

HELLO FUPC FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

In this mailing you'll find the bulletin for Sunday's worship service. Join us Sunday at 10:30 via zoom by going to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5739200081>, or by phone (312-626-6799). If you're joining by phone, enter meeting ID 573-920-0081. If you've not used zoom before, follow the instructions provided at the link.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, December 3: First Sunday of Advent

8:45 a.m. – Bible-based Class in Session Room and via Zoom

10:30 a.m. –Worship with Communion in sanctuary and via Zoom followed by fellowship

6:00 p.m. – Interfaith Prayers for Peace via Zoom

Monday, December 4

6:30 p.m. – Session Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, December 5

3:00 p.m. – Mission and Peacemaking

Wednesday, December 6

8:30 a.m. - Coffee with Katie at Charlie's

7:00 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal in Sanctuary

Thursday, December 7

9:00 a.m. – WAM Meeting

5:30 p.m. – Rainbow Ringers Rehearsal in The Gathering Place

Friday, December 8

9:00 a.m. – Food Depot Food Distribution at Rodriguez Park

Saturday, December 9

11:00 a.m. – Memorial Service for Don Wales

Sunday, December 10: Second Sunday of Advent

8:45 a.m. – Bible-based Class in Session Room and via Zoom

10:30 a.m. –Worship in sanctuary and via Zoom followed by fellowship

11:45 a.m. – 2024 Budget Meeting after worship

5:00 p.m. – Blue Christmas service in sanctuary

6:00 p.m. – Interfaith Prayers for Peace via Zoom



First United Presbyterian Church
1000 Douglas Avenue
PO Box 37
Las Vegas NM 87701

GROWING INTO WHOLENESS

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1000 Douglas Avenue, P.O. Box 37, Las Vegas, NM 87701

December 3, 2023

10:30 a.m.



MEDITATION – *We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope.*
Martin Luther King, Jr.

WE GATHER TOGETHER

WELCOME

Pastor Katie Palmer

MUSTARD SEED REPORT

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Hannah Pettit

PRELUDE

Em Krall

*CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Jeremiah 18:1-6)

Carol Litherland

One: God said to Jeremiah, “Go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.”

All: **At the potter’s house, Jeremiah watched the potter working at his wheel. The pot he was making of clay lay spoiled in the potter’s hand.**

One: So he reworked it into a different pot, as seemed good to him.

All: **God said to Jeremiah, “Can I not do with you just as this potter has done? Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so you are in my hand.**

*OPENING HYMNS

Change My Heart, O God (GTG #695)

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus (GTG #82)

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE AND MERCY (GTG #137)

He came down that we may have hope; he came down that we may have hope;

He came down that we may have hope; hallelujah forever more.

SILENT PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 64:1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,

so that the mountains would quake at your presence—

as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—

to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,

you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived,

no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.

You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.

We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity for ever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

SERMON *Asserting Hope* Pastor Katie Palmer

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

THE RITUAL OF THE ADVENT WREATH: HOPE

(from Rev-o-lution Resources by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, <http://rev-o-lution.org>, (c) 2020. Used by permission.)

A WORD ON HOPE

LIGHTING THE FIRST CANDLE

COME, COME EMMANUEL (GTG #91)

UNISON PRAYER:

God of Hope, our world has grown cold with despair, with hopelessness, with weariness and dread.

Alight in us the fire of Your Spirit, a reminder that death never has the final word, so we might pursue justice and live into Your ways and become living hope in a world that desperately needs it. Amen.

WITH THANKS FOR GENEROUS GIVING

***DOXOLOGY**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE SEAL GOD'S WORD

THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

INSTITUTION OF THE ELEMENTS AND COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Please join in singing "Come to the Table of Grace (GTG #507) during Communion

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

WE GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

***CLOSING HYMN** *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You (GTG #104)*

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

*Please stand in body or spirit, as you are able

Assisting in Worship This Week

Pastor – Rev. Katie Palmer	Worship Leader – Carol Litherland
Accompanist – Em Krall	Choir Director – Jordan Jones
Office Manager – Crystal Western Ford	Custodian - Marcus Garcia
	Sanctuary Hosts – Kevin Johnson, Charlotte Wootton
	Tech Crew – Judy Long, Jeff Salman, Juli Salman



OPPORTUNITIES

Join us for fellowship in Perea Hall after worship today.

December fellowship time reminder:

12/10 Karyl Lyne

12/17 Kent Reid and Debra Allen-Reid

Signup sheet is in Perea Hall so, if you can, please sign up for a Sunday. Nothing elaborate is expected.

The **annual budget meeting** has been moved to **next Sunday, December 10**, following worship. This meeting gives not only church officers but the entire congregation the opportunity to hear about the proposed budget for 2024 and the church's financial status and to ask questions. Hope to see you there, following first Sunday fellowship with cake for December birthdays!

You are invited to **join us on Sunday, December 10, at 5:00 p.m. for a Blue Christmas service**. This service recognizes that the holiday season can be especially difficult for people who have experienced loss, who are dealing with personal struggles, or who feel the pain of the world. The service will offer a space to sing simple songs of prayer, to acknowledge our hurts, and to be in silence together.

If you would like to receive an **Angel Tree child's name for Christmas**, contact Pat Halverson at 505-239-4263.

Advent/Christmas Season Study: Discussion of the book *Holy Disruption: Discovering Advent in the Gospel of Mark* by Tracy S. Daub, led by Katie and D.R. Palmer. The class will meet on Sundays, December 3, 10, 17 and January 7 and 14 from 8:45 – 9:30 in the Session Room. Daub's book is available for \$13.99 plus shipping on Amazon, from \$10.24 on Alibris, and also from other booksellers. For more information about the book, see the December newsletter. Reading assignment for December 10 is Chapter 2, "Peace on Earth, Goodwill to All: Faux Peace and Righteous Confrontation."

Please join us for **Interfaith Prayers for Peace on Sunday evenings at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom**. Begun by a group of interfaith leaders, this group currently represents members of FUPC. First United Methodist, St. Paul's Peace, the Sufi community, the Quaker community, the Buddhist community, and the Jewish community. Leadership of the service rotates among participants. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81596197728?pwd=d1RDUUQxQllkRDlzMvZStaazgzZz09>

Prayers for the Church Family – Each week we choose some specific names to remind us to pray for each other and for those in our Presbytery. Please pray for Duffy Peterson, Caroline Rackley and Kent and Debra Reid as well as First Presbyterian Church, Santa Fe, NM (1867).

December Elder of the Month — Carol Litherland - 505-429-0923

December Deacon of the Month – Juli Salman – 505-429-0290

Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. – Noon

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Rev. Katie Palmer – Office: 425-7763 Cell: 303-775-7356 pastorkatiepalmer@gmail.com