

*Welcome...*

# *Christmas Eve*



*Worship. Study. Serve.*

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# Christmas Eve

December 24, 2017 • 6:00 p.m.  
Candlelight Worship Service

Welcome to Spanish Fort United Methodist Church!  
We pray that the Holy Spirit moves through you as it moves through this service of worship.

## Prelude

**“What Child Is This” ~ Leatherman**  
*Wanda Cooper, Organ & Cheryl White, Piano*

## Welcome

*Beth Allen*

## Scripture Reading

**Luke 2:1-14**

*Beth Allen*

## \*Opening Song

**“Joy To The World” ~ No. 246**

## Lighting of the Advent Wreath

*The Hegan Family*

Leader: Christ came to bring us salvation and has promised to come again. Let us pray that the Christmas season may fill us with peace and joy as we strive to follow the example of Jesus.

**All: Come, Lord Jesus**

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: Loving God, your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin. Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May their light reflect the splendor of Christ, who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Leader: A reading from Luke, chapter 2, verse 10:

Do not be afraid; for see-I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

Leader: We light this Christ candle as a symbol of Christ, divine Lord, born into human form, God incarnate, the Word made flesh. May the tiny babe lying in the manger remind us of the great power of God to reclaim, recreate and renew each and every one of his precious children.

**All: Welcome, Emmanuel, welcome!**

The center white Christ candle is lit.

## Special Music

**“Noel Nouvelet”**  
*Rebekah Atkinson, Harpist*

## Scripture Reading

**Luke 2:15-20**

*Rev. Candler Cain*

## \*Hymn

**“Away in a Manger” ~ No. 217**

## Pastoral Prayer

*Rev. Bill Price*

## Prayer Response

**“What Child Is This”**  
*Rebekah Atkinson, Harpist*

## \*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles' Creed ~ No. 881

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.

## \*Glory Be to the Father

(Gloria Patri) ~ No. 70

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.

## Children's Moment

*Jennifer Robertson*

## Offertory Prayer

*Zack McCraw*

## Offertory

**"Gesù Bambino"**

*Jacque Helms, Solo*

*\*Offering will be given to the United Methodist Children's Home unless otherwise designated.*

## \*Scripture

Luke 2:10 ~ Pew Bible New Testament, Page 50

## Message

**"Good News of Great Joy"**

*Rev. Bill Price*

## Invitation to Holy Communion

*Rev. Rebecca Rutherford*

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Rev. Bill Price*

## Giving the Bread and Cup

We will participate in communion by the practice of intinction. Let the communion server place the bread in your hand. Then take the bread and dip it into the cup. After receiving the sacrament, you are welcome to spend some time in prayer at the altar. Please let the server know if you would like gluten free bread. Gifts left at the altar will be designated for the pastor's discretionary fund.

## \*Closing Carol

**"Silent Night, Holy Night" ~ No. 239**

*Congregation/Rebekah Atkinson, Harpist*

The ministers will light a candle at the altar. In turn they will proceed to give light to the first worshiper in each pew, who will pass it on to the others. The lighted candle is never tilted, but always held upright while giving light to another. At the end of the service, please return your candle to the containers provided. *\*Children may activate their light sticks.*

## \*Benediction

*\*Please stand as you are able.*

Thank you for joining us this evening.  
We pray that your Christmas is filled with the light of Christ and we hope that you will join us again.  
Below are opportunities in each area of our mission.  
Please call the church office for more information, 251-626-1334 or go to our website at  
[www.spanishfortumc.org](http://www.spanishfortumc.org).

## Worship

### Sundays

Traditional Worship • 8:45am • Sanctuary • Main Campus

Contemporary Worship • 11:00am • Sanctuary • Main Campus

***Please join us Sunday, December 31, for one combined worship service at 10:00 a.m.  
(No Sunday School or evening activities.)***

## Study

### Adults

#### ***Sundays***

10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
West & Main Campuses

#### ***Wednesdays***

Mid-Week,  
beginning January 10, 2018  
Bible Studies & Small Groups  
West & Main Campus

#### ***Weekdays***

Bible Studies & Small Groups  
West & Main Campuses

### Youth

#### ***Sundays***

10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
Small Groups (6th-12th grades)  
West Campus

and

6:00 p.m. Remedy Youth  
(9th-12th grades)  
West Campus

#### ***Wednesdays***

6:00 p.m. Catapult  
(6th - 8th grades)  
West Campus

### Children

#### ***Sundays***

10:00 a.m. Sunday School  
Age 3 yrs-5th grade,  
West Campus  
Infant-age 36 months,  
Lower Fellowship Hall  
Main Campus

#### ***Wednesdays***

Age 3 yrs - 5th grade  
6:00 p.m. West Campus  
Infant-age 36 months,  
West Campus

## Service

### **Join one of our 2018 Mission Teams:**

Red Bird Mission: April 15-21 • Costa Rica: June 9-16 or June 16-23 • Ecuador: July 14-23

### **Join us for Vacation Bible School:**

June 11-15, 2018