



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT,
DECEMBER 7TH, 2025 | 8:30AM & 11:00AM
✠please stand as you are able

PRELUDE

*Watchman Tell Us
of the Night*

ARR. MARTHA SOBAJE

WELCOME & MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

EMBRACE ALABAMA KIDS WITNESS

REBEKAH AND JAMES CHAMBLESS

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

CALL TO WORSHIP

LAMENTATIONS 3

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end.

They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

"The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him."

The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him.

It is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

We come to worship the God whose mercy meets us in every moment.

✠ HYMN

People, Look East

UMH 202

✠ APOSTLES' CREED

UMH 881

✠ GLORIA PATRI

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

8:30 JAKE, CARLY, AND AZELIE O'NEIL

11:00 DEB AND TOM SLONE

We light these candles as a symbol of the peace you bring to a troubled world. For you break down dividing walls, calm the storms within us, and guide our feet into the way of peace. We rest in your mercy that makes us whole.

Come, Lord Jesus, come!

OFFERTORY

What Child Is This

ARR. BY HAKES

✠ DOXOLOGY

Children's Church will not be held today. On the first Sunday of each month, children stay for the entire service so they can worship and receive Holy Communion with their families.

Nursery is available for children 4 years and younger in the Education Building.

HYMN

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

UMH 216

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Steadfast God, in the waiting and the wondering, speak a word that anchors our hearts in your promise and peace. Amen.

✠ SCRIPTURE *2 Peter 3:8-15*

SERMON *Un-Stuck in the Middle*

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

✠ PASSING OF THE PEACE

GREAT THANKSGIVING UMH 13

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ~ THE LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

✠ HYMN *Go, Tell It On the Mountain* UMH 251

✠ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Huron Carol* ARR. FEDAK

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

COMMUNION SERVERS:
8:30
Emily Garner, Dawn & Mike Herrin,
Ann Pearson
11:00
Cheri & Jerry Forte, Amy O'Rear

ACOLYTES:
(8:30)
Evans Brasfield

PREACHER:
Rev. Michael Precht

LITURGIST
Katie Turner

STEPHEN MINISTERS:
(8:30) Wanda Winfree
(11:00) Deb Slone

GREETER:
(8:30)
Jolene Schmitt

USHER:
Head Usher, Mark Woodrow

MUSIC
Chancel Choir
Director, (8:30) Tom Hood,
(11:00) Natalie Woodrow
Accompanist, John Richardson
Handbell Choir

MEDIA:
Colin Richardson
Hackett Robertson

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and to celebrate the 34th wedding anniversary of Lee and Katie Turner (12/21) and the wedding anniversary of Grace and Omeed Alidadi (12/16).

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7-SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30am Traditional Worship
9:45am Sunday School for all ages
11:00am Traditional Worship
11:00am The Gathering Worship-
Lighthouse Children's Choir Musical
2:00pm Discovery Drama Team
Rehearsal
5:00pm Board of Stewards Meeting

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

9:15am Walk and Talk with Jesus
10:00am Knit or Crochet for a Purpose
3:00pm Grief Support Group
6:30pm Survivors of Suicide

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

7:00am SALT Students Breakfast Club
9:30am Twelve Disciples Study
12:30pm Tough Dogs Cancer Support
Group
1:30pm Chemo Care Bag Assimilation
6:00pm Handbell Choir Practice

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

9-11:00am TJ's Food Ministry
1:30pm Dr. Ann's Weekly Drop-In
Bible Study
5:00pm Christmas Cookie Swap &
Supper
6:00pm Chancel Choir Practice
6:00pm SALT Student Christmas
Party

6:00pm Pier Kids and Swift Ministry

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

9-11:00am TJ's Food Ministry

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

9:30am Reservation Nursery
11:00am-1pm Community Café

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14-THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30am Traditional Worship-Christmas
Cantata
9:45am Sunday School for all ages
9:45am Coffee with the Pastors
11:00am Traditional Worship-
Christmas Cantata
11:00am The Gathering Worship
2:00pm Discovery Drama Team
Rehearsal

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

WEDNESDAY SUPPER MENU – DECEMBER 10TH

Chicken and Sausage Gumbo, Garden Salad, Breadstick, Cookie

Kids: Pretzel Bites with Cheese Dip, Fruit, Cookie

Go online or call the church office to make your reservation!

Christmas Poinsettias

In celebration of the Christmas season, poinsettias will adorn the Sanctuary and CLC on Sunday, December 21. Dedications will be listed in the bulletin that day. If you would like to place a poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one, please complete the form on the church website.

Homebound Communion

If you would like to have communion brought to you during the Advent season, contact the church office 251-928-1148 or email Helen Ingram (heleneingram@gmail.com) or Dr. Ann Pearson (ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org)

Cookie Swap and Supper | Dec 10th

Please bring 2 dozen homemade or store bought cookies/treats on disposable trays and you'll go home with 2 dozen assorted cookies beautifully boxed and ready to gift or enjoy. Sign Up Online using the supper RSVP!

Elementary Winter Retreat at Blue Lake Camp | Registration

Deadline: Jan. 5

3rd–6th graders are invited to join us *January 30–February 1* for an unforgettable weekend at Blue Lake! Campers will enjoy worship, campfires, archery and field games, the challenge course, and more. This year's theme is "Echo"—discovering how to share God's love in the world around us.

Cost: \$125 if registered by Dec. 10; \$140 after Dec. 15

Bus Fee: \$60, Scholarship Deadline: Dec. 10 Questions?

Email jenna.hood@fairhopeumc.org. Registration link can be found on church linktree.

Discovery Weekend | January 23rd -25th

Discovery Weekend is a spiritual formation retreat that is intended to be holy and fun at the same time. The weekend experience creates an environment in which middle schoolers can better listen to God and be aware of God's presence. The weekend celebration of God's love is designed to involve much of our church family in planning, leading, and providing resources. If you're interested in being involved in Discovery please reach out to Miles (students@fairhopeumc.org)!

Angel Tree

Our Angels are here! We are so excited to partner with Ecumenical Ministries, local schools and DHR to provide Christmas for families and elderly this year! Our Angel Trees will be located in the CLC and outside the main office. For more information, please contact Jennifer Myrick missions@fairhopeumc.org

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MEDICAL PERSONNEL | FIRST RESPONDERS | MILITARY PERSONNEL

HOSPITALIZED:

Arthur Edgar, John Ryan Jones

Monthly Finance Report: Through October, income and expenses remain on track with our 2025 budget. We anticipate ending the year with a small increase in reserves.

If you would like more information about church membership, contact one of our pastors or attend **Coffee with the Pastors on December 14th @ 9:45AM in the Christian Life Center Parlor.** Look for directional signs on Sunday morning.

ONE LINK. ALL THE INFO. Want to sign up? Volunteer? Register your kids? RSVP for an event? Scan the QR code to access all of Fairhope UMC's resources in one place! Stay in the loop...**SCAN NOW!**



FAIRHOPE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"LOVE BOLDLY, CASTING THE LIGHT OF JESUS INTO THE WORLD"

REV. MICHAEL PRECHT, SENIOR PASTOR
DR. KRISTEN CURTIS WRIGHT, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

REV. SHEILA BATES, SOUTHWEST DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT
BISHOP L. JONATHAN HOLSTON, ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE

155 SOUTH SECTION STREET FAIRHOPE, AL 36532
FAIRHOPEUMC.ORG • 251-928-1148



THE GATHERING

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT *

DECEMBER 7TH, 2025 11:00AM AT FAIRHOPE UMC

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Presiding: Dr. Kristen Curtis Wright

Liturgist: Sidney Carol Barnhardt

Communion Servers: Marie Green

Greeter: Liz Floyd

Music: Shea White and Praise Band

Media and Sound: Cole Jones, Karl Langley, Jamie Waldhour

Stephen Minister: Dr. Ann Pearson

Ushers: Rick Fitzhugh, Charles Searce, Phil Webb

**Advent is the four-week season in the church year when we prepare our hearts and lives for the coming of Christ. It's a time of waiting, hope, and expectation as we remember Jesus' first coming in Bethlehem and look ahead to his promised return. Throughout these weeks, the church marks the journey with candles, Scripture readings, and special songs as reminders of God's light breaking into our world. All of this preparation culminates on Christmas Eve, when we celebrate the birth of Christ anew.*

OPENING SONG

Jesus Messiah

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

LAMENTATIONS 3

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

BRENT, RACHEL, AND
BONNIE BAILEY

SINGING OUR PRAISE

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Glory

He Has Come For Us

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children stay for the entire service so they can worship and receive Holy Communion with their families.
Nursery is available for children 4 years and younger in the Education Building.*

EMBRACE ALABAMA KIDS WITNESS

REBEKAH AND JAMES CHAMBLESS

LIGHTHOUSE CHILDREN'S CHOIR CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

CONFESSION AND PARDON

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THANKSGIVING

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