

**11:00 am Worship**  
**December 3, 2023 - First Sunday of Advent**

*The altar is open for personal prayer time prior to the beginning of our service.*

---

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Prelude** Kelley Hill

**Invocation** Ray Kirby

**\*Hymn of Praise** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* Hymn #163

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath** *(see special insert)*

**Pastoral 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.*

**Children's Moment**

Hillary Eckstein

**Offering Prayer**

**Offertory Music** *Do You Hear What I Hear?* Chancel Choir

**\*Prayer of Praise**

*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*

**Message** Protagonist  
"Stepping Into The Story" Rev. Clint McBroom  
*Isaiah 64:1-4*

**Service of Holy Communion** Hymn #730

**\*Hymn** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Hymn #162

**\*Benediction**

**\*Postlude** Chandler Ogles

\*please stand as you are able

---

*The altar flowers this morning are given by Frankie Scott,  
in memory of Walter T. Scott.*

**Sign-Ups**

Name(s):

**Mission House**

\_\_\_\_ Check if interested in volunteering

***Items needed:***

- **New or gently used toys** - for Christmas
- Blankets - All Sizes
- Jackets - All Sizes
- Men's jeans - sizes 32 & 34 waist various lengths
- Toddler clothes 1 - 5
- Elementary age children - clothes
- Men's Deodorant
- Men's Shaving Cream
- Razors
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Body Lotion
- Toothpaste
- Dishwashing Detergent
- Size 11 and 13-Men's shoes
- Can opener

You can place it in the collection bin by the coke machine or bring it to the church office.

**MISSION MINISTRIES NEEDS**

**ACTS** - has an urgent need for 2 lb. bags of cornmeal and flour. You can place it in the collection bin in the fellowship hall or bring it by the church office.

Welcome!  
We're glad you're here!

Name(s):

Email (optional):

## Prayer Requests

### A NEW WAY TO GIVE TO YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

First Methodist now has the ability to give via Venmo. Use the QR code below.



venmo

## Announcements

### This afternoon

4:00 pm - Handbell Rehearsal, *bell room*  
5:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal, *choir room*  
6:00 pm - Hanging of the Greens, *sanctuary*

### Monday, December 4

1-2:30 - Crafty Christians, *fellowship hall*  
6:00 pm - Church Council Meeting, *fellowship hall*

### Wednesday, December 6

9:00 am - 1:00 pm - Mission house opened  
No Activities  
Youth & Kids - check Facebook pages for schedules

### YEAR END GIVING

Your December and year-end gifts are important to fuel the mission of our church! They help us close the year strong and fuel the start of the new year. Thank you for loving God and the work of our church!

- Giving at the end of the year can be an opportunity to tithe from a work bonus, catch up on giving for the year, bless others, and benefit from tax deductions.
- Donations of cash from a bonus check, IRA QCD, donor advised fund, and stocks and bonds are all great year-end gifts to the church. These are great gifts to make before the December 31 deadline for your 2023 taxes.

### WHITE CHRISTMAS

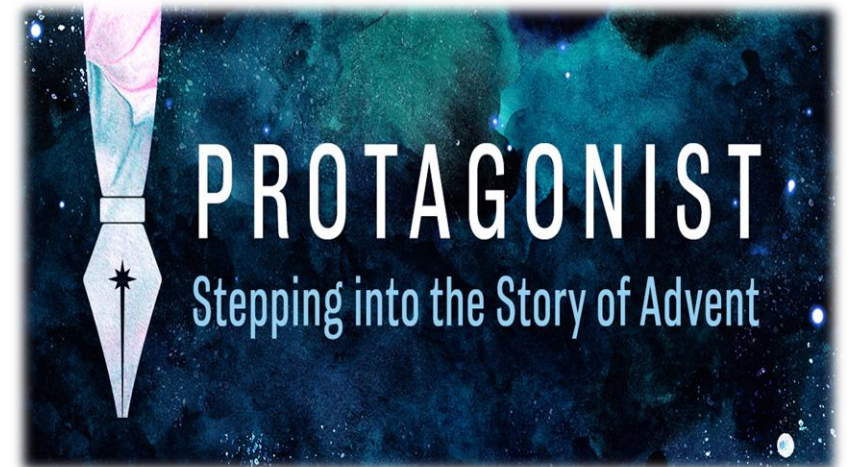
We'll be accepting donations for the annual White Christmas until December 17th. Embrace Alabama Kids began over 130 years ago as an orphanage. Today, it is one of the state's most comprehensive and vital resources serving babies, children, youth, teen mothers, college students, and families. Checks can be made out to FMC; "White Christmas" in the memo line

### LEARNING TREE CHRISTMAS

If you sponsored a Learning Tree child this Christmas, please bring your unwrapped gifts to the office no later than Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.

### ADVENT THEME AND DAILY DEVOTIONAL - "PROTAGONIST"

If you would like to buy the devotional book, they are \$13 each. You can also order it online by going to [my.seedbed.com/product/protagonist-stepping-into-the-story-of-advent/](http://my.seedbed.com/product/protagonist-stepping-into-the-story-of-advent/) or pick up one of the copies that we will have available in the Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary.



Stepping Into The Story  
Isaiah 64:1-4