

# Need to Know

## ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

The Florida Conference is offering a daily devotional guide for United Methodists for the seasons of Advent and Epiphany. The devotional is available in two formats: electronic PDF (free) or book (\$8). Email Pastor Brett at [brett@firstSRQ.com](mailto:brett@firstSRQ.com) for your copy.

## FROM STAFF PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Let's bless our wonderful staff at Christmastime. Place your offering in the enclosed envelope or give online at [www.SRQgives.com](http://www.SRQgives.com). Please give by Sunday, December 14 so that we can give this to staff in time for the holiday.

## EARLY CARE CENTER CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Thursday, December 11  
4:00pm - Sanctuary

Support our ECC families with your presence at the 20-minute performance of "Sing We Now of Christmas".

Following the program, a birthday celebration for Jesus will take place in Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.



## WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Join us at the joint Rebekah Circle, Women's Spiritual Group and UWF Christmas luncheon on Tuesday, December 16 at Sarasota Bay Club at 11:30am. Reservation deadline is Friday, December 12. For further information, contact Mary Lou Levine at [mlevine1941@gmail.com](mailto:mlevine1941@gmail.com) or 603-986-8282.

## SHARE YOUR COOKIE RECIPES



Bake and share your favorite (and famous?) cookies at Cookies & Carols in the Courtyard on Sunday, December 14 at noon.

Email Joy VanDeMortel ([joy@firstSRQ.com](mailto:joy@firstSRQ.com)) to let her know what you will be bringing.

We will also be compiling recipes of the cookies made to share.

If you are willing to share your recipe, please email it to [joy@firstSRQ.com](mailto:joy@firstSRQ.com) or bring it by the church office so we can make a copy.

## SUPPORT THE ARTS

The Music and Fine Arts Program (MFA) is blessed with some of this area's best talent. MFA is presenting 17 free concerts during the 2025-26 season. Our programs include special holiday celebrations showcasing many talented local musicians and vocalists. MFA invites you to become a Friend of Music by donating or underwriting so we may continue to present these free concerts that bring joy and fellowship to our community. Please call Sharon Kenworthy at 812-219-5606 for more information.



...or scan this QR code with your smartphone. Thank you for your generosity.



# Celebrations



To show our support and gratitude, we gave each staff member at Booker Elementary a \$25 Walmart gift card just before Thanksgiving.



# Church Calendar

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

2:30pm Womens Spiritual Growth Group - Room 104/Zoom

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

6:30pm Choir Practice, Choir Room

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

9:30am ECC SongSquad Gators & Bunnies - Fellowship Hall  
10:00am ECC SongSquad Shining Stars - Fellowship Hall  
10:00am Jayne Cory Memorial Service - Chapel  
4:00pm ECC Christmas Pageant- Sanctuary

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

8:30am Worship - Chapel  
9:40am Faith Café - Room 104/Zoom  
11:00am Kids Sunday School Sign-In Narthex/Lobby  
11:00am Worship - Sanctuary  
12:00pm Cookies & Carols - Courtyard  
5:00pm Youth Group - Youth Hall

# First United Methodist SARASOTA

December 7, 2025



104 South Pineapple Avenue  
Sarasota, Florida 34236  
941-955-0935  
[www.firstSRQ.com](http://www.firstSRQ.com)

*This service is being live-streamed and recorded so others can worship with us online.*



# First United Methodist Church of Sarasota

Communion Sunday  
December 7, 2025

PRELUDE (11:00am)  
*Now Woods and Fields are Sleeping* J.S. Bach

WELCOME / OPENING PRAYER Laura Ross

HYMN SING/PASSING THE PEACE (8:30am)

ADVENT CANDLE (8:30am) Matt and Donna Shane

\*HYMN  
*O Come, O Come Emmanuel* Hymnal 211 v1,2,6,7

ADVENT CANDLE (11:00am)  
Kyle and Whitney Moore and children: Madylin, Cameron and Lucy

\*PASSING THE PEACE / KIDS LEAVE FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL (11:00am)

\*ADVENT DOXOLOGY (11:00am)  
*Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son, laud and honor to the Spirit, Ever three and everyone; one in might and one in glory, while unending ages run.*

PRAYER Joyce Johnson  
*Pastoral Care/Faith Community Nurse*

LORD’S PRAYER  
**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.**

CHORAL RESPONSE (11:00am) Harold Darke  
*What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part. What I can I give him; give Him my heart.*

OFFERING AND PRAYER  
Tithes and offerings can be placed in one of the baskets/boxes located at the back of the room, or give online at SRQgives.com. Thank you for your generosity.

OFFERTORY (8:30am)  
*Gesu Bambino* arr. Mark Hayes  
Jade Weiss, soloist

OFFERTORY ANTHEM (11:00am)  
*Great King of Glory, Come* Jane Marshall  
Chancel Choir

SERMON  
*“Jumping for Joy”* (Luke 1:39-45,56) Rev. Dr. Debbie Allen

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION  
Pastor: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON  
**All: 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’ve not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.** *(All pray in silence.)*  
Pastor: 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!  
**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**  
**All: Glory to God. Amen**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING See Insert

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION MUSIC (8:30am)  
*O Little Town of Bethlehem* arr. David Lanz

COMMUNION ANTHEM (11:00am)  
*Gesu Bambino* arr. Mark Hayes  
Jade Weiss, soloist

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION  
Let us pray together: **Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit to give ourselves for others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE  
*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* Hymnal 213

BENEDICTION

MUSICAL BENEDICTION  
*O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us; we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide in us, our Lord Emmanuel.*

POSTLUDE (11:00am)  
*Joy to the World* (in the setting of Haydn’s Sonata in D) G.F. Handel  
arr.Carolyn M. Taylor

*\*Please stand as you are comfortable.*



We are glad that you are here and hope that you’re blessed by the experience. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here at First United Methodist.

Please fill out the enclosed **Guest Connection Card** or text the word **WELCOME to 941-352-1050** to connect with us further.

- CONTACT US  
Phone 941-955-0935
- “IN THE LOOP” TEXT UPDATES  
Text LOOP to 941-352-1050
- WiFi PASSWORD  
SRQWORSHIP
- WEBSITE  
firstSRQ.com
- ONLINE WORSHIP  
SRQworship.com
- OUR SOCIALS  
facebook: fumcsarasota  
youtube: firstmethodistsarasota  
instagram: firstchurchsrq

AN INVITATION TO KNOW MORE ABOUT JESUS  
Jesus loves you. Jesus offers you new and abundant life. Jesus desires to be in relationship with you.

AN INVITATION TO FOLLOW JESUS  
A disciple is a follower of Jesus who is...  
Inwardly Becoming More Like Jesus by cultivating the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control) and Outwardly Living More Like Jesus by practicing holy love.

To discuss either invitation, please contact Rev. Brett DeHart at brett@firstSRQ.com or 941-955-0935.