

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, December 21, 2025



Reverend Delton H. Farmer, Pastor

Email: [pastorfarmer@fupcc.org](mailto:pastorfarmer@fupcc.org) - Mobile#: 919-740-2281

406 N. College St., Charlotte, NC 28202

Phone: 704-376-8014

Email: [firstunitedclt@fupcc.org](mailto:firstunitedclt@fupcc.org)

Website: [www.fupc.org](http://www.fupc.org)

*"Helping Others See Jesus' Grace In Me"*

**Order of Worship**  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
*\*Congregation Stands/Rise in spirit*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**.....Shirley Evans & Valerie Tutt

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Leader:** Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!

**People:** Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

**Leader:** Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.

**People:** Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

**Leader:** Let us worship God!

**OPENING HYMN #133 (GG)**..... **“O Come All Ye Faithful”**

**PRAYER OF PRAISE AND ADORATION (Unison)**

Your face has shone upon us, O God, in the young woman who is with child. She will bear a son and name him Emmanuel, “God with us.” Your presence shall hereafter be a source of comfort and guidance to all that call on your name. Your footsteps shall accompany us, your breath shall give us new life, your arms will console us, and your hands will be there to welcome us home. You are a God for all seasons and give us all reason to worship your name. Amen

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

The wait is over! For the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, is here! With joy and confidence, let us confess our sin.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

You shower gifts on your people, O God, and forgive their faults. We keep accounts and settle old scores. You make peace, sending Christ as a sign of reconciliation and hope. We make war and call it peacekeeping. You give us a source of confidence as your Spirit is sent into our midst. We cause others to be restless, in our anxiety and self- concern. Have mercy upon us, forgive, and free us, that we may be renewed to serve your people with goodwill.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The Most High is called merciful, because God has mercy on those who have not yet come into the world, and gracious because God is rich in grace to those who repent and turn to the law; and compassion-ate, because God makes compassion abound more and more within all of creation. Live in this knowledge and be confident that your sins are forgiven.

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

**Service of Lessons and Carols**

<b>MUSICAL SELECTION</b>	<b><i>"Angels We Have Heard On High"</i></b>	Handbell Choir French Carol; Translated by James Chadwick
<b>FIRST LESSON:</b>	<b>John's Prologue</b>	Sean Maxwell
<b>SECOND LESSON:</b>	<b>John the Baptist</b>	Sean Maxwell
<b>MUSICAL SELECTION</b>	<b><i>"O Holy Night"</i></b>	Karen Solis, Flutist
<b>THIRD LESSON:</b>	<b>Jesus is Born</b>	Blake Brown

<b>MUSICAL SELECTION</b>	<b><i>“Sweet Little Jesus Boy”</i></b>	FUPC Choir
<b>FOURTH LESSON:</b>	<b>The Shepherds and Angels</b>	Devanée and Zévion Williams
<b>SPECIAL SELECTION</b>	<b><i>“Gesù Bambino”</i></b>	FUPC Dance Ministry
(with Ben Barker, Harpist; Soloists: Devanée Williams, Debra Givens, Fannie Watermann)		
<b>HOMILY</b>		Rev. Delton H. Farmer
<b>MUSICAL SELECTION</b>	<b><i>“Mary Had a “Baby”</i></b>	FUPC Choir
<b>FIFTH LESSON:</b>	<b>The Wise Men</b>	Gail and Jerome Walker
<b>MUSICAL SELECTION</b>	<b><i>“Christmas Medley”</i></b>	Ben Barker, Harpist
<b>SIXTH LESSON:</b>	<b>And then...</b>	Helen Hairston
<b>MUSICAL SELECTION</b>	<b><i>“Silent Night”</i></b> (arr. by Kirk Franklin)	FUPC Choir

**INVITATIONAL HYMN #217 (AA)..... “Jesus, The Light of the World”**

#### **INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP / PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD’S PRAYER**

#### **CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

“Emmanuel,” God with us. What a glorious gift! The words of the prophet are fulfilled in the birth of a child. What is conceived of the Holy Spirit and carried in Mary’s womb is the promise of eternal life to all that believe. Jesus will save God’s people from their sins; God will dwell in their midst. The Spirit makes God’s presence known now and forevermore. Let us respond with gratitude to God by offering our tithes and gifts.

**OFFERTORY SELECTION.....Voices In Praise..... “Celebrate”**

**OFFERING** (includes the Christmas Joy Offering)

#### **\*DOXOLOGY**

#### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Gracious God, we remember that we are called to belong to you. As we offer our gifts, we dedicate them to your service and the spread of your good news. May our lives reflect the grace and peace that we are about to receive again through the birth of Baby Jesus. Strengthen us to live lives of faithfulness and to use these offerings for impact across the global community. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen

**CLOSING HYMN: #134 (GG) “Joy To the World”**

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** .....Rev. Delton H. Farmer

**RESPONSE..... “Amen”**

#### **POSTLUDE**

## **Participating in Worship - December 21, 2025**

**Liturgist:** William Harris

**Offering Collection:** Olanda Carr & Gail Walker Farmer

**Counters:** Helen Hairston & Gail Walker

**Ushering:** Robert Ryan, Jr., Gaynelle Grier & Joan Antrum



### **Prayer List**

Barbara Cannon ♦ Carlye Blakeney Bennett ♦ Abby Flanders  
Shepard Foley ♦ Yvonne Thomas

### **AT HOME/SICK AND SHUT-INS**

**Dr. Sandra Govan** - 6508 Wickville Dr., Charlotte, NC 28215

**Ms. Constance Sims** - 5925 Sierra Dr., Charlotte, NC 28216

**Mrs. Margaret Freeman** - 14333 Whistling Teal Dr., Charlotte, NC 28262

**Mr. O'Neil Junious, Sr.** - 5322 Grenelefe Village Rd., Charlotte, NC 28269

### **Skilled Nursing, Hospitals & Senior Living**

**Dr. Mildred Y. Mosley** - Waltonwood at Cotswold - 5215 Randolph Rd., Apt. 2018, Char, NC 28211

### **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Valerie Burton	Dec. 1 <sup>st</sup>	Brenda Richardson	Dec. 16 <sup>th</sup>
Barbara Cannon	Dec. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Derrick Maxwell Sr.	Dec. 17 <sup>th</sup>
Tamara Williams	Dec. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Clifford Waddell, III	Dec. 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Destineé Clark	Dec. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Freddie Taylor	Dec. 23 <sup>rd</sup>
Letitia Mouzon	Dec. 15 <sup>th</sup>	Atlas Richardson	Dec. 23 <sup>rd</sup>
	Vil Johnikin, Sr.	Dec. 28 <sup>th</sup>	