

MORNING WORSHIP

December 18, 2016

Fourth Sunday of Advent

*As we worship today, may we be mindful that worship is an expression of our praise to God.
God is in our midst and it is an honor to worship God.*

Prelude Leo Tulagan

Bringing Christ's Light Into the Church Acolytes

Announcements and Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Wreath "God Is Love" from 1 John 4:9-21 The Veal Family

Voice 1: "9 God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us." [Light the first candle.]

Voice 2: "13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. 15 God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. [Light the second candle.]

Voice 3: "16 So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them." [Light the third candle.]

Voice 4: "17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. 19 We love because he first loved us." [Light the fourth candle.]

*Response to the Light # 408 "The Gift of Love" Congregation

*Passing the Peace: "May the peace of Christ be with you." Response: "And also with you."

*Opening Hymn # 221, vs. 1,3,4 "In the Bleak Midwinter" Congregation

An Affirmation of Faith for Advent Kathy Maxwell

We believe in God, creator of the earth who was and is and is to come. Infinite in wisdom, power, and love; author of Salvation, whose love has no beginning and no end.

We believe in Jesus Christ, son of God and son of man. The gift of the father's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death. His blood of the new covenant was poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

We believe in the Holy Spirit as the divine presence in our lives, whereby we are kept in perpetual remembrance of the truth of Christ, and find strength and help in time of need. This flame within allows us to be the light of the world, filled with God's light and love; a witness of the peace of Christ within us.

We believe that this faith should manifest itself in the service of love as set forth in the example of our blessed Lord, to the end that the kingdom of God may come upon the earth.

*Gloria Patri # 70 Congregation
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. Amen.

Giving of Tithes, Offerings and Gifts

Offertory Prayer Kathy Maxwell

Offertory Choir Christmas Special

*Doxology # 94 Congregation
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power
uplifts. Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Ale-le-lu-ia!**

Prayers of the People

Celebration & Concerns Response: Lord, in your mercy hear our prayers.

Pastoral Prayer/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 # 196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus/Love Divine" Congregation

Children's Time

Message "Wrapping It Up: Love" Rev. Liz Talbert

*Hymn of Invitation "Star Child" Congregation

Taking Christ's Light into the World Acolytes

*Benediction

WELCOME TO FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

For your convenience, a fully staffed nursery for infants is available during the 10:30 am worship service. An usher or greeter will direct you to our nursery wing.

You are invited to join our church family. If you would like to be baptized and/or united with this congregation, please speak to the pastor after worship or give her a call at the office, (940) 569-3348.

Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 8:30 to 4:30, except during lunch 12:30 to 1:30.

We will be closed Monday, Dec. 26 and Monday, Jan.2

Merry Christmas from your FUMC Staff

***Rev. Liz Talbert, Pastor
Margit Bale, Choir Director
Leo Tulagan, Organist/Pianist
John Liffick, Building Steward
Shelly Liffick, Secretary***

***Patricia Veal, Youth Director
Sarah Ewing,
Samantha Summers, and
Stephanie Bavousett, Nursery***

We believe an abundant, life-giving relationship with God through Jesus Christ is more important than anything else in life. Therefore, nurturing all people, especially the young (and new believers,) into these relationships of faith with God through Jesus Christ is the most important thing the church ever does.

***Our First United Methodist Church of Burkburnett Vision Statement:
As followers of Christ we know, grow, serve, and sow to empower disciples so that we may re-present Christ to our neighbors and to the world.***

Perspective Questions to help focus our Vision statement to "know, grow, serve, and sow:"

- 1. Where have you known or experienced God this past week?*
- 2. How have you grown, changed, or been re-vitalized? What are your growing edges?*
- 3. How have you been called to serve? Where have you been the hands and feet of Christ?*
- 4. Sow what? What will you do for the sake of the kingdom? How's your commitment level?*

Sermon Notes:



***FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH of BURKBURNETT, TEXAS
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