

WE GATHER TO PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Opening Music “*Glory (Let There be Peace)*” FUMC Praise Band

Welcome & Ringing of the Bell Keith Joesel

LEADER: The Lord be with you.

PEOPLE: and also with you!

*Call to Worship

LEADER: Children of God, our world is full of the fruit of humanity’s greed, apathy, and neglect for the love of God, neighbor, self, and all creation.

PEOPLE: What, then, should we do?

LEADER: Our world is also full of the fruit of God’s love that wells up all around us, sustaining us, saving us, reviving us to live as the people of God.

PEOPLE: What, then, should we do?

LEADER: God encircles us on every side, Love divine present with us in creation, in community, and in the anticipated arrival of the infant Emmanuel. What then, children of God, should you do?

PEOPLE: We will live in joyful presence with God and neighbor, turning away from sin and toward a life with God and one another marked by joy, justice, and mercy. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

*Praise Song “*O Come All Ye Faithful*” FUMC Praise Band

“The Bethlehem Candle: Faith”

*Affirmation of Faith UMH #881

Prayer of Confession

ALL: Creator of the universe we stand amazed at your power and glory. We are eager to worship you and offer our praise, but we are often reluctant to answer when we hear you calling our name. We sing our songs of tribute in the sanctuary, but shy away from the river, lest we be baptized with the fire of the Holy Spirit. Forgive us when we forget your promise to be with us always, O God. Renew us with the power of your ever-present love, and strengthen us to proclaim your justice throughout the world. Amen.

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns and Pastoral Prayer

Tithes and Offerings - *Worshiping Through Giving*

Praise Music: “Mary Did you Know?” FUMC Praise Band

**Doxology UMH #95*

Scripture Reading Luke 3:7-18

LEADER: The Word of God for the People of God.

ALL: Thanks be to God!

Praise Music “*Joseph’s Lullaby*” FUMC Praise Band

Sermon “The Good News” Pastor Michael Bell

*Closing Song “*Beautiful Star of Bethlehem*” FUMC Praise Band

*Benediction Pastor Michael Bell

*Postlude FUMC Praise Band

**Please stand as you are able.*

PRAYER : We believe in the power of prayer. If you have a prayer request, please fill out a prayer card (found in the foyers) and place it in the offering plate. For confidential requests, cards can be folded and handed to Pastor Bell.

Announcements

- Leadership Council after the worship service today.
- BTW has an Angel Tree if you would like to sponsor a family for Christmas. See the newsletter for more information.
- Christmas Music and Drama service: 12/15 @ 6 p.m.
- Christmas Eve Service: 12/24 @ 6 p.m.
- Tales of Light and Wonder: Hanukkah Around The World by David Thompson: December 29th at 3 p.m. in the sanctuary. See the newsletter for more information.
- Volunteers needed for Ushers, Bell ringers, etc. See Karen Flanagan for more information. We need you.
- Join the Friday newsletter for information on upcoming events. So much more than we can print here. Just email the church at fumcelgintx@gmail.com

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES:

Godly Play Sunday School @ 10 a.m.

Adult Sunday School & Coffee Hour @ 10:00 a.m.

Worship Service @ 11:00 a.m.

Young Adult Small Group @ 6:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall

WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES:

Bible Study @ 11:00 a.m.

Choir @ 6:30 p.m.

Handbells @ 7:20 p.m.

Pastor Michael Bell

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www.fumcelgin.com

Welcome to First United Methodist Church



Pastor Michael Bell



December 15, 2024
Worship Service