

December 29, 2024
First Sunday of Christmas



Latimore, Kelly. *La presentación de Cristo en el templo*, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

To join worship this morning via zoom app, click this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2lKdz09>

(if you are asked for a password, it is: 890967). **To dial in by phone** call 1 312 626 6799. When prompted, enter **839 2872 7469#**. Next, you will be prompted to enter your participant ID or to push #; **simply push # again.**

Music will be displayed on the screen during the service.

Prelude

Welcome

Gathering Words: “BC:AD” by U. A. Fanthorpe

Hymn 135: “O Come, All You Faithful” verses 1–3

Scripture: Psalm 148; Luke 2:21–52

Story

Carol Sing

Prayers of the People

Please share your prayer requests in the chat and we will pray with you.

Lord's Prayer

A commonly used form is printed below. You are welcome to use the version most meaningful to you.

Our God, 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 for ever. Amen.

Offering

We invite your financial gifts to support our ministries within and beyond First Church. December's special offering is shared between the Mission at San Lucas Tolimán in Guatemala and the UCC Christmas fund. Give electronically at our website: www.firstchurchmn.org; click on the "Support Us" link. You can also give by texting 612-255-4109: "\$(amount) Special" (for the monthly offering) or "\$(amount) General Fund. If you give by check, please make it out to First Church with "Christmas" in the memo line.

Offertory

Offertory Response: "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines"

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn 144: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Benediction

Postlude

Thanks to those who serve in the following roles today:

Valet: Paul Snyder

Reader: Jean Anderson

Ushers: Don Brasted-Maki, Jill Stebbens
Tech Support: Cynthia Hendricks, Greg Hubinger
Coffee Hour: Brad Schumann

Coming up this week

Sunday, December 29

9:30a: Coffee hour

10a: Worship / (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2IKdz09>

11:15a: Coffee hour (hybrid—stay on Zoom call)

Monday, Dec. 30

9:30a: SE Playgroup

Tuesday, Dec 31

Noon: Bible Study (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82579587370?pwd=aURmUHRaSU55aFIXK241NVNvTWVMZz09>

Thursday, January 2

9:30a: SE Playgroup

Sunday, January 5

9:30a: Coffee hour

10a: Worship / (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928727469?pwd=WFhzWkJFQjBhTlp4UEUvdWRhS2IKdz09>

11:15a: Coffee hour (hybrid—stay on Zoom call)

11:30a: Election Support group (hybrid)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82579587370?pwd=aURmUHRaSU55aFIXK241NVNvTWVMZz09>

Staff Note: Jane McBride will be out of the office January 3-8.

The Election Support Group is continuing! While the 2024 election is over, there is much to process and lots of work to do in the aftermath. Come and join our group to celebrate, to mourn, to plan for the future, and, most importantly, to be in community. All are welcome. Join us in the parlor or on Zoom during 2nd Hour on Sunday, January 5 continue discussing and reflecting on December's topic: This election is over, but our

country is not. What are we called or compelled to do next? If you have any questions, please contact Sarah Almén (s_almen@hotmail.com or 512-809-9788).

New Art Exhibit coming to the Gathering Hall. Next week we will have the pleasure of Andrew Sjostrom's photography hanging in the First Gallery through March. On Sunday January 19 all are invited to a reception where you will be able to meet the artist (who is also the son of Lisa Keitel and Eric Sjostrom).

Survivors play performance. Mark your calendars for Sunday, Feb. 2 at 1p. when we host a production of Survivors, written by Wendy Kout and directed by Warren C. Bowles. This play weaves together the true, inspirational stories of ten Holocaust survivors whose ordinary and joyful young lives were transformed by the Nazi regime. Illustrating the risk of normalizing hate, this uplifting work impels us to take lessons from the past and think about how we can create a safer, more inclusive community. Freewill donation. RSVP appreciated to office@firstchurchmn.org.