



December 8, 2024 9:30 a.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)



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SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Sunday, December 8, 2024

Joys and Concerns

Rev. Sharla Hulsey

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

Shawn Quick, 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.

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

Prelude

Mary Coffman

Bringing the Light of Christ into the Sanctuary

*Call to worship (please rise as able)

Shawn Quick & Congregation

L: Love the LORD, all God's saints.

**P: Be strong, and let your heart take courage,
all you who wait for the Lord.**

L: Rejoice in the Lord, all you righteous.

P: Sing for joy, all upright hearts.

L: In the company of all the saints we cry:

P: Praise God!

Salvation, glory, and power belong to our God!

*Opening Hymn

CH #150 (all)

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

*Invocation

Shawn Quick & Congregation

Loving and gracious Father, you haven't promised a stormless, painless, trouble-free life. But you have promised peace in Christ who spoke and stilled the tossing waves, who died and reconciled us to you, who defeated darkness and the power of death. We trust in this promise, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Advent Candle Lighting

Jennifer Schmehl & Carol Hedrick

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

Prayer Hymn

CH #124 (vv. 1, 2, 4)

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Silent Meditation

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Sharla Hulsey

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

Shawn Quick & Congregation

Luke 1:68-69, 73-75, 77-79 (NRSV)

L: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

**P: He has raised up a mighty savior for us
in the house of his servant David.**

L: Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,
and has remembered his holy covenant,

**P: the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham...
that we might serve him without fear,
in holiness and righteousness before him all our days...**

L: By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from high will break upon us,

**P: to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of
death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

Special Music

Adult Choir

"Come, Light of Hope"

Scripture

Carol Hedrick

2 Timothy 4:1-5

Message

Sharla Hulsey

"Too Much Information"

Invitation to Discipleship

Sharla Hulsey

*Invitation Hymn

CH #153 (all)

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

Musical Interlude

Mary Coffman

Offering Meditation

Diana Rich

Tithes & Offerings

Diaconate

Offering trays will be passed in the pews.

*Doxology 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.

*Prayer of Dedication Shawn Quick

Call to Communion Sharla Hulsey

Communion Hymn CH #164 (all)
"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

Words of Institution Sharla Hulsey

Communion Prayer Shawn Quick

Distribution of the Elements Diaconate

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.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

*Benediction Sharla Hulsey
Taking the Light of Christ into the World

*Closing Hymn CH #143 (vv. 1, 3)
"Joy to the World"

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.
- **FELLOWSHIP SOUP/SANDWICHES** - Today after worship
- **BOARD MEETING** - Sunday, December 15 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

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

NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, Dec. 15:	9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m.	Worship Board Meeting
Tuesday, Dec. 17:	5:30 p.m.	Community Café
Wednesday, Dec. 18:	6 p.m. 7 p.m.	Youth Group Choir Practice
Friday, Dec 20:	9 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Son Shine Ladies

SERVING TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Sharla Hulsey

Greeter: Carol Hedrick

Elder: Shawn Quick

Scripture Reader: Carol Hedrick

Deacons: Carol Hedrick,
Lyssa Lile

Choir Director: Carol Ann Winburn

Accompanist: Mary Coffman