
WELCOME TO

First United
Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA

A blue rectangular background featuring silhouettes of people playing trumpets and a central starburst pattern. The text "NAMES FOR THE MESSIAH" is written in large, bold, yellow, block letters across the center.

NAMES FOR THE MESSIAH

“Mighty God”

FOUNDATION SERVICE

DEC. 10, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Opening Carol

"Angels from the Realms of Glory" - No. 220

Lighting of the Second Candle of Advent

Advent Response

"Fairest Lord Jesus" - No. 189, v. 2

Handbell Anthem

"O Come O Come Emmanuel"

Scripture

Mark 1:1-8

Sermon

"Mighty God"

Choir Anthem

"People, Look East"

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Announcements and Offering

Closing Hymn

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" - No. 240

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Preaching.....Pastor Dennis Keller

Liturgist..... Sarah Pugh

Accompanist..... Brandon Rhody

Special Music.....Sounds of Worship, Handbells

Sound and Media..... Fred Espenshade, Jason Kichline, Holly Kurten, Ken Rapp

WELCOME TO

First United
Methodist Church

MECHANICSBURG, PA

A blue rectangular background featuring silhouettes of people in various poses, some holding instruments. A central starburst pattern is visible behind the text.

NAMES FOR THE MESSIAH

“Mighty God”

THE GATHERING SERVICE

DEC. 10, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome

Praise and Worship

"Hope Has a Name"

"Great Things"

Lighting of the Second Candle of Advent

Wee & Kids Worship Dismissal

"Here I Am to Worship"

Scripture

Mark 1:1-8

Sermon

"Mighty God"

Pastoral Prayer

Announcements and Offering

"O Come All Ye Faithful (His Name Shall Be)"

Benediction

Postlude

LEADING IN WORSHIP

Pastor.....Pastor Dennis Keller

Worship Leader.....Sarah Pugh

Worship Team.....John Gross, Jason Kichline, Allison Ometz, Sarah Pugh, Lauren Sanker, Cynthia Smith

Sound and Media.....Fred Espenshade, Jason Kichline, Holly Kurten, Ken Rapp

COMING UP AT FIRST CHURCH

WEEK OF DEC. 10

Pickleball

Tuesday, 5 p.m.

Cookie Walk

Saturday, 9-11 a.m.

Movie Night

Saturday, 4 p.m.

WEEK OF DEC. 17

Christmas Caroling

Sunday, 4 p.m.

Mom Connection

Monday, 6 p.m.

Isaiah 61

Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.

WEEKLY BIBLE READINGS

WEEK OF DEC. 10

Sunday

Worship

Monday

Isaiah 61:1-11

Tuesday

Psalm 126

Wednesday

I Thessalonians 5:16-24

Thursday

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Friday

Psalm 103

Saturday

Rest and Reflect

*Scan here or
visit our website at
fumchurch.com for
more details on all
of our upcoming
events!*



ALTAR FLOWERS

This week's flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Chilton and John Chilton by Jim and Sue Chilton.

TEACHING NOTES

“Mighty God”

Mark 1:1-8

*For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders,
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, **Mighty God**,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

Isaiah 9:6

God’s Power Overshadowed Mary

³⁴ *Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?”* ³⁵ *The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and **the power of the Most High will overshadow you**; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.”*

Luke 1:34-35

Jesus Embodied God’s Power

⁷ *He proclaimed, “The **one who is more powerful than I** is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals.”* ⁸ *I have baptized you with [f] water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”*

Mark 1:7-8

*They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! **He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.**”*

Mark 1:27

*And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, “Who then is this, that **even the wind and the sea obey him.**”*

Mark 1:41

The Cross Revealed God’s Power

*For the message about **the cross** is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is **the power of God.***

1 Corinthians 1:18

In Christ, God’s Power Is at Work Within Us

²⁰ Now to him who by **the power at work within us is able** to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine,²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 3:20-21

Questions for Reflection:

1. Is there a story associated with your name? What does it mean for you?
2. What does knowing Jesus was born of a virgin mean to you?
3. What does God reveal about His power through of Jesus’ life and his death on the cross?
4. When have you experienced the power of God in Christ?
5. Where do you most need God’s power in your life today?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFELONG LEARNER

Advent Study

"Names for the Messiah" by Walter Brueggemann is both the basis of our Advent sermon series, as well as a book study everyone is invited to enjoy during this special season! Isaiah 9:6 uses four royal titles for Jesus – Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace. This study reflects on how Jesus fulfilled each. Guided prayers and questions are provided in the book, which is intended for either individual or group study. Order your own book today on Amazon (amazon.com/Names-Messiah) and grab a few friends for fellowship and discussion during this most wonderful time of the year. Contact Tina Eaton (adultministry@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611, ext. 104) with questions.

Health and Wellness Presentation | Jan. 7, 9:45-10:45 a.m.

Join us in the multi-purpose room to hear from Bob Buhrig with Buhrig's Funerals and Creations. Bob will speak on various points of interest related to funeral planning, including some of the less traditional and newer burial options. This is the first of a two-part series on topics related to death and dying.

PRAYING FOLLOWER

Women's Retreat | Early Bird Registration Due Dec. 31

Sign up now for the 2024 Women's Retreat at Mount Asbury Retreat Center! Stay for the whole weekend (Jan. 26-28) or just Saturday. Local author Tabitha Deller will speak on "From Striving to Abiding: Made Whole in Christ." Register on the Church Center app or at fumchurch.com. You can also find paper registration forms at the display window (around the corner from the Church Library). If you have questions or would like a form emailed to you, contact Patti Herring (familyzeke@verizon.net). All registrations are due by Jan. 14.

Share Your Joys and Prayer Concerns With Us!

Green prayer cards are located in the pews and at the prayer station under the balcony. Simply fill one out during worship and place in the offering basket or Janice Bowen's mailbox. You can also contact Janice directly (wecare@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611, ext. 112).

PASSIONATE WORSHIPPER

Harp and Handbells Concert | TOMORROW, Dec. 11, 7 p.m.

Enjoy the spirit of the season with an evening of holiday music performed by harpist Louis Lynch and the First United Methodist Church Handbell Choir. This free concert will take place at the Fredrickson Library in Camp Hill.

Christmas Eve Worship | Sunday, Dec. 24

Join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior! On Sunday morning, we'll hold a combined worship service at 10 a.m. In the evening, we'll offer a 5 p.m. family service, as well as a traditional service at 10 p.m. Come adore the newborn King with us!



DEDICATED MISSIONARY

Reverse Advent Calendar

Each year, many of us look forward to opening an Advent Calendar to discover a special treat or prize to brighten the season. Once again this year, we are turning things around! Instead of getting a special treat, join us in giving to others with our Reverse Advent Calendar! Pick up a calendar and a bag at the display in the main entrance hallway, then collect the food items throughout the month. When your list is complete, return your bag and items under the balcony in the sanctuary. This food will stock our Little Free Pantry, which provides a no-barrier access point to food for those in need. Contact Lori Hoffnagle or Sandy Walton with questions. Thank you for supporting the Little Free Pantry and for helping us celebrate this wonderful season of giving!



RELATIONSHIP BUILDER

Family Movie Night | Saturday, Dec. 16, 4-6 p.m.

Join us for a free Family Movie Night! This event is open to everyone, and this year's Christmas movie will be *The Star* (2017). How can some humble animals become the heroes in the greatest story ever told? Bring some pillows and blankets, and hopefully a friend or two, to find out! Registration is not required, but highly recommended. Sign up now at fumchurch.com or on Church Center!



GENEROUS GIVER

Giving to First Church

We're so grateful for all the ways you support First Church – through your prayers, time, talents and resources. Everything you give to First Church helps us build disciples and love our neighbors. You can place tithes or offerings in the baskets as you exit the sanctuary, send them into the church office, or give online at fumchurch.com or in the Church Center app.

Scrip Fundraiser

Support First Church by purchasing your Christmas gift cards through our Scrip program! Pick up a form and place it in the dropbox in the gathering area near the couches and water fountain. Orders placed on Sunday are filled the following week. Contact Kathie Bittenbender with any questions.

KIDS

Stay Connected!

Want to know more about First Church Kids? Check out our landing page or contact Director of Children and Family Ministries Katie Knorr (kidscount@fumchurch.com).

Wee Worship and Kids Worship

Every Sunday these special worship programs are held (for kids through fifth grade) at the 11 a.m. service.

Christmas Movie Night | Dec. 16

YOUTH

Keep in Touch!

Help us connect with you so that you don't miss any of the fun!

- Join our Remind text list (text @4Gyo to 81010).
- Follow our Instagram (@fourgyouthministry).
- Like us on Facebook (4G — First United Methodist Youth Group).
- Email Lisa to receive emails about all things First Church Youth.

Coming Up

Zeteo | Feb. 3 - 5

Thanks for joining us in worship!

8:30 a.m.	FOUNDATION SERVICE (Traditional)
9:45 a.m.	SUNDAY SCHOOL (View classes at fumchurch.com)
11 a.m.	THE GATHERING SERVICE (Modern)
4 p.m.	REJOICING SPIRITS (Fourth Sunday of each month)

Opening Doors with Christ, One Another and Our Neighbors

135 W. Simpson St., Mechanicsburg | 717-766-4611 | fumchurch.com | [@fumchurch](https://www.instagram.com/fumchurch)

POINSETTIA ORDERS

Honor your loved ones and beautify our sanctuary this Christmas! To reserve your poinsettia, fill out this form and return it to the church office. You can also call or email the office (office@fumchurch.com or 717-766-4611). **All orders must be received by Sunday, Dec. 10.**

Poinsettias cost **\$11 each**. Checks can be made out to First United Methodist Church (with "Poinsettias" on the memo line).

Quantity: _____ Total: \$ _____

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

Placed by: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Please **pick up your poinsettias at Christmas Eve worship services** on Sunday, Dec. 24, or contact the church office to make alternate arrangements. Plants not claimed by Jan. 1 will be disposed of.



COOKIE WALK

Saturday, Dec. 16 | 9-11 a.m.

Calling all bakers! We need your help to make our annual Cookie Walk a success! Last year, this sweet event helped raise over \$2,000 for our youth mission trip, and we're excited to begin fundraising for our 2024 trip to Dayton, Ohio.

We need bakers to provide 4-5 batches (8-10 dozen) of any style of homemade cookies. Sign up on Church Center or by filling out a form at the display in the lobby.

Please have your cookies to the church by 7 a.m. on Dec. 16 (cookies brought in before this can be placed in the kitchen and labeled "Cookie Walk").

Contact Lynn Rapp (minion.youth17@gmail.com) with any questions. Thank you for supporting our youth as they serve together!