



TODAY AFTER WORSHIP

Fellowship and refreshments in the basement before Sunday school. Please keep drinks in the basement. Snacks for children PreK-Grade School are also available. Sunday school for all ages will be held from 11:15 am – 12 pm. Childcare for infants and toddlers is provided in the nursery.



CHILDREN – COLLEGE AGE CLASSES (downstairs)	ADULT CLASSES (sanctuary & downstairs)
Kindergarten – Grade 2: Room 10/11	Jesus and John Wayne: Sanctuary
Grades 3 – 6: Room 3	Be Still and Know: Room 7 (downstairs)
High school & College: Room 5	Coffee & Conversation: Room 13 (downstairs)

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO HELPED TODAY: **NEXT SUNDAY MORNING (DEC. 24) AT FMC:**
Worship begins at 10am; communion will be served
No Refreshments or Sunday school

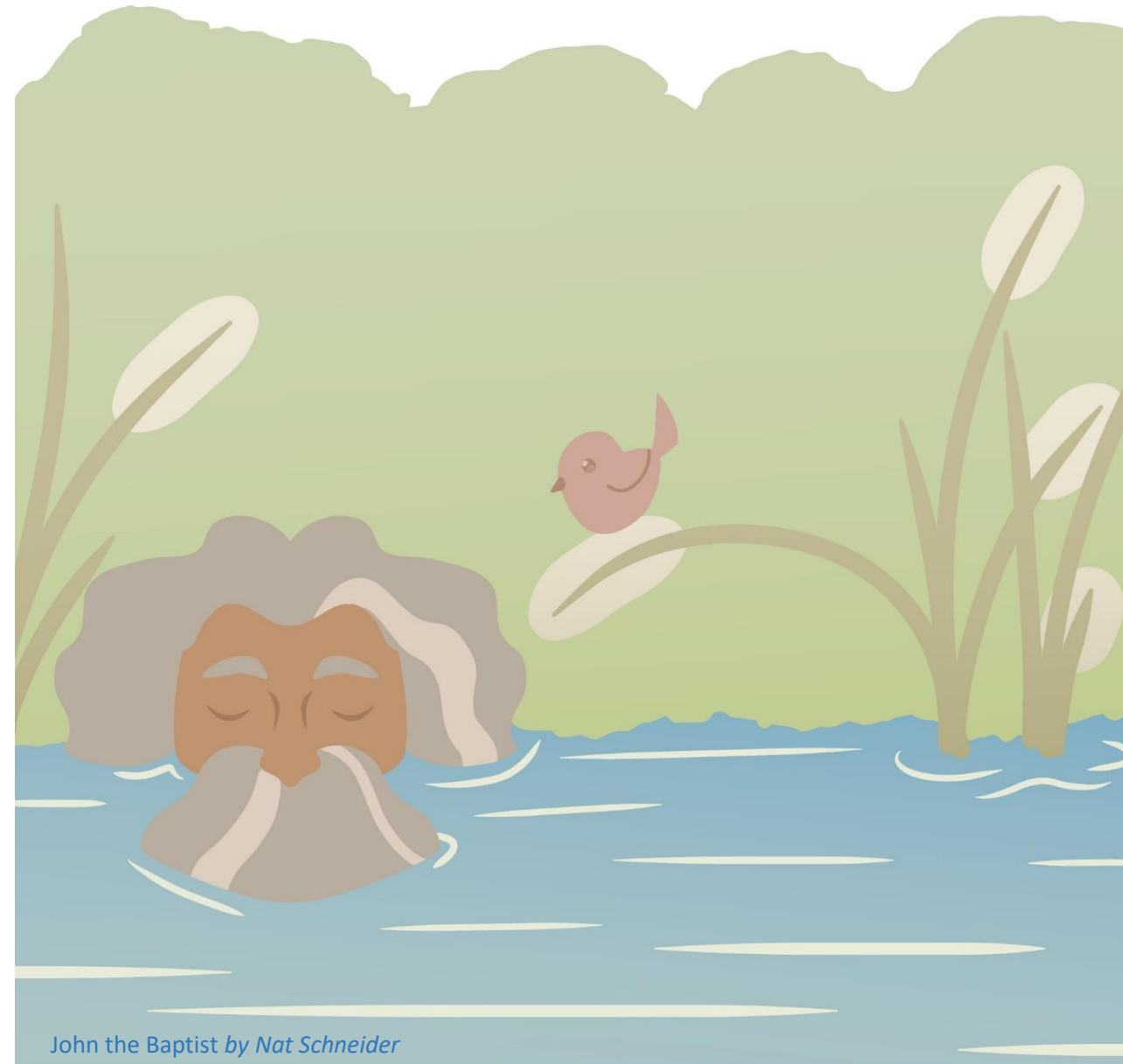
Greeters: Rhonda Gibson and Marcia E Nelson
 Worship Leader: Chuck Gibson
 Candle Lighters: The Anderson & Thurston families
 Song Leader: Bev Birkey Potts; Piano: Pam Peña Martin
 Children’s Story: Lynne Sancken
 Scripture Reader: Amber Anderson
 Embodied Scripture: Cindy Breeze (Isaiah 11:6-9)
 Offertory: Pam Pena-Martin (piano) & Pete Shungu (trumpet)
 Sermon: John the Baptist (aka Doug Malcolm)
 Sharing: Pastor Michael
 Zoom: Mary Krick; Audio: Emerson Nafziger
 Visuals: Donna Evans & Lynne Sancken
 Worship Nursery: Taniya Boone & Megan Cox
 Sunday school Nursery: Abby Crosby & Rebecca Bare
 Stewards: Tammie Bouseman & Bob King
 Refreshments: Keith & Kathy Springer

Advent 4: Waiting in Love
 Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-5
 Scripture Reader: Mark Evans
 Greeters: Rhonda Gibson and Marcia E Nelson
 Worship Leader: Janet Elaine Guthrie
 Candle Lighters: The Crosby family
 Song Leader: Pastor Deb; Piano: Kathy Springer
 Advent Music: Clark & Cindy Breeze
 Children’s Story: Lynne Sancken
 Embodied Scripture: Chuck Gibson (Isaiah 9:2-7)
 Sermon & Sharing: Pastor Michael
 Zoom: Phil Martens; Audio: Bruce Miller
 Visuals: Donna Evans & Lynne Sancken
 Worship Nursery: Kathy Anderson & Sheryl Dyck
 Stewards: Tammie Bouseman & Bob King



WELCOME TO FIRST MENNONITE CHURCH
of Champaign-Urbana

Following Christ. Nurturing Community. Seeking Peace with Justice.



John the Baptist by Nat Schneider

First Mennonite Church of Champaign Urbana

902 W Springfield Ave | Urbana, IL 61801-3021 | 217.367.5353 | www.fmc-cu.org

Contact Us:

Pastor Michael Crosby: michael.crosby@fmc-cu.org | Associate Pastor Debra Sutter: debra.sutter@fmc-cu.org
Rhonda Gibson, Office Administrator: office@fmc-cu.org | Office Hours: 9:30 am – 2:30 pm Tuesday-Friday

Celebration of Worship

December 17, 2023



Centering chimes

Prelude

*Call to worship (based on Isaiah 40:3-5)

Leader: A voice cries out, "Prepare the way of the Lord!
Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill shall be made low.
The uneven ground shall become level and the rough places plain.
Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

People: For such a time, we wait in PEACE.

*Gathering Hymn #220 "Prepare the Way! the Prophet Called"

Welcome & prayer

Lighting Advent candles

Leader: Together we wait.

People: God is patient with us, but how do we prepare while we're waiting?

Leader: While you wait for these things, strive to be found by God at peace.

Do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.

Candle lighting hymn #239 "He Came Down"

Children's story and offering for Hungry World Farm (www.hungryworldfarm.com)

Congregation sings as children come forward (Voices Together #512)

Embodied scripture: Isaiah 11:6-9

Scripture Isaiah 40:1-11; Mark 1:4-8; John 1:6-8, 19-28

Sermon

*Response Hymn #212 "Comfort, Comfort, O My People"

Offering prayer (offerings can be placed in the offering plates as the greeters come by)

Offertory Ring Out, Wild Bells by Charles Gounod

Congregational sharing and prayer (use a mic or text/email prayers to Pastor Michael)

Introduction of visitors

Work of the church

*Sending Hymn #835 "Go Now in Peace"

*Benediction

*Stand in body or in spirit. Children are invited to wave the worship ribbons during the hymns.

We welcome, without exclusion, all who seek God's love and grace...

You are welcome here, inclusive of gender, race, country of origin, ethnicity, sexual orientation, sexual identity, socioeconomic status, family status, past imprisonment, education, citizenship status and physical or mental abilities. We encourage you to share in the rituals, fellowship and ministry of this congregation.

Hearing devices (T-coil and over-ear) and large print hymnals are available from the greeters.

Childcare (birth – preschool) is provided in the nursery downstairs.