



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1610 Prince Street, Conway, Arkansas, 501-329-3801, www.conwayfumc.org

The Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025, 11:00 a.m.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

THE WELCOME

Prelude

La paix tant désirée

André Raison (d. 1719)

THE SERVICE OF THE LIGHT

Lighting the Second Advent Candle

(Please see the reverse of the insert for the Service of the Light.)

* Hymn 720

Wake, awake for night is flying

Wachet auf

The Confession and Pardon, *said by all*

O Holy God of Promise, we so often place our trust in the things we can see, and touch, and easily believe. But you did not ask us to believe what is easy; you have asked us to believe what is true! Forgive us, Holy One, when we doubt the ways you work. Forgive us when we find it hard to believe an ancient story. Forgive us when we question how you chose to enter the world, born as one of us. Forgive our lack of faith and belief in ways which seem so impossible to believe. Help us to look in faith, open our belief, and set aside our doubts that you sent your Son, born of a virgin—the one who has come to set us all free. We offer these prayers in the name of your Son, Emmanuel, God with us. Amen.

All pray in silence.

*The * indicates all stand.*

Officiant

Hear the good news: Our God does not wait for perfect faith before offering perfect grace. In Christ, you are forgiven. In Christ, your doubts are met with grace. In Christ, your faith is being made whole.

All **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

The Prayer for Illumination, *said by all, seated*

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

The Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 2:1–5

Reader The word of God for the people of God.

People **Thanks be to God.**

*** Hymn 214** Savior of the nations, come

Nun komm

*** The Gospel Lesson**

Matthew 3:1–12

Pastor The Gospel of Jesus Christ.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon *Turning*

The Celebration of New Membership

Julie Hansen

Concerns and Prayers, *all seated*

The Offering

Anthem A tender shoot Otto Goldschmidt (1829–1907)

A tender shoot hath started up from a root of grace, as ancient seers impart from Jesse's holy race. It blooms without a blight, blooms in the cold bleak winter turning our darkness into light. This shoot, Isaiah taught us, from Jesse's root should spring, the Virgin Mary brought us the branch of which we sing. Our God of endless might gave her this child to save us thus turning darkness into light.

— Isaiah 4

You may give in these ways:

*Text "Give" to 501-500-5335
or place cash or a check in the offering plate
or scan the QR code.*



As the offering is presented, the following hymn is sung by all:

*** Hymn 95**

Old 100th

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

*** THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION**

*The Liturgy of the Table begins on page 24 of the hymnal.
Setting E, William Mathias (1934–1992)*

The Lord's Prayer, text at Hymn 270

Giving the Bread and the Cup

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion, as we offer an open table. You do not have to be a member to receive. Communion will be served via intinction where you will be given a piece of bread and invited to dip it into the cup. After consuming, you may kneel at the altar or return to your seat to pray. Gluten-free and packaged Communion are available upon request.

The Lamb of God

John Merbecke (1510–1585)

Music at the Communion

*The * indicates all stand.*

Hymn 623 Here, O my Lord
Hymn 624 Bread of the world

Penitential
Eucharistic Hymn

The Prayer after Communion

THE SENDING FORTH

*** Hymn 725** Arise, shine out, your light is come *Dunedin*

The Dismissal with Blessing

Officiant The peace of Christ be with you.
People **And also with you.**

The Response Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming *Es ist ein Ros'*

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind; with Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind. To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior, when half spent was the night.

Postlude Dialogue sur les grands jeux André Raison

*To protect the beauty and historic nature of this worship space,
the trustees request no food or drinks in the sanctuary. Thank you.*

720 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

1. Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing; the watch-men on the
 2. Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her heart with
 3. Now let all the heavens a - dore thee, and saints and an - gels

heights are cry - ing: A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last!
 joy is spring - ing; she wakes, she ris - es from her gloom;
 sing be - fore thee, with harp and cym-bal's clear-est tone;

Mid-night hears the wel-come voic - es and at the thrill-ing
 for her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, the strong in grace, in
 of one pearl each shin-ing por - tal, where we are with the

cry re - joic - es; come forth, ye vir-gins, night is past;
 truth vic - to - rious. Her Star is risen; her Light is come.
 choir im - mor - tal of an - gels round thy daz-zling throne;

WORDS: Philipp Nicolai, 1599; trans. by Catherine Winkworth, 1858
 (Rom. 13:11-12; Mt. 25:1-13)
 MUSIC: Philipp Nicolai, 1599; harm. by J. S. Bach, 1731

WACHET AUF
 Irr.



the Bride-groom comes, a - wake; your lamps with glad-ness take:
 Ah come, thou bless-ed One, God's own be - lov - ed Son:
 nor eye hath seen, nor ear hath yet at - tained to hear

Al - le - lu - ia! And for his mar - riage
 Al - le - lu - ia! We fol - low till the
 what there is ours; but we re - joice and

feast pre - pare, for ye must go and meet him there:
 halls we see where thou hast bid us sup with thee.
 sing to thee our hymn of joy e - ter - nal - ly.

Christ the King

721

Almighty and everlasting God,
 it is your will to restore all things to Christ,
 whom you have anointed priest for ever and ruler of creation.
 Grant that all the people of the earth,
 now divided by the power of sin,
 may be united under the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ,
 who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

After The Book of Common Prayer

RETURN AND REIGN OF THE LORD, *see further:*

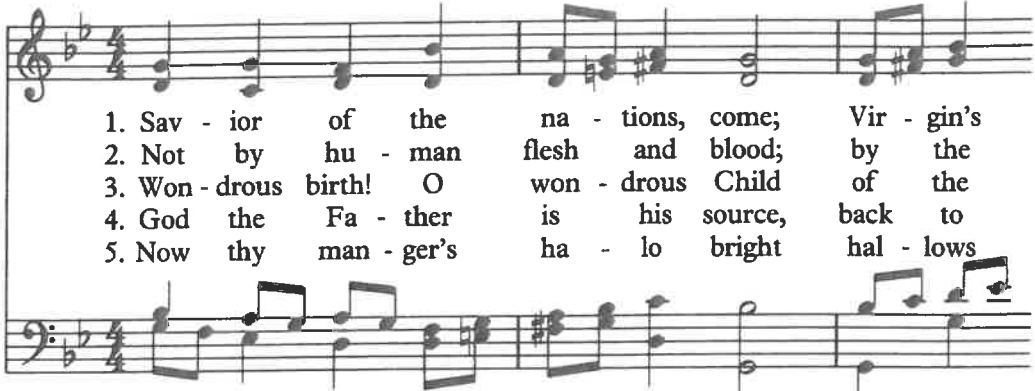
77 How Great Thou Art

569 We've a Story to Tell to the Nations

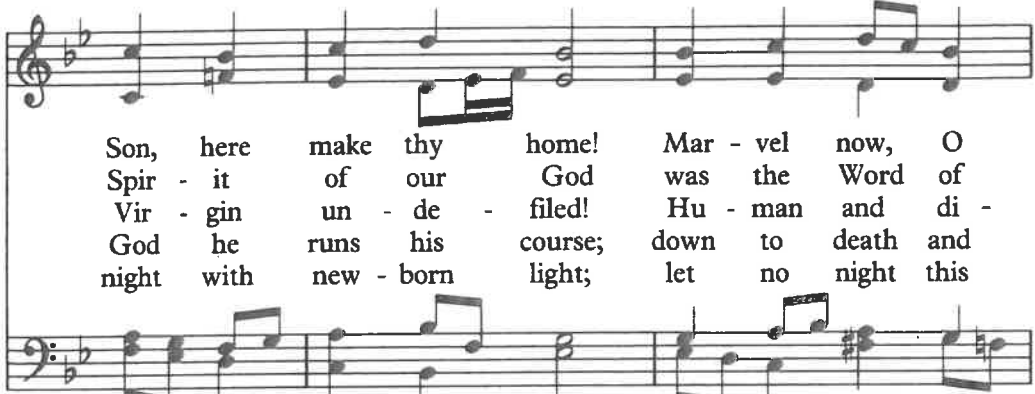
247 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright

Savior of the Nations, Come

214



1. Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; Vir - gin's
 2. Not by hu - man flesh and blood; by the
 3. Won - drous birth! O won - drous Child of the
 4. God the Fa - ther is his source, back to
 5. Now thy man - ger's ha - lo bright hal - lows



Son, here make thy home! Mar - vel now, O
 Spir - it of our God was the Word of
 Vir - gin un - de - filed! Hu - man and di -
 God he runs his course; down to death and
 night with new - born light; let no night this



heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.
 God made flesh, wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
 vine in one, ea - ger now his race to run!
 hell de - scends, God's high throne he re - as - cends.
 light sub - due, let our faith shine ev - er new.

WORDS: Sts. 1, 2 Martin Luther, 1523, trans. by
 William Reynolds, 1851; st. 3-5 Martin L. Seltz, 1969

MUSIC: *Enchiridion Oder Handbüchlein*, 1524; harm. J. S. Bach; alt.

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND
 77.77



go with me? I am bound for the prom-ised land.

Arise, Shine Out, Your Light Has Come 725

Unison



1. A - rise, shine out, your light has come, un - fold - ing
2. A - bove earth's val - leys, thick with night, high on your
3. From walls sur - pass - ing time and space un - num - bered
4. The sounds of vi - o - lence shall cease as dwell - ings
5. The danc - ing air shall glow with light, and sun and



cit - y of our dreams. On dis - tant hills a glo - ry
walls the dawn ap - pears, and his - to - ry shall dry its
gates, like o - pen hands, shall gath - er gifts from all the
of sal - va - tion rise to spar - kle in e - ter - nal
moon give up their place, when love shines out of ev - ery



gleams: the new cre - a - tion has be - gun.
tears, as na - tions march to - ward your light.
lands and wel - come all the hu - man race.
skies from av - e - nues of praise and peace.
face, our good, our glo - ry, and de - light.

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1986 (Is. 60:1-3)
MUSIC: Vernon Griffiths, 1971

DUNEDIN
LM

Words © 1989 Hope Publishing Co.; music © 1971 Faber Music Limited

THE SERVICE OF THE LIGHT

Lighting the Second Advent Candle

Reader

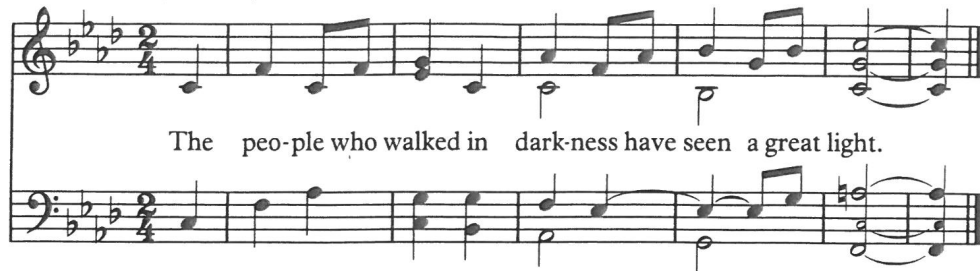
Advent reminds us that we are people who share a story, the story of Jesus, who enacts peace by judging in favor of the poor and deciding with equity for the meek of the earth. We long for the day when “the wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them” (*Isaiah 11:6*).

All **Today, we choose to live the story of peace, believing that true peace comes when we seek the flourishing of all God’s creation.**

Reader

We light this candle of peace as a sign of our commitment to bring Light to the places the world seeks to hide until that day when all creation lives together in harmony and abundance.

Antiphon, *sung first by the choir, then by all*



Serving at 8:30

Officiant & Preacher

Rev. Nathan Kilbourne; Nathan
Fryar, pastoral intern
Rev. Miranda Hornsby

The Lay Ministers

Janie & Bill Craddock, Advent wreath
reader; J.D. Gingerich, reader; Payton
Evans & Maddie Phillips, acolytes;
the First Service Singers;
Jason Saugey, organ

Serving at 11:00

Officiant & Preacher

Rev. Miranda Hornsby;
Rev. Nathan Kilbourne
Nathan Fryar, pastoral intern

The Lay Ministers

Jared Bradley, Sheridan Austin, Zach
Fryar, & Adelaide Nichols, Advent
wreath readers;
Emily Walter, reader;
Aryn DeFreitas & Cooper Lind,
acolytes;
the Chancel Choir;
Jason Saugey, organ