



December 1, 2024 9:30 a.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)



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SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, December 1, 2024

Joys and Concerns

Rev. Sharla Hulseley

In order to respect privacy, joys and concerns will be discussed before the public livestream. If you need to add someone, please fill out a prayer request form and place in the offering tray as it is passed.

Welcome and Announcements

Carol Roberts, Elder

If you are joining Sunday worship via Facebook Live, let us know you are tuning in by leaving a comment on the live stream video or visit fccbutler.org and click the Register Attendance button.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Phyllis McBrayer

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

Prelude

Mary Coffman

Bringing the Light of Christ into the Sanctuary

*Call to worship (please rise as able)

Carol Roberts & Congregation

L: Praise the LORD!

P: Praise the Name of the LORD;

let us give praise, O fellow servants of the LORD;

L: you that stand in the house of the LORD,
in the courts of the house of our God:

**P: Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good;
sing to God's name, for God is gracious.**

*Opening Hymn

CH #148 (vv. 1, 2, 4)

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

*Invocation

Carol Roberts & Congregation

We are your people, O God, gathered here today in hope and expectation. We welcome your presence with us, and give thanks for this place set apart for you. We thank you for your Holy Spirit who dwells within us and among us, and makes it possible for us to strain forward toward the completion of your plan for all of your creation. Open our minds and hearts today to your Word and your will. In the name of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Advent Candle Lighting

Chuck and Carol Lewis

Reading from *Shadow into Light—A Journey into Advent* by Tsh Oxenreider (Eugene, OR: Harvest House Publishers, 2020).

Prayer Hymn

CH #119 (vv. 1, 2, 4)

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Silent Meditation

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Sharla Hulseley

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Musical Interlude

Mary Coffman

Responsive Reading

Carol Roberts & Congregation

The "O" Antiphons (CH #120)

L: O Immanuel, our King and giver of the law,
the people await you, their Savior:

P: Come and save us, O Lord our God.

L: O Wisdom, you came from the lips of God most high,
and you reach from one end of the universe to the other,
powerfully and gently ordering all things:

P: Come to teach us the way of prudence.

L: O Adonai and Leader of the house of Israel,
you appeared to Moses in the flame of a burning bush
and at Sinai you gave him the law:

P: Come with your outstretched arm to save us.

L: O Root of Jesse, you stand as a sign to the peoples;
before you kings are silent and the Gentiles pray with longing:

P: Come now and set us free.

L: O Key of David and ruler of the house of Israel,
you open and none can shut; you shut and none can open:

**P: Come and lead out of the prison house the captives
who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.**

L: O Morning Star, you are the splendor of eternal life;
you are the dawning sun, the Sun of justice:

**P: Come and enlighten those who sit in darkness
and in the shadow of death.**

L: O King of the nations and the fulfillment of their longing,
you are the Cornerstone and you make all one;
you formed us from primeval clay:

P: Come and save us.

Special Music

Adult Choir

"A Calypso Lullaby"

Scripture

Shawn Quick

Romans 8:18-25

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| <u>Message</u> | Sharla Hulsey |
| | <i>"The waiting is the hardest part."</i> |
| <u>Invitation to Discipleship</u> | Sharla Hulsey |
| * <u>Invitation Hymn</u> | CH #125 (vv. 1, 2) |
| | <i>"Come, O Long Expected Jesus"</i> |
| <u>Musical Interlude</u> | Mary Coffman |
| <u>Offering Meditation</u> | Diana Rich |
| <u>Tithes & Offerings</u> | Diaconate |
| | <i>Offering trays will be passed in the pews.</i> |
| * <u>Doxology</u> | CH #47 |
| | Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen. |
| * <u>Prayer of Dedication</u> | Carol Roberts |
| <u>Call to Communion</u> | Sharla Hulsey |
| <u>Communion Hymn</u> | CH #167 (all) |
| | <i>"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"</i> |
| <u>Words of Institution</u> | Sharla Hulsey |
| <u>Communion Prayer</u> | Carol Roberts |
| <u>Distribution of the Elements</u> | Diaconate |
| | <i>Everyone is welcome at Christ's Table. Those who are comfortable doing so, please come forward down the center aisle to partake at the table. Deacons will serve those who remain seated.</i> |
| <u>WE DEPART TO SERVE</u> | |
| * <u>Benediction</u> | Sharla Hulsey |
| | <i>Taking the Light of Christ into the World</i> |
| * <u>Closing Hymn</u> | CH #143 (vv. 1, 3) |
| | <i>"Joy to the World"</i> |

SERVING TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Sharla Hulsey

Elder: Carol Roberts

Deacons: Steve Hedrick,
Bob Thomas

Greeter: Carol Roberts

Scripture Reader: Shawn Quick

Choir Director: Carol Ann Winburn

Accompanist: Mary Coffman

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **OUTREACH MISSION** - In December we will be collecting children's hats & gloves for the Grade school & Pre-school. Thank You!
- **KETCH-UP CAMPAIGN** - The Stewardship Committee started a "Ketch-up" campaign to help replenish the FCC reserve fund. Please note on your donation that it is for the "Ketch-up" campaign.
- **THE DISCIPLES WOMEN** will sponsor a congregational Christmas card exchange this year. The directory list and box are located in the foyer. Feel free to join in exchanging cards. The deadline will be December 15th so cards can be distributed prior to Christmas.
- **DISCIPLES WOMEN** - Tuesday, December 3 at 6:30 p.m.
- **FELLOWSHIP SOUP/SANDWICHES** - Sunday, December 8 after worship
- **COMMUNITY CAFÉ** - Tuesday, December 17 at 5:30 p.m.
- **CANDLELIGHT SERVICE** - On Tuesday, December 24 at 6:30 pm, join us for a candlelight service of carols and readings. Come and experience the true spirit of Christmas with your loved ones.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

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| Sunday, Dec. 1: | 9:30 a.m. | Worship |
| | 10:30 a.m. | Life Group |
| Tuesday, Dec. 3: | 6:30 p.m. | Disciples Women |
| Wednesday, Dec. 4: | 6 p.m. | Youth Group |
| | 7 p.m. | Choir Practice |
| Friday, Dec 6: | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Son Shine Ladies |

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

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| Sunday, Dec. 8: | 9:30 a.m. | Worship |
| | 10:45 a.m. | Fellowship Lunch |
| Wednesday, Dec. 11: | 12 p.m. | Rotary Luncheon |
| | 6 p.m. | Youth Group |
| | 7 p.m. | Choir Practice |
| Friday, Dec 13: | 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. | Son Shine Ladies |