

## Welcome To Our Service

- + We welcome you to our service today. For more information on the programs offered here at First United Methodist Church please visit our website at [www.fortmethodist.org](http://www.fortmethodist.org). Our information desk can be located in the main entrance.
- + For more information on any of our activities please visit the "Events" tab on the church website.
- + If you have trouble hearing the worship service or reading the bulletin we have hearing devices and large print bulletins available. Please ask an usher.
- + If you would like us to contact you please make sure to fill in your contact information on the Communication Card which is in the worship folder.

## 8:00 pm Worship Today

- + Preaching: Paul Johnsen
- + Liturgist: Nancy Church, Ron Stelse
- + Greeters/Ushers: Bob & Kathy Cheek

CCLI License # 1180040


First United Methodist Church  
320 South Main Street  
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538  
P (920) 563-4903  
E [office@fortmethodist.org](mailto:office@fortmethodist.org)  
[www.fortmethodist.org](http://www.fortmethodist.org)

Pastor: Paul Johnsen  
Pastor Hispanic Ministry: Modesto Soto  
Children & Youth Ministry: Kate Vance  
Organist/Choir Director: Brenda Nitardy  
Bell Choir Director: Karen Tordera  
Office Manager: Elieen Slak  
Custodian: Scott Albrecht



Like Us on Facebook!

[www.facebook.com/First United Methodist Church Fort Atkinson](http://www.facebook.com/First United Methodist Church Fort Atkinson)



*Christmas shines*  
**ITS MIRACLE**  
*in our hearts.*

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST.

LUKE 2:14

8:00 pm Worship  
Christmas Eve  
December 24, 2019  
\*please stand if you are able

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Special Music.....I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day.....  
Lidna Menzel

\*Call to Worship

Rejoice, for God is with us — Emmanuel.  
**In the darkness of our world shines God's holy light.**  
Now there is reason to hope, to love, to laugh, to live.  
**God is truly with us. We are not alone.**  
Thanks be to God!

\*Carol.....The First Noel.....#245  
Vs 1 & 2

Opening Prayer

**Gracious God,**  
**With joy and thanksgiving, we gather as your people. We have come to hear again the timeless story of Christ's birth. In the excitement of this night, quiet our hearts that we may know the peace and fullness of this holy time. Shine, O God, in the darkness of our world. Sing, O angels, in the stillness of our hearts, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those God favors." This we pray in the name of the Child of Bethlehem. Amen.**

Lighting the Christ Candle

Reader One: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

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

Reader One: His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace, for the throne of David and his Kingdom. He will establish it and uphold it from this time onward and forever more.

Reader Two: Tonight we enter God's time. Faithfully, we light the Christ Candle, to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus, the Light coming into the world.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Advent Hymn.....Advent Song.....#2090  
Vs 5 & Chorus

The Prophecy of the Messiah..... Isaiah 9:2, 6-7, John 1:1-2, 4-5

Carol.....It Came upon the Midnight Clear.....#218  
Vs 1 & 2

The Preparations for the Birth of Jesus..... Matthew 1:18-25

Carol.....Infant Holy, Infant Lowly.....#229

Jesus Is Born..... Luke 2:1-7

Choral Anthem.....Repeat the Sounding Joy.....

The Angels Announce Jesus' Birth..... Luke 2:8-12

Christmas Sermon.....Good News and Great Joy.....

\*Carol.....Angels We Have Heard on High.....#238  
Vs 1 & 3

Offering of the Tithes.....Joseph's Lullaby.....  
Craig Sharlow

\*Doxology.....#219  
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise God, all creatures here below, praise God above, ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing. Haste, haste, to bring him laud, the babe, the Son of Mary.

Sharing the Light

\*Carol.....Silent Night, Holy Night.....#239  
Vs 1-3

*As the candles are lit, please tilt the unlit candle to the flame to avoid dripping hot wax. We will extinguish our candles at the end of the Hymn.*

\*Blessing

\*Carol.....Joy to the World.....#246  
Vs 1-2

Postlude



**Celebrating the Glory of Christmas**  
**The Poinsettias on the altar and the Food Pantry**  
**Donations are given...**

In loving honor of **The Church Staff** from *Curtis & Diane Abendroth*.

In loving honor of **Our Parents & Our Children** from *Vince & Linda Kent*.

In loving honor of **Layla, Lennox & Gibson** from *The Kohl Family*.

In loving honor of **Joyce Humphrey** from *Tim Humphrey*.

In loving memory of **Martin & Carroll Goodsell** from *Nancy Church*.

In loving memory of **Jeff Gehl & Ryan Keuler** from *Darla Gehl*.

In loving memory of **Earl Findlay & James Findlay** from *Mary Ellen Findlay*.

In loving memory of **Our Parents** from *Orrie & Wava Austin*.

In loving memory of **Willard & Sylvia Gerner** from *Jessica Hansen*.

In loving memory of **Daughters, Addison & Jocelyne Kraus and Father, Keith Kraus** from *Ben & Kristi Kraus*.

In loving memory of **Randy Halbrader** from *Linda Laird*.

In loving memory of **Ray, Leta and Jim Darge** from *Jean Darge*.

In loving memory of **Our Parents & Brother** from *Paul & Bonnie Babcock*.

In loving memory of **Our Parents, Mr. & Mrs. R Frederick, Mr. R Anderson, Brother Dale Anderson and Sister Linda Kirschling** from *Rick & Deb Frederick*.

In loving memory of **Penny Hack and Art & Eleanor Hack** from *Jim Hack & Family*.

In loving memory of **Robert Horton** from *Eve Horton, Nicole, Ashley & Graysen and Robert, Elise & Connor*.

In loving memory of **Julie Claridge** from *The Kohl Family*.

In loving memory of **Roger W. Humphrey** from *Tim Humphrey*.