

**FRIENDSHIP UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**11:00 a.m. Service for December 1, 2019**



FIRST SUNDAY  
OF  
*Advent*

Friendship United Methodist Church  
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**FRIENDSHIP UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT**  
**December 1, 2019, 11:00 a.m. Service**

**GATHERING**

We welcome you and rejoice that you have chosen to worship with us. We are a congregation of caring and committed Christians who hope that this worship experience will help strengthen your faith and perhaps enable you to grow in your love of God. We do ask that you complete the information sheet found in the “RED” Registration Pads in each pew. Where there is an asterisk in the service, we invite you to stand if you are able. Where you see **bold print**, we encourage you to join in the reading with others. If you seek more information concerning Friendship Church, please mark the appropriate space on the information sheet or contact the Church Office.

The flowers on the altar today are given by Jim & Sharon Fowler in memory of Tom & Thelma Fowler’s anniversary & Thelma’s birthday

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

PRELUDE “Hark, the Glad Sound” (Birchwood)

\*OPENING HYMN:

UMH 196 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

READING of Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 (Old Testament p. 600)

\*BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

L: Christ came to bring us salvation and has promised to come again. Let us pray that we may always be ready to welcome him.

**P: Come, Lord Jesus.**

L: That the keeping of Advent may open our hearts to God’s Love,

**P: Come, Lord Jesus.**

L: That the light of Christ may penetrate the darkness of sin,

**P: Come, Lord Jesus.**

L: That this wreath may constantly remind us to prepare for the coming of Christ.

**P: Come, Lord Jesus.**

L: That the Christmas season may fill us with peace and joy as we strive to follow the example of Jesus,

**P: Come, Lord Jesus.**

**ALL: Loving God, Your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin. Pour forth Your Blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May their light reflect the splendor of Christ, who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.**

\*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN:

UMH #213 “Lift Up your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

\*LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE:

Church Family

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 60:2-3

L: We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Hope.

**P: May the Light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation.**

MOMENT FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

-Ruth Bailey

MUSIC BY THE SANCTUARY CHOIR

“Prepare the Way” (Barrett)

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING TO GOD

Offertory “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” (arr. Smith)

\*Doxology: “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;*

*praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

\*Prayer of Dedication & Lord’s Prayer

*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:

UMH #216 “Lo, How a Roe E’er Blooming”

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 24:36-44 (New Test. p. 26)

MESSAGE: “Suddenly .....

- Rev. Thomas E. Young, Jr.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION: UMH page 13

\*CLOSING SONG:

UMH #211 verses 1,2,4,7 “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE “From Heaven Above” (Held)