

FIRST UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Sunday, December 29, 2024
Sunday School 10:00 a.m./Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Pastor: Rev. Gerald Gammon (234) 424-3444
Director of Music: Karen Fumerola
Organist: Barbara Edwards

(*Please stand, if you are able, at each asterisk.)

Welcome to our Sunday service. Please use the time during the Prelude to prepare yourself for worship in quiet reflection and prayer and allow others to do the same. We also ask that you refrain from conversation during our service. Please silence your cell phones during the service.

Prelude Medley of “Rise Up, Shepherds, and Follow” *Spiritual*
and “I Saw Three Ships” (Karen Fumerola) *English Carol*
(Lighting of the Candles) (Piano)

Greeting
Pastor: “The peace of Christ be with you.” Rev. Gerald Gammon
People: **“And also with you.”**

Welcome and Announcements

Let us begin our worship today:

*Call to Worship: Ron Schoch

Leader: Gracious God, You are the eternal source of all things good.

People: **Lord help us to be good stewards of Your creation.**

Leader: Holy One, may we see Your presence in all that we encounter.

People: **In finding You in all things we can find something to love in all.**

Leader: Font of love, we pray to measure up to Your expectations.

People: **We thank You and praise You for giving us a path to redemption through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*Carol #258 “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

*Unison Invocation:

Lord of Love, we ask that You search our hearts and remove anything that prevents us from loving as we should. Help us, O Lord, that we might be conduits of the love shared with us through Jesus. When we disappoint or fail You, find us worthy of another chance to correct our behavior, and please forgive us when we falter. We are imperfect, but strive to honor and glorify You, O God, in the things we do and say. Guide us to Your Kingdom. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

*Gloria Patri #812 “Glory Be to the Father”

Joys and Concerns/Time of Silent Prayer/The Lord’s Prayer (debt and debtors)
Prayer Response “O come to my heart” *Timothy Matthews*

Offering Prayer/Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory “There’s a Song in the Air” *Karl Harrington*

*Doxology #815 “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

*Apostles Creed

Carol #281 “What Child Is This?”

Scripture **1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26** (pg. 246 O.T.) Ron Schoch

Scripture **Colossians 3:12-17** (pg. 201 N.T.)

Gospel **Luke 2:41-52** (pg. 59 N.T.)

All Sing (After Gospel is announced) “Celtic Alleluia” *Fintan O’Carroll & Christopher Walker*

Pastor: “This is the Word of our Lord”

All: **“Thanks be to God.”**

Sermon “Refresh What You’re Wearing” Rev. Gerald Gammon

*Carol #273 “Good Christian Men, Rejoice”

*Benediction/Final Blessing

Postlude “Joy to the World” *G. F. Handel*
(Organ/Piano)

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NOTE: Scripture readings are from NRSV Bible

ANNOUNCEMENTS

12/29/2024

Please call the church office or fill out a prayer card if you would like to put someone on the prayer chain or prayer list.

Thought for the week: “What do others see me wearing?”

Next week: Liturgist/Lay Reader: Sheryl Cozad

Christmas Party: Thank you to Sharon Longworth for organizing our annual Christmas Party! It was a wonderful time of fellowship, good food and great entertainment.

Christmas Party: As everyone knows, our last Christmas Party in our building was Sunday, bittersweet. The food was delicious with top notch entertainment, and of course, the fellowship. A huge thank you to all who participated. We are so blessed. MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Sharon Longworth

Got Kolache Thank you to all who purchased kolache from the Deacons! Thank you to all the Deacons for your hard work and donations of supplies!

Thank you church family for the Christmas gift! While it is most appreciated, it is unnecessary for you all are a gift to me! Thank you again! - Pastor Gerry

Thank You: I want to let the congregation know that I appreciate the generous Christmas gift and poinsettia. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Nancy Hamrick

Thanks: Many thanks for the gift of a beautiful poinsettia and generous monetary gift. May you be blessed with hope, peace, joy, and love which our Savior brought to all.
Junior & Karen Fumerola

Floating Five Account Balance: \$2,763.55

	12/1/24	12/8/24	12/15/24	12/22/24	12/24/24
Attendance	23	27	27		
Benevolence	\$ 55.00				
Building Fund					
Current Expenses	\$1,383.00	\$233.00	\$1,170.00	\$1,021.00	\$479.00
Floating Five	\$ 68.00	\$100.00	\$ 110.00	\$ 100.00	
Flowers	\$ 50.00				
Poinsettias		\$ 29.90		\$ 20.00	
TOTAL	\$1,556.00	\$362.90	\$1,280.00	\$1,141.00	

November Income	November Expenditures	November Net
\$3,375.28	\$7,937.21	-\$4,561.93

Prayer List

Shut-in

Terry Caddell	Denise Long	Donna Beavers
Becky Callahan	Dean Mahalick	Ruth Gilbert
Jerry Currie	Peggy Marshall	Betty Howren
Rodger Davis	Larry Mattison	Dick Leiby
Steve Doracin	Paul Muck	Marilyn Leiby
Phil Fletcher	Carter Plott	Glenn Mark
Erika Gammon	Mary Sabol	Norma Patchin
Ruth Gilbert	Joe Vugrincic	Barb Sponaugle
Dick Leiby	Layes Wood	
	Hailee	
Those affected by the conflicts throughout the world		

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, 1/1/25	New Year’s Day—OFFICE CLOSED
Sunday, 1/5/2025	Sermon of Carols
Monday, 1/6/25	Elders/Deacons Meeting 6:15 pm, Consistory follows
Wednesday, 1/8/25	Men’s Fellowship breakfast 9:00 a.m./Choir 12:30 pm