

# A Service of Joyous Worship in word and song for the Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025

10:30 A.M.

PRELUDE

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please fill out a Connect Card—available in the pews (drop it in the offering plate) or digitally via the QR code at the bottom right of this bulletin.

\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Please respond by reading the bold text aloud.)

This is the day the Lord has made.

**We will rejoice and be glad in it!**

This is the day of remembering God's promises.

**We will rejoice and be glad in them.**

This is a day of worship, Advent waiting—and joy.

**We will rejoice in God our savior! Make a joyful noise to the Lord.**

\*GATHERING SONG

*Sounding Joy* - Ellie Holcomb  
Makenzie Monk, Soloist  
Praise Team

PASSING OF THE PEACE/CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

*Let no one be a stranger in the house of God.*  
Please take this opportunity to greet those around you.

PASTORAL PRAYER & 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.**

PRESENTATION OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS:

*As forgiven and reconciled people, we offer ourselves and our gifts to God.*

*Messiah* - Francesca Battistelli  
Praise Team

## *A Journey to Joy*

by Joseph M. Martin

*A Flourish of Carols*

*Christmas Hymn, Oh How Joyfully, Joy to the World*  
Chancel Choir, Orchestra, Organ

*Advent Lament*

Ashley Alston and Chancel Choir

Isaiah 9:2

*Once Upon*

Tammy Morreale and Praise Team

Isaiah 43:1-2

*Comfort, Hope and Joy*

Deuteronomy 31:8, Isaiah 41:10  
Chancel Choir

*Ring Joy for Baby Jesus*

John 16:22, Isaiah 7:14, Zechariah 9:9  
Kids Choir

*A Palace in Bethlehem*

Matthew 1:18-22, Luke 2:4-7  
Matthew Take and Chancel Choir

*Angels We Have Heard on High, Gloria!*

Chancel Choir

Luke 2:8-14

*Child of Promise*

Kids Choir and Chancel Choir

Isaiah 9:6

*Let There Be Joy*

Matthew 2: 9-10, Isaiah 55:12  
*Joy to the World, The First Noel, O Come, All Ye Faithful*  
Chancel Choir, Kids Choir, Praise Team

BENEDICTION AND SENDING

*Sounding Joy Postlude*  
Praise Team

\* Congregation, please stand.

**Directors:** John Larsen, Millie Russell, Nancy Newman

**Organist:** Mary Holladay

**Narrator:** Avery Garner

**Audio Visual Team:** Brittany and Quinton Scott

**Ushers:** Bryan Davis, Radley Remo, Diane Wells, Karen Western

**Greeters:** Karen Fleming, Alicia Frank, Jeff and Sharon Joos

### Instrumentalists

Violin 1 - Julia Keller

Violin 2 - Victoria Scarlett

Viola - Justin Hasmath

Cello - Claudia Beshears

Flute - Anne McKennon

Oboe - Emily Knight

Percussion - Paul Butler, Victoria Vasquez  
Clarinet - Molly Sweet

### Chancel Choir

Ashley Alston

Wayne Bailey

Clark Burner

Diane Carrigg

Brenda Chapman

Elisabeth Crumrine

Katherine Crumrine

Jeff Cornett

Nancy Darragh

Sara Lynn Fenwick

Kimberly Fishman

Julie Garmendia

Rebecca Garner

Woody Garner

Keith Hall

David Holladay

Mary Holladay

Sarah Leitch

Mark Mathews

Molly Miller

Noah Meyer

Vance Meyer

Taylor Newman

George Ridge

Sarah Roberts

Jo Ann Stephens

Diane Take

Matthew Take

Corky Thomas

Kit Thomas

Bridget Ware

Claire Weaver

Vance Whitaker

### Praise Team

Singers - David Henderson, Makenzie Monk, Tammy Morreale,  
Millie Russell

Keys - Doug Matthews

Guitar - Dan Hunting

Bass Guitar - Elizabeth Jackson

Drums - Tim Jackson

### Kids Choir

Caden Bridges

Mariah Cope

Daiquan Flagler

Luke Garmendia

Theo Henderson

Madeleine Knight

E.J. Waters



*Especially if this is your first Sunday, Welcome!*

- Children are welcome to stay in worship (we love joyful noises) but if you would be more comfortable, our nursery is open for kids up to four years old. Ask an usher for assistance.
- To engage kids in worship, we have activity bags near the main sanctuary doors.

### Sunday Attendance - December 7, 2025

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP - In Person	58
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP - Online	6
TRADITIONAL WORSHIP - In Person	144
TRADITIONAL WORSHIP - Online	8
Total Worship	216

### What's Happening This Week?

#### TODAY:

- Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
- Worship (ONE service): 10:30 a.m.
- Young Adult Brunch: 11:30 a.m.
- Chancel Ringers Rehearsal: 5:00 p.m.

#### THIS WEEK:

- Tai Chi: Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
- Girl Scouts: Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. (Room 303)
- Church Council: Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. (Library)
- "Love All, Serve All" Dinner: Wed. at 5:00 p.m. (McCord Building)
- Blue Christmas Service: Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. (Chapel)**
- Chancel Choir: Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. (Room 501)

### Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God.

**Free Community Meals Served Last Week:** 122

**Fuel the Mission & Give Online:**

**RPUMC.mywell.org**  
(Select ACH transfers for lower processing fees.)



Brief daily readings & reflections for Advent can be found here: 

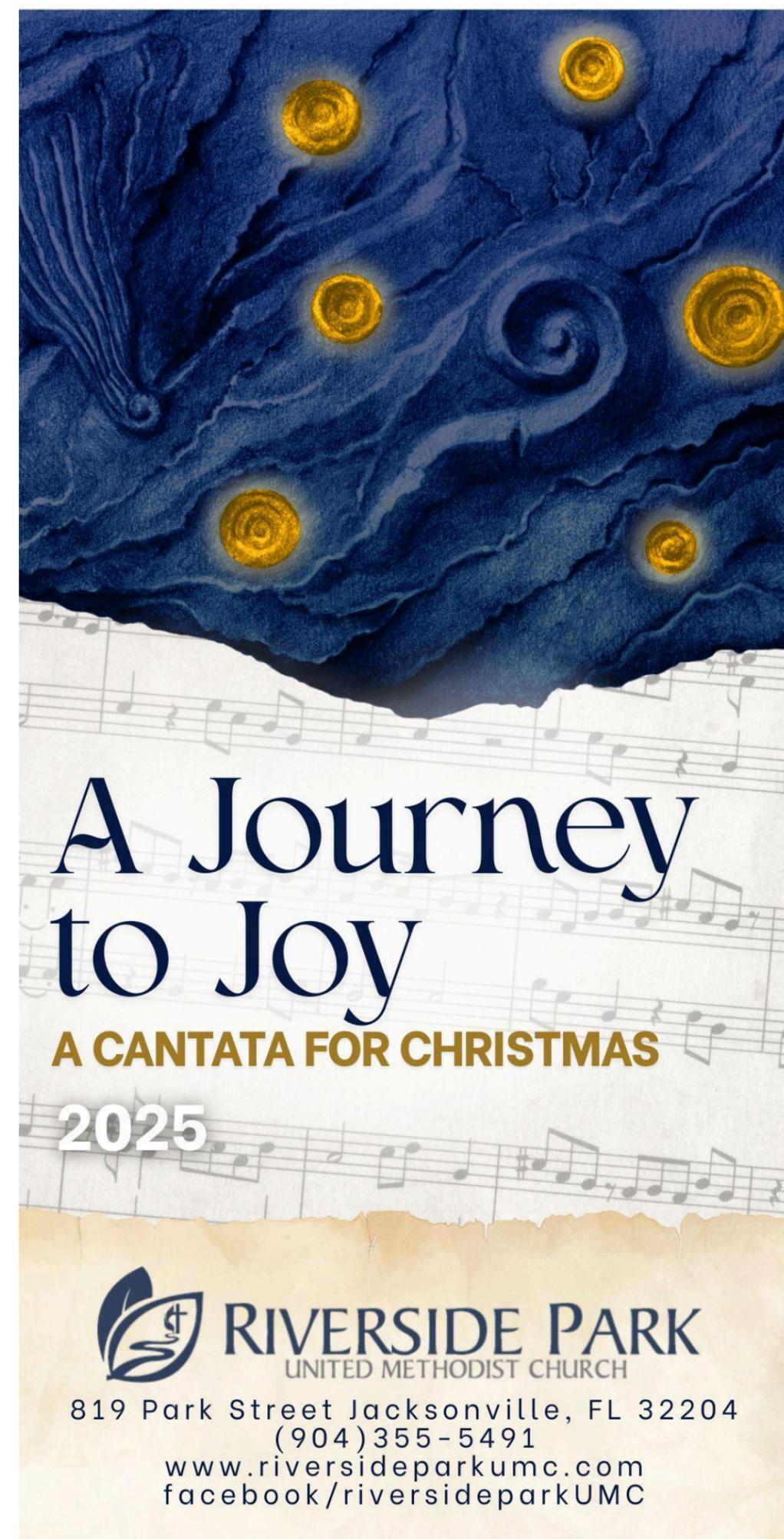
**Dec. 14th YOUNG ADULT BRUNCH**  
JUST AFTER THE CANTATA  
(MEET AT THE SANCTUARY STEPS)

*Blue Christmas*  
A holiday service of hope & remembrance  
Wednesday, Dec 17 @ 6:30 p.m. in the chapel

**CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP**  
DECEMBER 24, 2025  
*Communion & Candlelight*  
4:30 P.M. CONTEMPORARY  
7:00 P.M. TRADITIONAL  
Nursery care available at 7 p.m.

**CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS**  
December 24th: 9-12 (closed early)  
December 25th & 26th: Closed  
December 31st: 9-12 (closed early)  
New Year's Day: Closed

*Sunday after Christmas*  
**One Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.**  
Join us December 28th to celebrate the birth of Jesus!  
Kids can wear pajamas.



**A Journey to Joy**  
**A CANTATA FOR CHRISTMAS**  
**2025**

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