

Community United Methodist Church
First United Methodist Church

WORDS OF WELCOME: Pastor Jeff Holder

OPENING HYMN: *Joy to the World*

CALL TO WORSHIP: *(read responsively)* Becky Williams

Leader: Praise the Lord!

All: Praise God in his sanctuary; praise Him in his mighty firmament!

Leader: Praise Him for his mighty deeds;

All: Praise Him according to His surpassing greatness!

Leader: Praise Him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!

All: Praise Him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and harp!

Leader: Praise Him with cymbals; praise Him with loud clashing cymbals!

All: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.

All: Praise the Lord! *(Psalm 105:1-6)*

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION: Leader

Leader: Lord of living light, we hear the story of the manger and tie it together with our warm Christmas celebration. It feels comfortable to us, as if our lives could be full of nothing but warm and relaxing moments.

All: We pray that we continue to work until the marginalized have been made whole; until the hungry are fed; until the captive, the poor and the sick have been cared for. Surely then all can bask in your love. Shine brightly in us and through us. Forgiven us when we forget your central call. Give us vision of what you would have us be and do in the Light of Your Love. AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE: Pastor
Love has come to us. God's love lights the landscape we now see. Now we can walk

and work through the love of God, clearly revealed. You are loved by God and called to God's service. We are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST:

Pastor: Rejoice in the peace of knowing Christ, as you share Christ's peace with one another and with the world. Rejoice in the love of Christ, which anchors us all. Let us bid all of those here and who worship with us online, this peace and love, together:

All: May the Peace and love of Christ be with each and every one of you.

SHARING OUR JOYS, CONCERNS & PRAYER REQUESTS: Pastor

SILENT/ COMMUNITY & PASTORAL PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE: **Luke 2:22-26** Leader

Luke 2:27-40 Pastor

Leader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF RESPONSE: *Angels We Have Heard On High (v. 1,2,4)* UMH #238

MESSAGE: *"Encounters with Jesus"* Pastor

OFFERTORY/ DOXOLOGY: UMH #95

CLOSING: *The First Noel (v. 1,2,4)* UMH #245

SENDING FORTH: Pastor Jeff Holder

As we go forward today, let us dwell in the love of God through Christ. Be the one who lingers to care for those who are less able to find the promise of God's love. Be the one who leads, yet follows. Be the one who feeds those who hunger, in food and word. Be the one who helps the sick find comfort and healing. Be the one who ponders the plight of the captive and then tries to help. Be the one who follows the love of Christ. Go in peace.



Serving you today:



Liturgist:
Pastor:
Doug Kolsters
Jim Austin:
Ann Butler:
Glen Gorman:
Becky Officer
Judy Nikkel:
Judy Bradley:

Becky Williams
Jeff Holder
Praise Team Director
PowerPoints/Praise Team
Praise Team
Praise Team
Alternate Praise Team
Bulletin Editing/Materials Printing
Mailing/Distribution

Small Group Online Study for both Riverbank and Oakdale:
 Small group forming for second week of January. Please contact Becky Officer or Pastor Jeff.

If you would like to speak with us, if you desire prayer, if you would like to become a member of these churches, if you would like to be baptized, or for any other purpose, please find our website and my contact information below: vjholder@att.net
 209-840-7939 <https://cumcoakdale.org> or <https://fumcriverbank.org>

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 Community United Methodist Church Oakdale, 1480 Poplar St, Oakdale, CA 95361

Prayers and Litanies: Abingdon Worship Annual 2017 & 2020, Jeff Holder 2020. May be used with permission.
 Advent Liturgy: Discipleship Ministries, United Methodist Church, adapted Jeff Holder,
<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/advent-candle-lighting-liturgy-2020>
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*United Methodist Churches of
 Oakdale and Riverbank,
 Online Worship*



“The Promise”
Dec 27th, 2020 - 1st Sunday after Christmas
Community United Methodist Church, Oakdale
First United Methodist Church, Riverbank