

**Week at a Glance: December 1-7, 2024**

Sunday First Sunday of Advent  
 1-3pm: Singles Mingles Leftovers Lunch & Games @ EFUMC  
 Monday 9am: Team Tabitha in the Fellowship Hall  
 Tuesday 11am and 4pm: Bible Study  
 Thursday Vespers @ 6pm in the Fellowship Hall

Holiday Closings:  
 The Office will be closed December 25th—29th.  
 The Office will also be closed December 31st—January 5th.



Our next Vespers Service will take place on Thursday Dec 5th at 6 pm.  
 This month's topic is "The Spark of God Within You".

**Ladies of the Church**

Please plan to join the Claddagh Circle's "Joyful Noise" singers as we carol at the Manor Lake cottages on Monday, December 9 at 6 pm. Words to songs will be provided as well as background music. Many of our church members live there and this event is always a blessing to all.  
 We hope you will join us!



The Altar Guild and Friends were busy this week preparing our sanctuary for the Christmas season.  
 Thanks to all that participated in preparing our sanctuary to be even more beautiful for the holidays.



**Church Lock-up Schedule**

12/1: Lloyd Vautrot  
 12/8: Charlie Leonard  
 12/15: Bill Munson



12/5: Harry Doss  
 12/6: Hank Chapman

**FUMC Firestarter's Prayer for the Week**

Lord, you have given us this truth, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away." Lead us to intentionally enter into and study your Holy Word, day by day. Amen.

**Financial Report**

Thanks to the Congregation for your generous tithes and offerings. Last week, \$10,660.53 was received.  
 Up to date financial reports are always posted in the Fellowship Hall.

**Prayers for the Week**

Pray without ceasing for family/friends, teachers, doctors., pastors, World Leaders/Military, The Weak, Sick & Hungry, Ourselves.  
 Prayer Request Forms are in the Pew Racks

**General**

Emma Ford  
 Missionary  
 Roger & Dorothy  
 Rainwater

**Surgery/Recuperating**

Terry Copeland  
 Pat Daniels  
 John Marshall  
 Lynn Perry

**Caregiver**

Joy Fanelli  
 Carolyn Hipp  
 Ruth Hix  
 Mary Jo Lowery  
 Lorraine Seagraves  
 Joan Stanhope

**Health**

Doug Bater  
 Ed Boyd  
**Kevin Brett**  
 Kyle Bullington  
 Joan Compton  
 Paul Compton  
 Allen Fanelli  
 Sharon Fletcher  
 Jessica Good  
 Betty Jo Hanes

**Shut-In**

Peter Adams  
 Marlene Brown  
 Ernette Calhoun  
 Jim Hagopian  
 Mack Hipp  
 Rudi Lanehardt  
 Peggy Puckett  
 Caryl Putnan  
 Margie Pyren  
 Myron Seagraves  
 Paul Stanhope  
 Mary Uthlaut  
 Valerie Weiss  
 Robert Westmoreland

**Death in Family**

Family of Charlie Woehr  
 Family of Clifford  
 Albert Padgett  
 Family of Jeanne Munson  
 Family of Jim Pinson  
**Family of Judy Hodge**  
 Family of Skylar  
 Wornbough  
 Family of Terry Lowe

**Surgery /Upcoming**

Earline Crooke  
 Barbara Fogle  
 Nancy Smith

**Caregiver**

Joy Fanelli  
 Carolyn Hipp  
 Ruth Hix  
 Mary Jo Lowery



**Ellijay First United Methodist Church**

75 McCutchen Street  
 PO Box 472  
 Ellijay, GA 30540  
 706-635-2555



Sunday, December 1, 2024

**Church Office Hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 am- 4 pm**  
 Rev. Dr. Mike Shearon, Pastor, Mike.Shearon@NGUMC.net  
 Lay Leader Rick Thaxton 770-241-1852 rlthaxton@etcmail.com  
 Church phone: 706-635-2555; Fax: 706-273-2555  
 Web site: fumcellijay.org

Gabrielle Cornett...Pianist  
 Marianne Evans .... Children's Ministries and Preschool....  
 children@fumcellijay.org  
 Susan Gooch.....Director of Music.....choir@fumcellijay.org  
 Susan Marino...Admin Asst/Financial Secretary  
 ...ellijayfirstoffice@gmail.com  
 Julie Kepley.....Nursery Coordinator  
 Zack Kepley.....Audio/Video Technician



# First Sunday of Advent

*The Liturgical Color is Purple  
The Worship of God*

**The Prelude** - "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"  
*arr by Lloyd Larson*

**The Chiming of the Hour**

**The Lighting of the Advent Candle**                      The Evans Family

**Welcome, Announcements and Invocation**

† **Choral Call to Worship** - "Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord"  
*by Stephen Schwartz*

† **The Greeting** - *Jeremiah 33, Luke 21*

Leader: Wait for God.

**People: We wait for the promise of new life.**

Leader: Wait for God.

**People: We wait for the promise of security.**

Leader: Wait for God.

**People: We wait for God's love to be born anew.**

Leader: God's love is everlasting.

**People: God's promises are true.**

† **The Hymn of Praise** - "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"  
UMH 196

† **The Affirmation of Faith**                      **The Apostles Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

† **The 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, Amen.**

**Pastoral Prayer & Congregational Prayer**

**The 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**

†**The Hymn of Preparation** "In the Bleak Midwinter"  
vs. 1,2 & 4                      UMH 221

**The Worship with Tithes and Offerings**                      Pastor Mike

**The Offertory Music:** "I Wonder as I Wander"  
*arr by Lloyd Larson*

†**The Presentation and Doxology**  
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Him, all creatures here below;  
praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen

**The Anthem:** "Prepare for the Coming of the Lord"  
*by Lloyd Larson*

**The Scripture:** Luke 21:25-32

**The Sermon:** "What does 'This Generation' Mean?"  
Pastor Mike

**Luke 21:25-32**

<sup>25</sup> "There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea.

<sup>26</sup> People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken.

<sup>27</sup> At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

<sup>28</sup> When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

<sup>29</sup> He told them this parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees.

<sup>30</sup> When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near.

<sup>31</sup> Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

<sup>32</sup> "Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened.

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion**                      UMH 12

†**The Closing Hymn**  
"People, Look East"                      UMH 202

*During this time, the Pastor and Prayer Team are available at the altar for anyone desiring to join the Church, personal or corporate prayer.*

†**The Benediction**

†**The Choral Benediction**  
"O Come, All Ye Faithful" (refrain)                      UMH 234

**The Postlude**  
"Sing Praise"                      *(Israeli folk song)*  
*arr by Howard Helvey*

## ***You Are Welcome Here***

You enter this church not as a stranger, but as a guest of God. He is your Heavenly Father. Come then, with joy in your heart and thanks on your lips, into His presence, offering Him your love and service. Be grateful to the men and women who, in the name of Jesus Christ, built this historic place of worship and to all who have beautified it and hallowed it with prayer and praise. Beseech His blessings on those who love this house of faith as the inspiration of their labor, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, and may that blessing rest upon your going out and your coming in.