

REACH OUT IN CHRIST
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 23, 2018

10:00 AM

Prelude David Matthews

Welcome and Announcements

*Passing the Peace of Christ

*Introit

*Call to Worship

Leader: The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is His name.

His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

**People: He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud
in the thoughts of their hearts.**

Leader: He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up
the lowly;

**People: He has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich
away empty.**

*Hymn "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (vss. 1,3-4) 234

Advent Candle Lighting Ceremony Chancel Choir
Judy and Bruce Simpson

**Grant us grace this advent season that we may draw near to you, O
God. Help us prepare our hearts for your Holy Son, sent into the world
as a light to all the people. May our faith inspire us to hope in You, O
Prince of Peace. Save us from our darkness and doubt. We pray in
Jesus' name. Amen.**

The Children's Moment Jean Ann Lewis

Offertory David Matthews

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

*Doxology 95

Hymn "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" 229

Pastoral Prayer

Choir Cantata "The Christmas Story" (T. Fettke/T. Grassi)

1. The Awaited One
2. Rejoice and Be Merry
3. O Holy Night Solo, Ruthie Nelson
4. On Christmas Night All Christians Sing
5. A Midnight Clear
6. Rocking Carol Solo, Catherine Phillips
7. A Spanish Carol Suite Solo, Judy Simpson
8. Wexford Carol Solo, Carla Kranz
9. Sing We Now of Christmas

*Hymn "Love Came Down at Christmas" 242

*Benediction

Postlude David Matthews

*Please stand as you are able

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***Welcome** – We welcome all who have come to worship today. If you are new here, we would love to support your spiritual journey. We also need your help in ministry! If you feel called to this group of Christ's people, consider making the pledge of membership.

Hearing Assistance Devices are available. Please ask an usher for help.

***Circle of Prayer** – *Church:* Pamela Gause, Chuck Coast, Helen Coast, Marcia Watt, Bill Russell, Marilyn Tripp, Selma Marlowe, Aida Weldon, and Marianne Myatt. *Neighbors Near and Far:* Ralph Wright, E. F. Swartzel, Nancy Britton, Heather Watts, Carrie D., Linda Saucier, David Lane, Winnifred Corbett, John Phillips, Avram Kent, Helen MacWhinney, Michael Kesti, Devan Whitaker, and Gracie Stalvey.

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed..." Luke 1:46-48

THIS WEEK

MON. (12/24) **9:30 am** Food and Clothes Distribution
 7:00 pm **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**

TUES. (12/25) **MERRY CHRISTMAS**
 OFFICE CLOSED

WED. (12/26) **5:00 pm** Love Feast in Henderson Hall

FRI. (12/28) **OFFICE CLOSED**

SUN. (12/30) **CHILDREN'S HOME SUNDAY**
 9:00 am Soul Café
 10:00 am Worship Service (kids' church & nursery)

***BREAKFAST WITH SANTA** – Thank you to everyone who helped with the Breakfast with Santa. A special thank you to Karen McGinley for the delicious breakfast.

***CHRISTMAS POTLUCK DINNER** – Thank you to everyone who participated in making our Christmas Dinner a huge success. A special thank you to Carolyn Arnold for organizing the dinner. Another special thank you to Dwight Smith for the great entertainment program.

***OUR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE** – We'll gather at 7PM for our Christmas Eve Worship of Word, Song, and Candle Lighting.

***ADVENT SERIES** – During Advent and Christmas Eve our focus in worship will be these 5 gifts of God: *Hope, Peace, Joy, Love and Light.*

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE FIRST CHURCH STAFF

**FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
NEW PORT RICHEY**



Pastor—David Carefoot
Liturgist—Alex Grimberg
Music Director, Ruthie Nelson; Accompanist, David Matthews
Nursery—Joan Klingensmith
Greeters—Tom Hannon and Audrey Webb
Ushers—Gloria Peters, Carolyn Arnold, Annette Cardente and Rosemary Pignataro
Sound Board—George Kranz and Rob Marlowe

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