ORDER OF WORSHIP Gathering of God's People

Welcome

*Passing of the Peace

Prelude

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Jill Daugherty Amanda Reynolds

Today, we come face to face with the scandal of Advent: Mary, the unmarried mother; God Incarnate growing in Mary's womb as a vulnerable baby; Joseph contemplating leaving Mary because of her pregnancy; God's love at work in ways that society and propriety could not understand; God calling Mary and Joseph to faithfulness despite the fear of disgrace.

With Mary and Joseph, we choose to wait, watch, and listen for the way of Love instead of responding in fear to the world's judgment.

We light this candle of love as a sign of our faithfulness as we seek, find, and follow Emmanuel, God with us.

Invocation

*Hymn of Praise
O Come, All Ye Faithful

UMH 234

*Affirmation of Faith

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others by the spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the church:

to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end. Amen. **Prayer of Yearning**

We lay our burdens before you, O Lord, with our lives open and ready to receive your light and love..

Lead us toward your Son, Jesus, Emmanuel, as we continue to wander with you in faith.

Thank you for the many signs of your love, sent in your infinite wisdom.

May we have the faith of Mary and Joseph, and may we be your attendants, anxious for the coming of your light Once again. Amen.

*Words of Assurance

The king of love comes for all!
With tears wiped away and replaced with joy,
delight in preparing for the imminent arrival
of the Son of God.

We are all called by God, forgiven, cleansed, and made free.

Children's Sermon

Proclamation of the Word

Scripture Reading Isaiah 7:10-16

Anthem Joyful Wonderful News Mathews
Chancel Choir

Gospel Lesson Matthew 1:18-25
This is the Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon Scandalous Courage Rev. Waldrup

Response to God's Word

Choral Call to Prayer

Chancel Choir

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel. God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel. **Pastoral Prayer**

The Lord's Prayer

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology

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.

*Hymn of Invitation and Dedication O Little Town of Bethlehem

UMH 230

*Benediction

Go in faith and anticipation of the greatest gift of all. Christ, the Light of the World, will restore us to love, peace, and hope.

Emmanuel, God with us, will be with us again.

With faithful obedience encouraging us, let us happily await the days ahead.

Go in joy to spread signs of God's good news.

*Congregational Choral Response

Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Postlude	

Liturgist: Anita Stafford

The beautiful altar arrangement was given in memory of Byrd, Donice, & Bill Morrison by

Denise Morrison and Elaine & Kendall Evans

Prayers for...

the people of Ukraine, Israel, and Gaza. our men and women serving in harm's way. neighbors served by our ministries

our church family... Ed & Bonnie House, Judson Hout, Rhonda Shirey, Dot Everett, Wanda Shambley, Verna Riley, Sara Yarbrough, Fred Dietrich, Brenda Grimes, Ron Randolph, Joe Hirsch, Neelie Dobbins, Charles Cathey

extended family...James Louviere, Collins Whitley, Billy Atkins, Daniel Godwin, Bill Paysen, Bobby Clayborn, Joshua Sheehan, Charlie Atkins, Greg Nettles, Loel Tutt, Jay Williams, Elizabeth Rowlett, Kaye Haun, MeLissa Horseman, Diana & TJ Hill, Wesley Graves

homebound or assisted living ...Joyce Mann, Danny Barnes, Sarah Shirey, Ruth Dempsey, Billy Joe Black, Vickie Moore, Lou Slaughter, Pat Beasley, Dot Bearden, Ann Ellen

military...Buck Lucas

South District Prayer Partner...Sulpher Springs UMC

Happy Birthday to Billy Joe Black who will turn 96

on Saturday, December 27th!

Address: Billy Joe Black

% Julie Black Plyler

PO Box 4

Greenwood, AR 71943

Best wishes to Paul and Anna Mosley who were married December 13th.

Christmas Eve Communion & Candlelight Services will be held on December 24th at 10:30am and 5:30am

This Week at Church

Sunday, December 21,2025

9:00am Worship Broadcast on FM 97.1

9:30am Sunday School 10:30am Worship

5:30pm Blue Christmas Service

Monday, December 22, 2025

9:00am Food Pantry 11:00am Strong Women **Tuesday, December 23, 2025** 9:00am Food Pantry

Wednesday, December 24, 2025

10:30am Christmas Communion Service 5:30pm Christmas Communion Service

Thursday, December 25, 2024

Merry Christmas!

Friday, December 26, 2024

All Ministries closed for Boxing Day

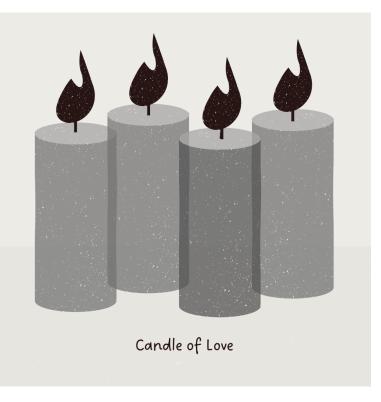
Camden First United Methodist Church Staff

The full worship service is broadcast on FM 97.1 on Sunday mornings at 9:00am. The Worship Service is available on our YouTube channel - First United Methodist Church Camden, AR

121 Harrison Street Camden, AR 71701 870-836-6871

Email - fumccamden@sbcglobal.net Website - www.camdenfumc.com Facebook: First United Methodist Church Camden AR Instagram: fumccamden

First United Methodist Church Camden, Arkansas



Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 21, 2025

Following Jesus Loving People Sharing Grace