in Christ.

- III. Third, wise people discover they can find peace of mind in Jesus Christ.

- IV. Fourth, wise people discover they can find eternal life in Jesus Christ.

- V. Finally, wise people unwrap the most wonderful gift ever given - the gift of Jesus Christ.

† *HYMN OF INVITATION.....“We Three Kings”.....No. 254
(During the singing of this hymn, those who wish to join the First Methodist family are invited to come to the front of the church for reception and recognition.)

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS Dr. Rhoads

We rejoice to recognize you as members of Christ's holy church, and bid you welcome to the congregation of First United Methodist Church. With you, we renew our vows to uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.

BENEDICTION Dr. Rhoads

SENDING FORTH.....*Amen*.....Ensemble (8:30)

John Rutter

Chancel Choir (11:00)

POSTLUDE.....*Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV661*.....E. Ray Peebles

Johann Sebastian Bach

Acolytes: Henry Peacock, Kace Sweatman (8:30), William Harrel, Garland Barrett (11:00)

Crucifer: William Peacock (8:30), Sydney Harrel (11:00)

† *Those who are able may stand.* ‡ *Latecomers may be seated at these times.*

♦ **COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED AT 9:30AM IN THE SANCTUARY AND NOON IN COUCH CHAPEL.**

* **IF YOU WISH TO JOIN** the First United Methodist Church family, please come forward at this time.

***Children leaving the service for Children's Chapel may be picked up after the service:*

• *Infants–4 years (8:30 & 11:00): Children's Ministry Center*

• *K5–1ST graders (11:00): Dawson Building, Room 207, behind the Sanctuary*

• *2ND–3RD graders (11:00): Dawson Building, Room 208, behind the Sanctuary*