# 11:00 am Worship Service - December 24, 2023

Welcome

Prelude

**Advent Reading** 

Choral Introit To God Be the Glory A. Crouch

Song of Praise (CORE) Hark the Herald/King of Heaven

Wee Worship

**Concerns, Gratitude, and Prayers** 

Offering

Anthem Call the Baby Jesus Barrett/Martin

\*Doxology

Scripture Lesson Matthew 2:1-2. 7-12

**Holy Communion** 

Message A Curious People

\*Closing Song (CORE) Joy to the World/Unspeakable Joy

\*Go Forth to Serve

We're so glad to have you worshiping with us today! We invite you to stop by our WELCOME CENTER which is located to the left as you exit the Sanctuary.

### **Christmas Eve Services** Sunday, December 24th



11:00 am Worship Service 4:00 pm Children's Christmas Eve service

### **Candlelight Christmas Eve Services**

6:00 pm A Candlelight & Communion Service

Families are asked to bring a dozen wrapped cookies to this service as a love offering to the community.

11:00 pm A Candlelight & Communion Service Nursery will be provided for

4:00 and 6:00 pm services.

## Christmas Eve Cookie Offering

6 pm Christmas Eve Service Please bring cookies (packaged in zip lock type bags-12 /bag) to help us offer a gift to those working on Christmas Eve. Worshippers will be invited to distribute these cookies to surrounding businesses after the service.





Your support means the world! We're looking for Offering Counters for 2024 -serve once a week, up to 2 months. Scan the QR code to

**OFFERING** COUNTERS

A Six-Week Study Starts January 17 Mere 6-7pm Christianity Nicolas@pumcfortmill.org C·S· LEWIS

A new study based on the classic book by C.S. Lewis. The cost of the book is \$10 Contact Nicolas@pumcfortmill.org with your questions or to purchase your book.



The Logos Sunday School class will start a new four-week Bible study on Paul's Letter to the Philippians on January 7, 2024. Joins us as we explore God's word. Logos meets in the PUMC library (Room 122) at 10am.

# **Offering Counters Needed!**

sign up, and more details will follow by email.

Questions? Contact Mayra at accounting@pumcfortmill.org.

Thank you for considering this chance to serve PUMC!





set of contribution envelopes, please send Mayra an email and include if vou need 52 for weekly donations, or 12 for monthly donations. Email Mayra at accounting@pumcfortmill.org.



End of Year Giving As 2023 ends, we express our heartfelt gratitude for

vour unwavering support throughout the year. Your generosity enables us to navigate financial hurdles and continue fulfilling our mission. Every contribution makes a meaningful impact. To ensure your contributions are counted for 2023. please make your gifts on or before December 31st.

### **Contribution Statements Available**

We have emailed Year-to-Date Contribution Statements this week. If you have questions, contact Mayra at accounting@pumcfortmill.org. Thank you for everything you have helped Philadelphia accomplish in the year 2023.

### 2024 Flower Calendar



To place Sanctuary Flowers in honor or memory of a special person, sign up on Flower Calendar located on the wall near the Church Office.

### **Connection Card**

#### The Church Office will be closed Monday, December 25th and Tuesday, December 26th, for the Christmas Holiday and, also, Monday, January 1st, for New Years.

#### **Prayer Requests This Week**

If you have updates about our members or prayer concerns, please contact the church office at

803.548.0102

Gene Baker Diane Bell Homer Bethea Phil Brigman Doris Bevil Barbara Chapman

Jesse Ford

Fred Grohaan

Gene Hoover

Holly Johnson

Jennifer Lare

Polly Merritt

Eunice Faulkenbury Lollie Rea Carolyn Ressler **Claudia Register** Alice Sumner Dorothye Young

#### **Prayer Requests**

Other information and/or prayer requests I would like to share with the church Staff or Senior Pastor.

Check here if you would like a call from the Pastor

Phone #



Fort Mill Care Center grocery cart is in the Coffee Connections Room. Continuous items needed: canned vegetables, cereal, mac & cheese, toothpaste and toothbrushes.

**STEWARDSHIP & FINANCIAL REPORT** 

December 17, 2023

\$14,110 is needed each week to meet our annual budget of \$733,741

we received \$20,147 this week

\$551,518 has been received towards the General and Building Funds

\$584,257 has been spent from the General and Building Funds

\$34,950 Cash Available to Support Church Expenses.

Missions & Ministries

\$772,635 Loan balance for Building

Ways to Give

Cash & Checks accepted every Sunday during Offering!

Visit us at www.pumcfortmill.org/give/

Via Zelle App - gifts@pumcfortmill.org

Transfer Stocks, Bonds, Brokerage Assets

Mail or Drop-off your gift during regular office hours

Have questions about giving?

Please contact PUMC's part-time Financial Associate, Mayra Leon at

accounting@pumcfortmill.org



**Clang Buckets** Sunday, January 7 9 & 11am During Wee Worship, the children will collect change for La Limye. Bring your coins to change the lives of Haitian orphans.



#### For More Information Contact :

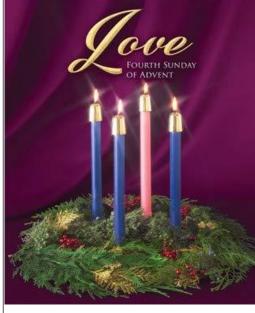


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Office Hours: Mon-Thurs 9:00 am - 12:30 pm (803) 548-0102 Location: 1691 Highway 160 West, Fort Mill, SC 29708 Mailing Address: 2764 Pleasant Road Suite A PMB 11804 Fort Mill. SC 29708 Website: www.pumcfortmill.org



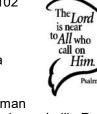
December 24th, 2023 11:00 am Service Matthew 2:1-2. 7-12



Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, <sup>2</sup> "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose, and we have come to worship him."

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared.<sup>8</sup> Then he told them. "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come

back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!" <sup>9</sup> After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were filled with joy!<sup>11</sup> They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.



# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 11:00 am Service December 24, 2023

Reader: When the angel Gabriel visited Mary, announcing God's plan for her to conceive and give birth to the Messiah, "Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?" (Luke 1:34) And yet, only a few months later, Mary sings to Elizabeth, My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for He has been mindful of the humble state of His servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is His name (Luke 1:46-49).

Reader 2: We, like Mary, hear God's call to be part of making God's dream for our salvation and flourishing a reality, and we question, "How can this be? I am only..." Yet, like Mary, the "onlys" that make us hesitate are gifts God can and will use as God's love transforms us into bearers of good news.

Congregation: We wait as people who have encountered divine Love that disrupts the status quo and ushers us into abundant life marked by mutual love and peace that flows from the flourishing of all people.

Reader 1: We light these candles as signs of our shocking hope, our just peace, our fierce joy, and the love that transforms us. May Love grow within us, transforming us into bold witnesses of God's salvation with our voices and our lives. Amen.

Light the four outer candles of the Advent wreath.