

# The Order of Worship

December 28, 2008 - The First Sunday after Christmas

Minister: Rev. James Adams

Organist/Pianist: Debbie Mink

Lay Leader: Clark Allison

Nursery: Phyllis Shepherd

Music/Worship Director: Rebecca Haywood

Secretary: Vickie Ellis

**Bold Print** indicates a congregational response \* Indicates to stand, if able

## Gathering Before God

### Prelude & Lighting of the Candles

*(As you prepare for worship, please take this time to register your attendance with us today. If you are visiting today, please know that you are welcome and we would like to get to know you better. If you have any questions about our church, please speak to Rev. Adams after the service)*

#### \* Welcome

Praise be to God who has given God's light to us.

**Honor and praise to God for God's most precious gift.**

The darkness that enveloped the people,

**Has been pierced by the Light.**

Let us rejoice in God's blessed goodness!

**Let us continually praise God with great joy and thanksgiving. AMEN.**

\* Opening Hymn *O Come, All Ye Faithful* No. 234

\* Opening Prayer Rev. Adams

\* A Time of Personal Greetings

## Hearing God's Word

### Children's Message

*(Children will be dismissed for Children's Church at this time)*

Chorus of Preparation *Thy Word is a Lamp Unto My Feet* (Chorus twice)

1st Scripture Lesson: Hebrews 2:13-23

Hymn *The First Noel* No. 245 (vs. 1,3,4,5)

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 2:13-23

*(after the Scripture is read, the following response)*

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### Special Music

Today's Message "He Did Not Come to Angels" Rev. Adams

## Responding to God

\* An Affirmation of Faith No. 881

### Prayer of Confession

**We confess, O God, that we so much time was spent in gathering, wrapping, and delivering gifts; in preparing for family gatherings and times with friends; in decorating our homes. But somehow, right after Christmas Day, we feel a letdown. We want to feel the "peace on earth" feeling, all the time.**

**Wake us up, Lord! Help us see the beauty and possibilities of peace around us. Fill us up, Lord! Fill us to overflowing with joy. Let our words, our thoughts, and our actions speak of your love for us. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.**

### Silent Meditation - Pastoral Prayer – Lord's Prayer

*At the beginning of the prayer time, as the accompanist plays, you are invited to come to the altar and pray—alone or with Rev. Adams. If you would like for Rev. Adams to pray with you, simply turn your palms up.*

### Offertory

Debbie Mink

\* Doxology *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 94

## Going Forth to Serve God in the World

\* Benediction and Sending Forth

\* Postlude

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

**Today:**

10:55 Morning Worship

**Wednesday, December 31**

No Activities

**Thursday, January 1**

*New Year's Day* office closed

**Friday, January 2**

8:30 office reopen

**Nursery Volunteer for Today, Dec.28** – Kristin Garrett

**Nursery Volunteer for Sunday, Jan. 4** – Pam Herrick

**Children's Church for Today, Dec. 28** – No Children's Church- Christmas Holiday

**Children's Church for Sunday, Jan. 4** – Robin Smith

**Ushers for December** – Frank Fitzpatrick, Tom Hereford, Rob Herrick, Tom Smith

**Ushers for January** – Joe Campbell, Eddy Clark, Cal Herrick, Paul Honeycutt

**Greeters for Today, Dec. 28** – Paul Honeycutt & Chris Honeycutt

**Greeters for Sunday, Jan. 4** –

**Record of our Faithfulness: Sunday, Dec. 21 Morning Worship** –138, Sunday

School-42.General Fund-\$3,169.00, needed weekly-\$4,798.00, General Fund Receipts as of

12/22/08-\$184,759.15; Budget as of 12/31/08- \$239,478.00. Christmas Offering - \$753.00

FLC Loan repayment-\$385.00, needed weekly-\$385.00, 2007 Apportionments- \$10.00,

amount to date- \$7769.00

**Please check** your older pictures of the church looking for any photograph that might show the lights that hung in the sanctuary prior to 1971. If you should have such a photograph, please forward a copy of it to, or speak with Floyd Davis. The photograph is needed to document an historical essay he is writing.

**New Address for Clark & Phyllis Allison:** 230 Hudson Valley Dr., So. Charleston, WV 25309.

**Thank you** First UMC church family for the thoughtful Christmas gift. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! – Vickie Ellis & Joyce Cole.

**Dear Church Family,** Thank you for the generous Christmas gift. Your outpouring of love and support is a blessing to me each day of the year. It is a joy to serve our Savior through our congregation. Rebecca Haywood