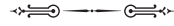


# WELCOME

We are glad you're here. Please sign our register to let us know that you're visiting, so our members can make you feel at home.



**WE'RE SO GLAD YOU ARE JOINING US FOR WORSHIP TODAY!** If you have any questions about Sunday morning activities & Worship or you would like more information about how you can be involved in the life of First United Methodist Church, Shreveport:

- Ask one of our wonderful ushers or volunteers in the Welcome Center. They'd be glad to help!
- Call the church office at 318.424.7771. We're open 8:30am - 5:00pm Monday - Thursday and 8:30am - 4:00pm on Friday.
- Visit [www.firstshreveport.org/getconnected](http://www.firstshreveport.org/getconnected)

## WANT A TOUR OF THE CAMPUS?

Starting Point tours happen the second Sunday of each month at 9:45am beginning in the Welcome Center located in the Education & Administration Building. Whether you're joining us for the first time or have been considering making this your church home, join us as we explore our church campus.

## READY TO JOIN OUR FIRST SHREVEPORT FAMILY?

If you're curious about what membership means and want to meet our pastors before deciding, join us for our next Starting Point Luncheon. Contact our New Member Pastor, Rev. Caroline Wilkinson at 424-7771, ext. 135 or [cwilkinson@fumcshreveport.org](mailto:cwilkinson@fumcshreveport.org) for more information.

You may join the church today by profession of faith, transfer of membership or reaffirmation of your baptismal vows. Our church receives persons from other traditions by transfer. If you have been baptized in another denomination, re-baptism is not necessary. To join, simply come to the front of the church and meet the pastors during the singing of the last hymn.

## NEXT STEPS:

- Join a small group! Contact Erik Rasmussen at [erasmussen@fumcshreveport.org](mailto:erasmussen@fumcshreveport.org) or call the church office for more info.
- Serve with us! For Local and Global service opportunities visit [www.firstserves.org](http://www.firstserves.org) or email Ashley Goad (Global) at [agoad@fumcshreveport.org](mailto:agoad@fumcshreveport.org) or Michelle Osborn (Local) at [mosborn@fumcshreveport.org](mailto:mosborn@fumcshreveport.org).

## FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Grab a copy of the *First Weekly* or *The Columns* located at any of the entryways or visit [firstshreveport.org](http://firstshreveport.org).

## Our Heritage in Stained Glass

*"Virgin with lamp"— "Be Ye Also Ready" Matthew 24:44*

*In loving memory of Our Idolized Daughter, Maude Lucile Atkins" August 10, 1886 - October 13, 1910. The center panel in this second window from the front on the right depicts a virgin with a lighted lamp. This beautiful window takes on deeper meaning when one realizes that in the central figure the artist has incorporated the face of the lovely young woman for whom the memorial was given in 1913.*

## JOYS & CONCERNS

**HOSPITALIZED:** Gaines Smith, LaVerne Hitchcock, Julia Ann Andress, April Sharlow, and Jasper Lynn

**SYMPATHY** is extended to Kathy Regan & family in the death of her mother, JoAnn Miller.

**THE RED ROSE NEAR THE ALTAR** honors those serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, at home & abroad.

## MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

**Winifred (Winnie) Lang Middleton**

from Cathey and Steve Schlar

Dr. and Mrs. Henry Dowling

Mariners Sunday School Class

Cathy and Jay Howe

Annette Moore and Billie Jo Moore

Marie Sanders

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Nims

**Gwen Meier Branton**

from Kathy and Dayne Hassell

**Betty McKay Whitler**

from Lucille, John William and Mary Godwin

SportsCare Family

**Mary Edna Adams Brossette**

from Mr. Marvin Brossette

**Dianne McCollum Brossette**

from Mr. Marvin Brossette

**Mary Bamburg on her Birthday**

from Don and Don M. Bamburg

**Ann Hutchinson Green**

from Don and Don M. Bamburg

**Russell Shuping**

from Eleanor Shuping

**Robert (Bobby) Cochran**

from Mary Cochran

**Betty McKay Whitler**

from Dona M. Anders

Carobeth and Bob Richardz

*~Honorarium~*

**Seekers Sunday School Class**

from the Brock Gumm Family

### ATTENDANCE: DECEMBER 23 & 24, 2018

Traditional worship Dec. 23 (8:30).....	173
Traditional worship Dec. 23 (11:00).....	559
FaithLink worship Dec. 23.....	226
<b>Total worship attendance Dec. 23:.....</b>	<b>955</b>
Total Sunday School attendance Dec. 23, all ages.....	428
FaithLink worship Christmas Eve (3:00).....	300
Traditional worship Christmas Eve (5:30).....	1200
Traditional worship Christmas Eve (7:30).....	500
<b>Total worship attendance Christmas Eve:.....</b>	<b>2000</b>

## VITAL SIGNS

*Due to year-end closing, final 2018 Vital Signs will be posted in the bulletin at a future date.*

*We wish you a Happy New Year!*

*Please remember that in order to receive credit for 2018, gifts to the church must be dated and postmarked no later than December 31, 2018. Thank you - Your Finance Committee*

*This Week's Stephen Ministers: Linda Ray (8:30); Jo Holladay (11:00)*



**WE ARE A STEPHEN MINISTRIES CARING CONGREGATION.** *If you are in need of personal prayer, we have Stephen Ministers available to listen and pray with you. A Stephen Minister will be at the altar by the left door at the end of each service.*

*Senior Pastor:* Dr. R. Pat Day • *Executive Pastor:* Rev. Derek Joyce • *Associate Pastor:* Rev. Caroline Wilkinson

*Associate Pastor, Global Missions & Women's Ministry:* Dr. Ashley Goad • *Associate Pastor:* Rev. Erik Rasmussen

*Pastor of Senior Adult Ministry:* Dr. Carl E. Rhoads • *Bishop-in-Residence:* William W. Hutchinson

*Director of Music:* Dr. David Hobson • *Director of Fine Arts:* Dr. Will K. Andress • *Principal Organist:* E. Ray Peebles

**TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICES:** 8:30am & 11:00am, **LIVE TELECAST ON KTBS/ABC** at 11:00am

**FAITHLINK CONTEMPORARY SERVICE:** 11:00am • **SUNDAY SCHOOL:** 9:45am

**WESLEYAN COMMUNION SERVICE:** 9:45 – 10:30am, **FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH IN COUCH CHAPEL**

318.424.7771 office • 318.429.6888 fax • PRAYER LINE: 318.429.6898 TOLL FREE: 1.888.393.PRAY  
[www.firstshreveport.org](http://www.firstshreveport.org) • [fumc@fumcshreveport.org](mailto:fumc@fumcshreveport.org)

# FIRST

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, SHREVEPORT

DECEMBER 30, 2018 · FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS



CONNECT. GROW. SERVE. LEAD.

# Celebration of Worship

First Sunday after Christmas Day - December 30, 2018

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:30 AM & 11:00 AM, LIVE TELECAST ON KTBS/ABC at 11:00 AM

PRELUDE (8:30).....*Carol of the Bells*.....Alison Beck, piano  
arr. Alison Beck Elizabeth Beck, violin

PRELUDE (11:00).....*What Child Is This?*.....Fr. James McLelland, organ  
arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams

WORDS OF WELCOME & GREETING ..... Dr. Goad

INTROIT.....*Angels from the Realms of Glory*.....Ensemble (8:30)  
REGENT SQUARE Chancel Choir (11:00)

CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION.....Dr. Hobson

† HYMN OF PRAISE .....“Joy to the World”.....No. 246

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH.....No. 881.....Dr. Rhoads

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*Ring the Bells*.....Al Hobson, baritone  
Harry Bollback Alison Beck, piano

† SCRIPTURE READING.....Psalm 148.....Bishop William Hutchinson  
Old Testament, Page 716 in your Pew Bible

‡  
† GLORIA PATRI  
*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN.*

‡  
\*\*CHILDREN’S BLESSING.....Billie Beck

JOYS & CONCERNS ..... Rev. Joyce

MORNING PRAYER ..... Dr. Goad

THE LORD’S PRAYER ..... Congregation (speaks in unison)  
*Our Father, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. ✠ And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. ✠ For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. AMEN.*

‡  
† HYMN OF PREPARATION.....“What Child is This?”.....No. 219

† OFFERTORY PRAYER.....Dr. Rhoads

MUSICAL OFFERING.....*What is This Lovely Fragrance?*.....Ensemble (8:30)  
Healey Willan Chancel Choir (11:00)

† DOXOLOGY .....Sing to the tune of “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”  
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to Thee, O Israel.*

SCRIPTURE READING.....Luke 2:25-38.....Rev. Joyce  
New Testament, Page 71 in your Pew Bible

MESSAGE.....**SEEING JESUS: SIMEON & ANNA**.....Rev. Joyce

† \*HYMN OF INVITATION.....“Go Tell It on the Mountain”.....No. 251  
*(During the singing of this hymn, those who wish to join the First Methodist family are invited to come to the front of the church for reception and recognition.)*

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS.....Dr. Rhoads  
*We rejoice to recognize you as members of Christ’s holy church, and bid you welcome to the congregation of First United Methodist Church. With you, we renew our vows to uphold it by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness.*

BENEDICTION .....Bishop William Hutchinson

SENDING FORTH.....*O Holy Child of Bethlehem*.....Ensemble (8:30)  
FOREST GREEN Chancel Choir (11:00)

POSTLUDE (8:30).....*Lo, How a Rose e’er Blooming*.....Alison Beck, piano  
arr. Alison Beck

POSTLUDE (11:00).....*Good Christian Men, Rejoice!*.....Fr. James McLelland, organ  
Johann Sebastian Bach



**Acolytes:** Harper Hearron (8:30), Macy Monday, Molly Reagan (11:00)

**Crucifer:** Elizabeth May (11:00)

† *Those who are able may stand. ‡ Latecomers may be seated at these times.*

♦ **COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED AT 9:30AM IN THE SANCTUARY AND NOON IN COUCH CHAPEL.**

\* **IF YOU WISH TO JOIN** the First United Methodist Church family, please come forward at this time.

\*\**Children leaving the service for Children’s Chapel may be picked up after the service:*

- 3–4 years (8:30 & 11:00): Children’s Ministry Center
- K5–3RD graders (11:00): Dawson Building, Room 208, behind the Sanctuary

Childcare for infants through 4 years is available from 8:15 to 12:15 in the Children’s Ministry Center. From the sanctuary, follow the sign located in the hallway between the sanctuary and the Dawson Building. Outdoor access is located on the corner of Douglas and Milam Streets.

# Sermon Notes

SEEING JESUS: SIMEON & ANNA

Luke 2:25-38

When we look at the advent and birth narratives in Scripture, we are invited into the story of redemption for the whole world. We might connect with the people of God who long for deliverance from bondage, or maybe we realize that if we pay attention to signs of the times, we can be led to Jesus the King. Throughout Advent, and now, as we have celebrated the birth of Jesus, may we continue to realize the glory of what God has done. Christmas has come! Jesus the Christ, who is our Lord and Savior, is born! The trajectory of the cosmos has shifted from darkness and death to light and life! This truly is “good news of great joy” for the world.

In Luke 2:25-38, we read about Simeon & Anna, who faithfully and consistently worship the LORD, waiting to see the child of promise, the gift of redemption for the world. May we learn from them, and pattern our lives and hearts around worship, prayer, and faithful expectation to encounter Jesus the King. Now is a great time to strengthen our commitment to be people who look for Jesus with faithful worship and expectation, to be filled with and led by the Holy Spirit. Let us see the majesty, the wonder, and the beauty of Christ the King, and let us continue to marvel at the activity of God that rescues us all. It is a Merry Christmas indeed, to all who hear and see Jesus this day.