

Our Christmas Wish List

December 7, 2025



Vision Statement:

We Are a Nurturing, Beloved Community.
We Are Growing Authentic Christian Faith.
We Are Living Christ-Inspired Action.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 7, 2025 10:00 am

PRELUDE

Judy Widrig

RINGING THE BELL

WE ARE A NURTURING, BELOVED COMMUNITY

WELCOME SONG

“We Wait”

The musical score for 'We Wait' is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three staves. The first staff begins with a 12/8 time signature and contains the lyrics 'In the flame of the flick - er - ing can - dle, ____' and 'In the flame of the flick - er - ing can - dle, ____'. The second staff continues the melody with lyrics 'we see a hint of the star - ry light that led the shep - herds and kings__ to the' and 'we see the prom - ise of hope and joy; the prom - ise of peace__ and of love__ in a'. The third staff changes to a 6/8 time signature and contains the lyrics 'Ti - ny Child. We wait. We wait.' and 'Ba - by Boy We wait. We wait.'.

In the flame of the flick - er - ing can - dle, ____
In the flame of the flick - er - ing can - dle, ____

we see a hint of the star - ry light that led the shep - herds and kings__ to the
we see the prom - ise of hope and joy; the prom - ise of peace__ and of love__ in a

Ti - ny Child. We wait. We wait.
Ba - by Boy We wait. We wait.

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WELCOME

Sharon Benton

We love children in worship—their noises and wiggles are welcome, too. There are pillows and a coloring, book, and play area in the front and in the corner near the windows. Younger kids may enjoy the Narthex play area. Their movements back and forth are a joy for us as they participate fully.

*Rise in body or spirit

THE STORY

Sharon Benton

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Jessica, Mike, Leah, & Henry Good

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Nancy Fayram & Beth Hawthorne

*After Time with Children, children may go with Maya to church school in the social hall
or remain in the sanctuary as they choose.*

***HYMN 108** (black hymnal) “Isaiah the Prophet Has Written of Old” JUDAS AND MARY

A READING FROM THE POETS “The Shepherd’s Wish List”
by Sarah Klassen

Janet Ott

*Barely midnight. All of us hunkered down
around ashes of a fire. The animals
asleep. Our companions: hunger, nagging doubt.
Our wants are reasonable: provisions for the family,
better health, a better bed than this hard slope,
good grazing, sturdy lambs, and death to predators
whose hostile howls invade our restless dreams.
But let’s be honest: let’s admit right now:
what we want most is foolproof evidence
that God exists and knows we’re here. We want
our sorrows noted, our frantic labors recognized.
We want the Holy One, although it’s dark (and late
the hour) to hunker with us at the fire’s glow
and speak with us— Right here. Right now.*

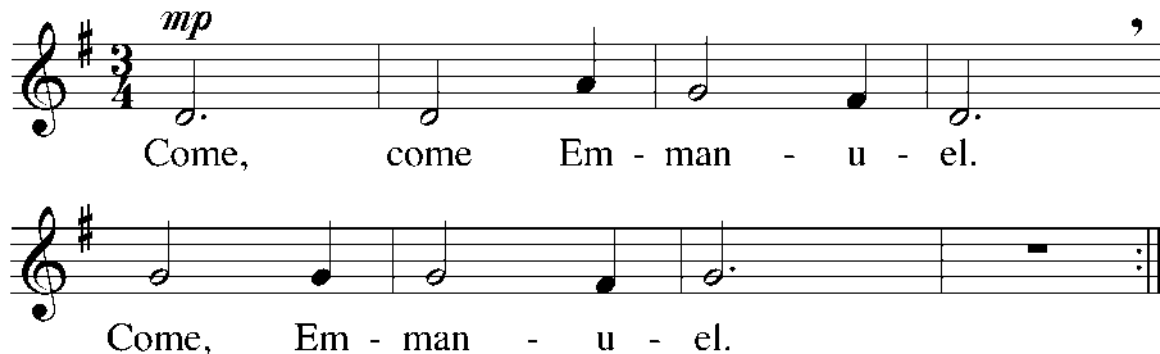
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

"Come, Come Emmanuel"

COME, COME EMMANUEL

*As we move into the prayer time,
keep singing, or humming, or be silent as you feel called.*

*All are invited to light a candle and/or write a prayer and add it to the prayer wheel;
we'll continue praying these prayers throughout the week.*



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The Prayer of Jesus

Sharon Benton

We invite you to use the language for God that is most comfortable for you:

"Our Creator," "Our Father" or "Our Mother."

Our Creator

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 and ever. *Amen.*

*If you have a prayer request you'd like to share confidentially with our pastors,
have added to the confidential prayer list, or spoken aloud in worship,
go to www.fccb.net/contact-us/ to send a message or call the church to talk with a pastor.*

WE ARE GROWING AUTHENTIC CHRISTIAN FAITH.

A READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 11:1-10
Common English Bible

Janet Ott

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE

Janet Ott

One: For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us:

All: Thanks be to God.

REFLECTION

“Our Christmas Wish List”

Sharon Benton

GIFT OF MUSIC

“Of the Parent’s Love Begotten” Joy Brown & Leigh Hjelmseth
Plainsong 13th Century, Arr: Carol Tornquist

WE ARE LIVING CHRIST-INSPIRED ACTION.

TESTIMONY

Renee Thomas

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Communion Song

*Come, Let Us Bring
By Billema Kwillia & Marty Haugen
Come let us bring our gifts to God in praise,
So that we might minister in countless ways.
Come, let us bring the warm and fragrant bread,
Broken here so all God's people might be fed.
Come, let us bring the sweet, abundant wine.
In this cup, we taste the joy of grace divine.*

The Words of Institution & Prayer of Consecration

Sharing the Elements

You may come forward to receive communion or if you wish to remain seated, someone will come around to you in your seat. Raise a hand or indicate that you would like communion as they come around. If you come forward you will be on the video stream.

*You may either dip your bread in the communal cup
or take a single-serving of juice from the center server.*

*If you're worshiping at home, gather something to eat and drink:
the risen Christ will meet you right where you are.*

Communion Music

Judy Widrig

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING

You may make an offering either in the plates or online. Your generosity helps us nurture beloved community, grow authentic Christian faith, and live Christ-inspired action. Thank you! There are several ways to give: 1) Give at our website, fccb.net/giving. 2) Mail checks to the church.

3) Use the Breeze app. 4) Text a dollar amount to (360) 205-1297

5) Scan the QR code on the back cover of the bulletin.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Judy Widrig

***HYMN**

"O, Come, O Come Emmanuel"

VENI EMMANUEL


1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and
2. O come, you Splen - dor ver - y bright, as
3. O come, you Day - spring, come and cheer our
4. O come, you Wis - dom from on high, from

with your cap - tive chil - dren dwell. Give
joy that nev - er yields to might. O
spir - its by your pres - ence here. And
depths that hide with - in a sigh, to

com - fort to all ex - iles here, and
come, and turn all hearts to peace, that
dawn in ev - ery bro - ken soul as
tem - per knowl - edge with our care, to

to the ach - ing heart bid cheer. Re-joyce! Re-joyce! Em-
greed and war at last shall cease. Re-joyce! Re-joyce! Em-
vi - sion that can see the whole. Re-joyce! Re-joyce! Em-
ren - der ev - ery act a prayer. Re-joyce! Re-joyce! Em-

man - u - el shall come with - in as Love to dwell.
man - u - el shall come with - in as Truth to dwell.
man - u - el shall come with - in as Light to dwell.
man - u - el shall come with - in as Hope to dwell.

Words: Latin c. 9th cent., trans. composite based on John Mason Neale,
1818–1866, recast

Music: Adapt. by Thomas Helmore, 1811–1890, harmony by John Weaver,
1937–, harm. © 1990 John Weaver, all rights reserved

VENI EMMANUEL
8.8.8.8.8.8.

***BENEDICTION & PASSING THE PEACE**

Sharon Benton

POSTLUDE

Judy Widrig

Today is our annual Advent Festival (Christmas Presence). All ages are welcome to join us for singing carols, building graham cracker houses, and simple connection. See you in the Social Hall!!

Open and Affirming (ONA): As an Open and Affirming congregation believing in a loving God, all people are welcome in this church without regard to gender, race, ethnicity, economic or social status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

We Try To Use Language which will help people feel included in our worship. Since not everyone is comfortable with the same language, we invite you to amend the words of the service as we sing and pray if they do not adequately express your faith. We invite you to assist us in creating new expressions of our common faith and life together.

Technical Support: If you need help streaming our worship services or connecting in other ways, please let us know.

APPOINTMENTS WITH PASTORAL STAFF

Our pastor is available by appointment virtually or in person. Contact her by email or call the pastoral care line, 360-733-4255.

Sharon **sharon@fccb.net**

Our Chaplain is also available at
chaplain@fccb.net.

Or you can email our Office Manager
Cydne at **office@fccb.net**
and she'll pass your message on.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH United Church of Christ

An Open & Affirming Congregation

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24/7 Emergency Pastoral Care: 360-733-4255

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Facebook: facebook.com/fccbucc

Office Hours:

9:30 am-4:30 pm, M-Th. 10:00 am-2:00 pm, F.

PASTOR: Sharon Benton, she/her

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY LIFE:

Scott Ward, he/him (scott@fccb.net)

CHAPLAIN: Charlene Epp, she/her

ORGANIST: Judy Widrig, she/her

INTERIM MUSIC COORDINATOR:

Dallas Geil, he/him (music@fccb.net)

CHURCH SCHOOL/YOUTH COORDINATOR

Maya McEachern

WORSHIP MEDIA COORDINATOR

Moxxy Rogers, she/her

OFFICE MANAGER: Cydne Cochran, she/her

CUSTODIAN/MAINTENANCE:

Kurt Aagard, he/him

BOOKKEEPER: Eric Bowen, he/him

MODERATOR: Diane Cooper-Schick, she/her

VICE MODERATOR: Jordan Sandoval

CLERK: Leigh Hjelmseth

TREASURER: Craig Jennings

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