



# **Sebastian United Methodist Church**

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

December 29, 2019

## **Welcome to Worship**

A Service of Lessons & Carols

Welcome

Pastor John Gill

### **\*Call to Worship**

Sing to the Living God! Sing a new song!

**Sing to God, all the earth!**

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

**On those who lived in a land as dark as death a light has dawned. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us.**

Authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Let the heavens be glad, let the earth rejoice.

**Let the sea roar, and all that fills it.**

Let the field exult, and everything in it.

**Let the trees of the forest sing for joy.**

For the Living God is coming, coming to judge the earth,

**To judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with truth.**

**\*CAROL # 220**

“Angels From the Realms of Glory”

REGENT SQUARE

**FIRST LESSON**

Isaiah 11:1-9

**CAROL # 216**

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

ES IST EIN ROS

**SECOND LESSON**

Micah 5:2-5a

**CAROL # 230**

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

ST. LOUIS

**THIRD LESSON**

Matthew 1:1-17

**CAROL # 248**

“On This Day Earth Shall Ring”

PERSONENT HODIE

**FOURTH LESSON**

Luke 1:26-38

**CAROL # 218**

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

CAROL

**FIFTH LESSON**

Matthew 1:18-25

**CAROL # 217**

“Away In a Manager”

AWAY IN A MANAGER

**SIXTH LESSON**

Luke 2:1-7

**CAROL # 250**

“Once in Royal David's City”

IRBY

**SEVENTH LESSON**

Luke 2:8-16

**CAROL # 238**

“Angels We Have Heard On High”

GLORIA

**EIGHTH LESSON**

Matthew 2:1-12

**CAROL # 245**

“The First Noel”

THE FIRST NOEL

**NINTH LESSON**

Matthew 2:13-23

**Carol**

“A Weary Couple”

**Prayer**

When children are abused

**You share our anger**

When children are in pain

**You share our distress**

When children are murdered

**You share our horror**

When children die

**You share our despair**

God, who welcomes and cherishes children,  
we bring you our prayers:

We pray for children living and dying in places of fear and violence,  
for children dying of hunger and disease.

God, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for children who have been abducted from their homes,  
for children who are pawns in political games.

God, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for children who are tortured and abused,  
for children whose lives are short and full of pain.

God, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for parents who have to watch their children die,  
for parents who are unable to keep their children safe.

God, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

We pray for children and parents and guardians in our midst,  
for all who love them and support them.

God, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

God of earth and heaven,

in times of pain

and in times of plenty,

we seek your blessing.

Lay your hands on us in love

and give good gifts to your children.

In Jesus's name and in the love of the Holy Spirit we pray. **Amen.**

**The Offering**

Presentation of gifts of Tithes, Money Gifts and Prayer Requests  
(place prayer request cards in the offering plate)

**Offering Anthem**

"I Wonder as I Wander"

arr. Mark Hayes

**\*Doxology # 94**

**Sharing Prayer Concerns, Congregational Prayer, Lords Prayer**

**TENTH LESSON**

John 1:1-14

**\*CAROL # 251**

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

**\*Benediction**

**\*Congregational Response # 251**

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"  
(refrain only)

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

**Closing Voluntary**

\*Congregation will please stand if able

Altar Flowers are given today by Ed and Sharon Johnson

Attendance Last Sunday— 161



## **Worship Participants**

<b>Lead Pastor</b>	Rev. John Gill.	<b>Music Minister</b>	Megan Mash, MSM
Liturgists	Katie Gowin Sharon Johnson Bill Osborne Donna Osborne Mary Lou Rothfuss Sue Shepper	Acolytes  Ushers	Connie Judisch Noah Rich Royall Eileen Harding Jerry Lane Vicki Hays Ed Ortner
Media Support	Alan Hulse Ed Johnson	Greeters	Leigh & Floyd Standley

### **Welcome to Sebastian United Methodist Church**

We hope that you will feel the warmth of this loving congregation while you are here worshipping with us. We are an open and welcoming fellowship.

It is our hope that you will come again and often.

After Worship Coffee is a time of informal fellowship that follows the worship service.

This is usually a gathering for coffee and light refreshments in the Fellowship Hall, but occasionally the coffee hour is replaced by a potluck lunch, a fundraiser brunch or other activities.

### **Three-Week “Inquirers’ Class” in January**

Our Church has developed a three-week “Inquirer’s Class” for all those curious and wanting to learn more about the Christian faith, the United Methodist Church, and this congregation. This three-session class will be made available every month on the first, second, and third Sundays of every month, and repeated each month. They will take place during our University of Life hour (11:30 p.m. for 45 minutes) and will take place in the Small Group Classroom (south side of the education building). This class is designed especially for those who are not yet members of our church to help answer questions folks might have as they make a decision about joining SUMC, however, members may also find it helpful. The sessions are as follows:

Session #1 (Jan. 5):           What It Means to Be a Christian

Session #2 (Jan. 12):        What It Means to Be a United Methodist

Session #3 (Jan. 19):        What It Means to be a Member of Sebastian UMC

Those not yet members may choose to join on “New Member Sunday,” the fourth Sunday of each month (Jan. 26).

If you are interested in learning more about your faith, exploring baptism and/or professing your faith and becoming a member of SUMC, either as a full or affiliate (seasonal) member, join us for these session and/or contact Pastor John at 321-794-0010 or [johngillumc@bellsouth.net](mailto:johngillumc@bellsouth.net).



## **New Pastor's Bible Study – "The Book of Acts"**

Beginning Tuesday, January 7 (10 a.m.), Pastor John will begin leading a study of the Book of Acts, the story of how the Holy Spirit birthed the Church. Bring your Bible and a friend! (We will meet in the Large Classroom on the on north side of the Education Building.)

### **Have You Never Been Baptized?**

**NOTE:** On January 12, in our worship, we will invite everyone to renew their baptismal covenant/vows. That service would also be a perfect time for those who have never been baptized to do so! If you feel the nudging of the Holy Spirit to present yourself for the Sacrament of Baptism, please contact Pastor John! (321-794-0010 or [johngillumc@bellsouth.net](mailto:johngillumc@bellsouth.net))

### **Fifth Sunday Collection**

This is the Sunday we collect for the Florida United Methodist Children's Home (although your contribution on any Sunday is always welcome).

**Goal is \$12 per person per year (\$1 a month)**

### **Grace in Action (Discretionary Fund)**

We traditionally take a special collection for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund on the first Sunday of the month. If you are able to make a donation in addition to your regular gift, please mark your envelope or put it in a pew envelope and mark Discretionary Fund

### **January 15, 2020 Potluck**

**6 p.m. Fellowship Hall**

Sandra Santiago of the Florida United Methodist Foundation will do a 45 minute mini-workshop on different giving options "Faithful Expressions"

Hosts for the Potluck will be the Finance Committee. Hosts provide beverages and desserts  
Bring a dish to share.

### **Welcome Table**

Dinners for Grace's Landing and By the River will resume in January. Please watch for the sign-up sheet for donations.

Thanks

Donna Osborne

Missions Chair

## **Remember Them In Prayer**

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.

**Ephesians 6:18 ~**

### **Sunday Worship Prayer Requests (three weeks)**

Praise God for prayers answered for Tom Flanigan, John Rubio, Garrett & Katherine Decker, Rosalie Martinez at her passing, Kathy and John Frost and all those traveling over the holidays, lice Huber, Jessica, Blake Greishaw,

### **Ongoing Prayers**

Jane Hino, George Schultz, Mary Lou Rothfuss, Al & Jon Ray Conniff, Vic Grabis, Sheri Peterson, Alan Shepper, Ray Royall, Betty Stull, Eugene Whitmore, Jeanette Schumacher, Jacque Crick, Mary Jo Barton, Jim Gallagher, Debi Rodriguez, Lloyd Thomas, Sean Cousins, Pauline Adams, William Hutterman, Harold Banta

### **Pray for the Homebound and those is Assisted Living**

Minnie Hungerford, Nellie Brookens, June Crain, Janice & Ed Ertel, Doris McNutt, Carmen Wilson

### **Pray for Our Men and Women In the Military**

Amn. Justin Tuck, (USN), Major Eric Killoran (Army), Lt. Jeremy Venske (USN), MSgt. David Schumacher (USAF), SPC Nicholas Davis (Army), Pvt Thomas Ferraro (Army), Airman Blake Greishaw (USAF)

## **Confirmation Class starts January 5**

### **Please pray for our youth**

Confirmation in The United Methodist Church is a time of intentional preparation, it gives teens and tweens the opportunity to reflect on the most basic tenants of our faith and gives them a safe environment to ask questions and grapple with the divine truths and mysteries proclaimed by the church of Jesus Christ. Confirmation helps youth to investigate to depths of the faith and helps them begin to understand what it means to become a fully devoted follower of Jesus Christ.

### **Cover picture**

Fresco de Melozzo da Forli circa 1480 Vatican Museums Gallery

## Opportunities This Week

12/29 Sunday	10:00 a.m. Service of Lessons and Carols 3:00 p.m. LOL youth ages 6 grade + (YR)
12/30 Monday	Bible Study & Small Groups check with your facilitator
12/31 Tuesday	12:00 p.m. Men's Out to Lunch Bunch, Roadside Restaurant 6:30 p.m. AA Closed Session (FH) 7:30 p.m. Alanon (LCR)
1/1/2020 Wednesday	Happy New Year Church office Closed
1/2 Thursday	7:30 p.m. Alanon
1/5 Sunday	10:00 a.m. Worship – Communion 11:00 a.m. Coffee Fellowship (FH) 3:00 p.m. LOL Youth (YR)

CO—Church Office FH—Fellowship Hall SG—Small Group Room  
LCR—Large Class Room S—Sanctuary CCR-Children's Class Room—YR LOL Youth Room—  
Fellowship Hall is east of the Sanctuary at the end of the education wing  
Classrooms are located on the north and south sides of the education wing

## University of Life

### Sunday Education Classes 11:30 -12:15 pm

Adult study—Large Class Room

January 5 - "Spiritual Gifts" Mary Lou Rothfuss, facilitator.

Children - Children's Class Room

## Lenten Devotional Call For Writers

During the season of Lent, (yes Lent! it is just 2 months away!) Pastor John is going to be doing a sermon series that explores who Jesus is according to the different Gospel writers which will culminate with a sermon on "Who Is Jesus According to You?" on Easter Sunday.

So who is Jesus according to you? We want to know! We are going to create a devotional for Lent written by members of the congregation. If you are interested please write no more than 2 paragraphs on who Jesus is to you.

This should include personal experiences. Please also include a short Bible passage and a prayer. These should be modeled after The Upper Room devotionals. If you are interested and have any questions please see Pastor John or Megan.

You can email your writings to:

Megan at [meganmash@gmail.com](mailto:meganmash@gmail.com) or Sharon at [johnsonumc@bellsouth.net](mailto:johnsonumc@bellsouth.net).