

*First***CHURCH**
First United Methodist Church of Boulder

1421 Spruce Street Boulder, CO 80302

303.442.3770

www.fumcboulder.org

10:30 am Worship

Sunday, December 6, 2020

Advent 2: Love

WORDS FOR MEDITATION

“And We Love Life”

by Mahmoud Darwish

And we love life if we find a way to it.

We dance in between martyrs and raise a minaret for violet or palm trees.

We love life if we find a way to it.

And we steal from the silkworm a thread to build a sky and fence in this departure.

We open the garden gate for the jasmine to step out on the streets as a beautiful day.

We love life if we find a way to it.

And we plant, where we settle, some fast growing plants, and harvest the dead.

We play the flute like the color of the faraway, sketch over the dirt corridor a neigh.

We write our names one stone at a time, O lightning brighten the night.

We love life if we find a way to it...

(translated from the Arabic by Fady Joudah)

PRELUDE *(Please join us at 10:15 for curated Advent prelude selections)*

“Populus Sion” (*People of Zion*) Gregorian Chant
The Schola of Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary,
Gerald W. Holbrook, conductor

“Vom Himmel Hoch, da Komm’ Ich Her” Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)
(From Heaven Above to Earth I Come)
Gerald W. Holbrook, organ

“Still, Still, Still” Austrian carol, Arr. Mark Hayes (b. 1953)
Jordan Ortman, piano

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” 13th century plainsong,
Jordan Ortman, piano Arr. Brent Edstrom

THE CALL The Fortna Family, Rev. Michael Mather, Larry Davis

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE The Fortna Family

HYMN “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” vs. 1 & 3
Tessa Espinosa, soprano
Gerald Holbrook, organ

THE WITNESS OF MUSIC Dr. Gerald Holbrook

ANTHEM “Lo, How A Rose E’er Blooming” Michael Praetorius (1571-1721)
Tessa Espinosa, Carlisle Momberger, Katheryne Baker,
Paul Stuber, Kyle Griffin, Dominic Aragon, vocalists

THE SCRIPTURE READING Jennie Elliot

Matthew 1:17-25 (CEB)

So there were fourteen generations from Abraham to David, fourteen generations from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen generations from the exile to Babylon to the Christ.

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. When Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, before they were married, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband was a righteous man. Because he didn’t want

to humiliate her, he decided to call off their engagement quietly. As he was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, don’t be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the child she carries was conceived by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” Now all of this took place so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled:

Look! A young woman will become pregnant and give birth to a son, And they will call him, Emmanuel. (Emmanuel means “God with us.”)

When Joseph woke up, he did just as an angel from God commanded and took Mary as his wife. But he didn’t have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a son. Joseph called him Jesus.

LESSON FROM THE CONTEMPORARY CHURCH Dr. Perla Delgado

SERMON *Love: Six Impossible Things* Rev. Michael Mather

PRAYERS IN THE STILLNESS Rev. Michael Mather

ANNOUNCEMENTS Stephanie Moffitt

BENEDICTION

*Pastor: You are invited...
Raise your voices and repeat after me...
“do not be afraid!”*

“do not be afraid!”

Amen!

POSTLUDE “Angels from the Realms of Glory” Arr. Mark Hayes
Jordan Ortman, piano

***This week, as we all live into the things around us,
let’s remember to offer peace to one another.***

THANK YOU to all who contributed their time and talents to today's service:

Dominic Aragon
Katheryne Baker
Larry Davis
Perla Delgado
Jennie Elliott
Tessa Espinosa
Kyle Griffin
The Fortna Family
Gerald Holbrook
Carlisle Momberger
Jordan Ortman
Paul Stuber

After worship, join us on Zoom for Coffee Hour!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5291240473>

Join Us for Our Service on December 13, 2020

10:30 am MDT on Our Website and Facebook

Speaker: Rev. Michael Mather

The lovely poinsettias that are beautifying our sanctuary during Advent were given by Fran and Rich Saxon in memory of the many friends who have passed away during this last year.

December Special Offering Split between Pastor's Love Fund and the Nederland Food Pantry

The December special offering will be divided 50-50 between the Pastor's Love Fund and the Nederland Food Pantry, which our youth have supported for a number of years with volunteer work and collecting supplies. The Love Fund enables Pastor Mike to assist folks who are needing some extra help with food security, rent payments, medical expenses, gas money, and other needs that arise in everyday life. The

Nederland Food Pantry helps fight food insecurity for clients in the Nederland area, and also has a clothing closet to make clothes available to those that need them, free of charge. To contribute, please make your check payable to First United Methodist Church, and write “December special offering” in the memo line. You can mail your check to the church at 1421 Spruce Street, Boulder, CO 80302. If you’d prefer to give online through our website, click on the green “Give” tab in the upper right corner of the homepage, click the “Donate Now” button, and type in the amount you’d like to give on the line for “December Mission Offering.” Thank you for your generous support of this special offering.

Giving to FUMC During the Pandemic

Just a reminder that FUMC can still receive your offering gifts to support God’s work in the world. Mail is still being checked several times each week in the church office, so you can mail checks, made payable to First United Methodist Church, to 1421 Spruce Street, Boulder, CO 80302. You can also give online via our website: <https://fumcboulder.org/about/donating/>. Thank you.