

 **Fullerton First**  
**United Methodist Church**  
*Fourth Sunday in Advent*  
*December 20, 2009*

*Worship clears the mind and strengthens the Soul. Our Worship begins with the first notes of the Prelude. Let us prepare our hearts and minds to seek and praise our Creator.*

\* (Indicates: If you are able, please stand)

**PRELUDE** "In Dulce Jubilo" Hyeyeon Kim, Organist/Pianist  
 J. S. Bach, Composer

\* **HYMN # 218** "It Came upon the Midnight Clear"



**WELCOME** Pastor Keith Hwang

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** Mike Nichols  
 (If you request a prayer, you may fill out a prayer request card located in the back of each pew. Our Acolytes will pick up your request during the Anthem).

\* **SHARING OUR CHRISTIAN LOVE** (Please stand and greet those around you.)

**INTROIT** "Rejoice! Immanuel" The Aldersgate Chorale  
 Matt Ringer, Director of Music

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsively)**

Leader: Friends, hear the Good News! Love came down to us!

**People: God's glorious love shines on us in Jesus Christ!**

Leader: Friends, hear the Good News! Love came down to us!

**People: Love dispels fear and anger from our hearts. Perfect love casts out fear.**

Leader: Friends, hear the Good News! Love came down to us at Christmas!

**People: Love calls us sing with Mary, Joseph, angels and shepherds.**

**All: Glory to the newborn King! Peace on earth and glory to God in the highest.**

**UNISON PRAYER**

God who delights in loving us again and again. In the beginning was darkness, mystery, and you. In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God. By your own Word, you scattered the darkness with light. You set in the sky radiant beams of sunlight and punched the night sky with sparkling jewels. The sun and the stars tell us of glorious beginning of all there has been. As we celebrate the coming of Christ as a baby in Bethlehem, we celebrate new beginning of humanity through his birth, life, death and resurrection. The world will be forever changed by the birth of Christ to a young maiden who had nothing but an unshakable faith in the Lord. Remind us that we too can have new beginnings through Christ. We rejoice in the love of Christ that still shines so brightly and gloriously to all. Help us to shine brightly with your love in all we do and say. In Christ, Amen.

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "Follow the Star" The Celebration Bell Choir  
 Martha Thompson, Arranger John Jaecker, Director

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING** The Jackson Family

Reader 1: During the first three Sundays of this Advent season, we lit the candles of hope, peace, and joy. As we lit those candles, we remembered that Christ, who was born in Bethlehem, will bring us everlasting hope, peace and joy.

Reader 2: The fourth candle of Advent is the Candle of Love. God's love is a perfect love. It holds nothing back. God, in love, gives us everything we need to live a life of hope, peace and joy.

Reader 3: The Bible says that "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in him should not perish, but have eternal life." Jesus shows us God's perfect love.

Reader 4: This is what love is like: Love is patient, love is kind and envies no one. Love is never boastful or conceited, rude or selfish. Love is not quick to take offense, it keeps no records of wrongs, it does not gloat over other people's troubles, but rejoices in the right, the good, and the true. There is nothing that love cannot face, there is no limit to its faith, to its hope, to its endurance.

Reader 5: We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Love. May the joyful promise of your presence, O God, make us rejoice in our hope of salvation. O come, O come, Emmanuel.

*(The Candle of Love is lit.)*

**ANTHEM** "Do You Hear What I Hear?" The Aldersgate Chorale  
 Harry Simone, Arranger

**OUR TIME WITH THE CHILDREN** Jeanette Croghan  
 (Children, please come forward and join us for Our Time with the Children)  
 Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them; for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." - Matthew 19: 14

\* **HYMN # 245** "The First Noel"

**SHARING OUR PRAYER CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (Please sing)

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.

**SCRIPTURE LESSON** Luke 1:39-56  
 Page 53, New Testament, NRSV Holy Bible

**MESSAGE** "Please Understand Me" Pastor Keith Hwang

**SPECIAL MUSIC** "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" The Celebration Bell Choir  
 Lee Afdahl, Arranger

**SHARING OUR GOD-GIVEN RESOURCES**

"He who has a bountiful eye will be blessed, for he shares his bread with the poor."  
 - Proverbs 22: 9

**OFFERTORY** "Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day", James Biery, Composer  
 Hyeyeon Kim, Organist/Pianist

\* **DOXOLOGY (Unison)** 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.

**\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\* HYMN # 240** "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"

**\* BENEDICTION** (Congregation, please join hands. We invite you to remain in our Sanctuary and listen to the Postlude.)

**SPECIAL MUSIC** The Celebration Bell Choir

**POSTLUDE** 'Toccata on "Joy to the World"', M. Setzell, Composer  
Hyeyeon Kim, Organist/Pianist



**PRAYER CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS**

**Our dear, dear, Marietta Smith passed away Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. Her memorial service will be held on Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 2:00PM in our Sanctuary.**

**Sam Madley** celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Jeff Fiske, son of Tom and Evie Fiske**, is slowly losing his motor skills. No known diagnosis. He is an artist.

**Nita Goldman's mother, Elza**, is in the hospital.

**Alex Ribble** as he heals from injuries from a car accident.

**Herb Milligan** is recovering from hip replacement surgery.

**Irene Smith** is recuperating from hip surgery.

**Ruth Rogers** as she continues treatments for Cancer.

**Rev. Bob Rohdenburg** as he continues to suffer with a brain tumor.

**Celebrating Henry Jones'** return from Nigeria.



**ADVENT PASTORAL VISITS**

**During Advent the Rev. Charles Dennis, FFUMC Pastor Emeritus, will make pastoral visits with our members in hospitals, care facilities, and those who are confined mostly in their homes. There will be an opportunity to receive Holy Communion. Other members who would like to be included in these pastoral visits may make this request by telephoning the church office (871-4115) or by making a notation on the Sunday attendance registration slips. A telephone call will be made to set up an appointment.**

**E.Y.I.**

**Those with little children under age 3 years are welcome to place your child in the loving care of our caregivers in our nursery. Our ushers will gladly direct you to the nursery which is open each Sunday starting at 9:45AM.**

**Large print bulletins and hearing devices are available for those who need them. Please ask one of our Ushers for help.**

**To reach us:** 114 North Pomona Avenue, Fullerton, CA 92832  
Telephone: 714-871-4115  
[mail@ffumc.net](mailto:mail@ffumc.net)

**Sunday School is available for Children grades Pre-K to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Our Children and Youth leave to attend Sunday School after the Children's Time.**



**During our Worship Services we ask that you silence all cell phones, pagers and all other communication devices. Thank you.**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**DECEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICES**

**7:00PM CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SERVICE.** This is a service with families in mind. Worship is planned by our Youth and Family Ministries based on the book "The Christmas Pageant" with Scriptures from the Books of Matthew and Luke. Our Children and Youth perform in this service.

**11:00PM CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE.** This is a service of Carols and Lessons, The Sacrament of Holy Communion and a Service of Candle Lighting, led by Pastor Keith Hwang. Our Aldersgate Chorale sings special music of the season. At the conclusion of this service, our Sanctuary lights are dimmed as each of us lights a candle and joins together in singing "Silent Night" in honor of our Savior's birth.

**\*\*\* CORRECTION NOTICE: FULLERTON INTERFAITH MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION INVITES YOU TO ATTEND "THE LONGEST NIGHT" SERVICE ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 7:00PM AT BREA UNTIED METHODIST CHURCH.** This is an evening of prayer and reflection on the themes of coping with loneliness, loss and grief, dealing with pain and illness. Featuring reading and thoughts of the clergy of FIMA. Guest Speaker is Dr. Bonita Schiebe, MFCC. This service is free and is open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

**OUR SEMINARY INTERN, BECCAR CRAMER, WILL BE PREACHING ON JANUARY 3<sup>RD</sup>. THIS SERVICE WILL ALSO INCLUDE THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION.**

**FROM JANUARY 2009, PASTOR KEITH WOULD LIKE TO LAUNCH A E-MINISTRY CALLED "TELEIOS LIFE".** Teleios is the Greek word that means growing into wholeness and maturity. Those who are on the email list for the Good News would receive an invitation to sign up for his e-devotions that will be sent out two or three times a week. Pastor Keith hopes that these e-devotions will be short (no more than 2 minutes to read) and inspirational and deal with life issues we struggle with. You will have an option of unsubscribing from the mailing list if you don't want to receive these e-devotions. The e-devotions would be easily shared with your family and friends. Pastor Keith will provide a link where people can send in their thoughts and questions.

**GET READY TO RING IN THE NEW YEAR WHEN THE CITY OF FULLERTON CELEBRATES THEIR 19<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL "FIRST NIGHT IN FULLERTON".** The festivities take place in downtown Fullerton starting at 7:00PM on New Year's Eve. Admission is free. There will be entertainment for the entire family and this event concludes for a 10 minute fireworks display at the Downtown Fullerton Plaza (on Wilshire between Pomona and Harbor).

**WE ARE HOPING TO EXPAND THE CHURCH WITH A NEW PROGRAM CALLED "LUNCH WITH GOD" WHICH SHALL BEGIN ON JANUARY 17 AT 11:45 IN ROOM 219.** Yes, some food will be provided for us to munch on while we discuss topics we find relevant to us currently, Bible passages and how one may influence they other. Where this is aimed towards young adults there is no age limit. Our aim is for this to be a time of fellowship and community. Please contact Julia Hastings for more information.



**ASSISTING WITH THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP**

Pastor Keith Hwang  
Don McFarland, Liturgist  
Mike Nichols, Announcements  
The Aldersgate Chorale  
Matthew Ringer, Director of Music  
Hyeyeon Kim, Organist/Pianist  
The Celebration Bell Choir, John Jeacker, Director  
Parker Schrandt, Acolyte  
Steve Freeland, Sound  
Ushers: Floyd Allen, Captain; Maxine Allen,  
Dona Anderson, Molly McClanahan



**"Marietta's Flying Carpet"**

**Before her death, our dear Marietta Smith wished to donate monies to Fullerton First United Methodist Church to have another chair lift installed in the hall near our South Lounge. Her wish has been granted and the chair lift was installed on December 15<sup>th</sup>. A plaque has been ordered and will be placed on the wall near this chair lift acknowledging her loving gift. We hope you can "hear" us, Marietta, as we say many, many thanks for this gift.**