



# FEAR NOT:

GOOD NEWS FOR A WEARY WORLD

DECEMBER 14, 2025  
10:00 A.M.



# WELCOME

Foundry United Methodist Church has been serving downtown Washington, D.C. and the wider world since 1814. Foundry is a Reconciling Congregation, affirming the call of the gospel of Jesus Christ to be in ministry with all people of all races, gender identities, sexualities, ages, immigration status, and physical conditions. We are all on a spiritual journey and we want you to feel welcome here. Please visit [foundryumc.org](https://foundryumc.org) to find more information about our congregation, submit prayer requests, and let us know you've been with us in worship today.

## REFERENCES TO GOD

References to God in traditional prayers and hymns may sometimes be gender-specific. As we pray and sing together, you are invited to substitute terms that reflect your understanding of the full inclusiveness of the spirit of God. You are also invited to sing hymns and speak parts of the services, such as the Lord's Prayer, in your native tongue.

## CARE AND PRAYER

Please fill out the Prayer Request online at [foundryumc.org/prayer](https://foundryumc.org/prayer). Our prayer team will follow up with you. You will have the option for your request to be kept confidential, or if you'd prefer for it to be shared.

## SINGING WITH US

### OUR HYMNALS:

**UMH** — United Methodist Hymnal (Red)

**TFWS** — The Faith We Sing (Black)

**AAHH** – African American Heritage Hymnal (on cart as you enter the sanctuary)

**THE APPEARANCE OF + INDICATES THAT YOU ARE INVITED TO RISE, AS YOU ARE ABLE.**



Hearing assistance devices can be found at the sound desk in the sanctuary.

## FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN – HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

From December 14–January 4, Foundry will hold one worship service at 10 a.m. each Sunday. Family Ministries offerings during this time are as follows:

- **December 14:** *No Children's Worship.* Children in PreK3–6th grade are invited upstairs for the Sunday School Christmas Party during worship.
- **December 21:** Children's Worship offered.
- **December 28:** *No Children's Worship.* Children are invited to remain in the Sanctuary with their families for the Christmas Carol Service.
- **January 4:** Children's Worship offered.

### Sunday School Winter Break

All Family Ministries Sunday School classes are on Winter Break: December 14–January 4. Classes resume on January 11 at 10:10 a.m.

### Childcare Center

Nursery care for infants–age 2 is available every Sunday during the 10 a.m. service.

## ONLINE PARTICIPATION

If you are worshipping with us virtually today, we invite you to gather the following items:

- A candle and, if needed, a way to light it.
- A bowl or vessel of water.
- Your preferred Bible or Bible app.

**All music featured on our livestream is used by permission with CCLI License #2668115.**

## WE ARE ON NATIVE LAND

When we gather for worship and ministry on the corner of 16th and P, we do so upon the sacred, traditional, and unceded lands of the Anacostan, Massawomack, Susquehanock, Piscataway, and Pomunkey peoples, who were forcibly removed from them to allow for English settlement. As occupiers of their territory, we recognize them as the original and perpetual stewards of this land and gratefully acknowledge our responsibility for a more honest recounting of our history that empowers us to work for the thriving of all people.

## STAYING SAFE AT FOUNDRY

Foundry is committed to protecting the safety of all persons at our church. Our Safe Sanctuaries Policy — establishing procedures for the protection of children, youth, and vulnerable persons — can be found at [foundryumc.org/safe](https://foundryumc.org/safe). Our Nut and Allergy Safety Policy can be found at [foundryumc.org/allergies](https://foundryumc.org/allergies).

## FEAR NOT: GOOD NEWS FOR A WEARY WORLD

The story of Jesus' birth is filled with divine messengers bringing a surprising word: "Do not be afraid." From Zechariah in the temple to Mary in Nazareth, from Joseph in a dream to shepherds in the fields, from Magi following a star to disciples at the river, God's people have always faced uncertainty, danger, and change. In every moment, God speaks courage and hope into fearful hearts. This Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, we'll follow the biblical journey from promise to fulfillment, from darkness into light, discovering how God's presence transforms fear into faith, joy, and bold action for the sake of the world. .

*This event is being photographed and recorded. Please be advised that by entering this worship space, you agree to be filmed and/or photographed, and the resulting assets may be used for Foundry UMC promotional purposes. Should you wish not to be photographed or recorded on video, please notify one of the clergy members.*

# 10 A.M. | WORSHIP SERVICE

## Prelude

Denis Bédard

VARIATIONS ON "IN DULCI JUBILO"

---

## Welcome

Ginger E. Gaines-Cirelli

---

## Advent Candle Lighting

Heather and Joseph  
Bateman, Lydia and Nora

One Voice: Joy grows when we trust God's promises and lift our voices in praise.

**All: We light the candle of Joy. God's mercy is from generation to generation. Fear not—joy is on the way.**

---

## +Hymn UMH #211

15th cent. French

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

Verses 1, 5, 6 & 7

---

## Children's Moment

Natalie Harvey

UMH #239

SILENT NIGHT

The Children will be singing verse 1 the congregation is invited to sign with them for verse 2 and then everyone singing verse 1 again.

Mr. Allen will be accompanying them on piano.

---

## Sharing Joys & Concerns

Jonathan Brown

---

## Call to Prayer UMH #215

Rusty Edwards

TO A MAID ENGAGED TO JOSEPH

Verses 1 & 2

---

## Pastoral Prayer

Jonathan Brown

---

## Lord's Prayer

Our Mother/Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin-dom 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 kin-dom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.



## Scripture Reading

Sarah and Quinn Gamberini

ISAIAH 35:1-10

---

## +Response UMH #196

Rowland Prichard

COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

Verse 2

---

## +Gospel Reading

Sarah and Quinn Gamberini

LUKE 1:39-56

One Voice: Recieve what the Spirit is saying.

**Many Voices: Thanks be to God.**

Children in grades PreK3 through 6th grade are invited to depart  
for the Sunday School Christmas Party.

---

## Anthem

John Rutter

MY SOUL DOTH MAGNIFY THE LORD

---

## Sermon

Ginger E. Gaines-Cirelli

**FEAR NOT: JOY IS ON THE WAY**

---

## Offertory

Ben Roberts

---

## Music at the Offertory

George F. Handel

O THOU THAT TELLEST GOOD TIDINGS  
TO ZION, FROM MESSIAH

Yolanda Denise Bryant, soprano

---

## +Hymn UMH # 213

Psalmodia Evangelica

LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YE MIGHTY GATES

---

## +Benediction

Ginger E. Gaines-Cirelli

---

## +Postlude

Norman Dello Joio

GIGA

---

## Invitation to Prayer

Members of the Foundry Prayer Ministry Team are available after  
services at the front of the Sanctuary for one-on-one prayer.

We invite you to Scan this QR Code to view our 2026 Stewardship Booklet.

Submit your 2025–2026 Estimate of Giving by visiting [foundryumc.org/2026-estimate](https://foundryumc.org/2026-estimate)



### FOUNDRY CHRISTMAS PLAYLIST

Wow! We had over 50 submissions to the first Foundry Community Christmas Playlist on Spotify! Thank you to all those who shared their favorite songs and their stories. The tracklist, liner notes, and link to the playlist are all available at [foundryumc.org/christmas-playlist](https://foundryumc.org/christmas-playlist). We hope you all enjoy listening to it, whether you are traveling or staying cozy at home this Christmas.

### EQUAL EXCHANGE: LAST DAY TODAY

The annual Advent Sale of fairly-traded chocolate, coffee, tea, olive oil, and dried fruit will take place in the Commons after service. Today is the last day to purchase.

### MUSIC AND WORSHIP ARTS

"Would you like to get a handle on your Handel?" If you have sung the Handel Messiah – or any part of it – at any time in your life – and wish to again, this is for you. **The Foundry Choir will be preparing selections from Handel's Messiah for our special Advent music on Sunday December 21 at 10 AM (one service, only).** Folks are invited to join the choir for this musical worship offering. **We will be rehearsing starting with Wednesday night rehearsals at 6:45 PM at Foundry starting on December 3 – just show up.** There will be an orchestra dress rehearsal on Saturday December 20 at 9:30 AM at Foundry. Please consider joining the choir for this beloved Advent music. If you have questions email [music@foundryumc.org](mailto:music@foundryumc.org)

### FAMILY MINISTRIES

#### SAVE THE DATE: ASP 2026

Mark your calendars for The 2026 ASP Mission Trip will be June 20–27! **The Youth ASP Interest Meeting & Reunion held on Sunday, January 11 at 10:10 a.m. in the Youth Room.** An Adult Volunteer Interest Meeting will also be held on Sunday, Jan. 11 at 12:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

### CHILDREN'S WORSHIP VOLUNTEER TRAINING: JANUARY 10 & 17

**All current and prospective Children's Worship volunteers are invited to training on Saturday, January 10 and 17, from 9:30–11:30 a.m. in the Norman and Frances Fellowship Hall.** We'll cover the structure of Children's Worship, volunteer roles, and Safe Sanctuary-approved behavior management skills. A Safe Sanctuary policy review will follow for those who need it. Breakfast and coffee provided!

### FIND YOUR CIRCLE

#### INTERFAITH BOOK CLUB: EXPLORING FAITH THROUGH YOUR FAVORITE COMICS

Embark on a heroic journey at **Fantom Comics located at 2010 P St. NW, Washington D.C. 20036 on December 28 at 6:30 p.m.,** where our Interfaith Book Club will delve into *Cannon* by **Lee Lai.** Together, we'll **explore themes of hope, sacrifice, and unity from various faith perspectives.** Share your insights, learn from others, and celebrate the power of storytelling in a welcoming community.

### ALL NEIGHBORS GROUP

The All Neighbors group is a small group located in Foundry's neighborhood. **We meet on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:30 pm. Our meetings are held either in person or online.** At our meetings, we typically enjoy laughing, snacking, and supporting each other. Occasionally, we have fun outings such as eating together at a popular restaurant. Our group includes men and women of all ages. Everyone is welcome! Email [jbrown@foundryumc.org](mailto:jbrown@foundryumc.org) to get connected.

### **PASTOR'S COFFEE: JANUARY 11, 2026**

Are you curious about joining Foundry? Our Pastor's Coffee is an opportunity for those who wish to begin the journey toward official membership to meet with our clergy, learn more about our church, and move onto the next steps in our New Members' Class, "A Disciple's Path" (Jan 18 – Mar 1). **You can join us virtually or in person on January 11 at 10:10 a.m. in room 101.** Register at [foundryumc.org/pastors-coffee](https://foundryumc.org/pastors-coffee)

### **SAVE THE DATE: WOMEN'S RETREAT 2026**

**The annual Foundry Women's Retreat will be held on February 20–22, 2026 at Pecometh - Riverview Retreat Center, Centreville, MD.** We invite women of Foundry to gather for a weekend of rejuvenation, relaxation and reconnection. Plenary speaker Diana Hagewood Smith will lead us in a discussion of "Charting Our Course: Aligning Our Assurances With Action!" Retreat fee includes transportation, lodging, and meals. Assistance is available to assist with this fee if needed. Registration opens in late December. To learn more and register, please join the Women's Retreat group in the Church Planning app.

### **EVENING DISCIPLE FAST TRACK: NEW TESTAMENT**

Disciple Fast Track is designed for busy people seeking comprehensive engagement with the Bible. **Our Evening Disciple Fast Track: New Testament study kicks off Tuesday, January 13 at 6:30 P.M. and runs for 12 weeks.** This engaging, manageable class invites you to dive into the Hebrew Scriptures through daily readings and weekly class meetings. **The class will meet in person in room B2 and on Zoom.** Register at [foundryumc.org/fast-track-new-testament](https://foundryumc.org/fast-track-new-testament)

### **LENTEN DEVOTIONAL CREATIVE WORKSHOP: SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026**

**Come in person or via Zoom to learn how to contribute to this year's Lenten Devotional! Join this workshop from 11:30 – 2 p.m. in Room 203 or online.** It will help you incubate ideas for a 300-word essay, poem, or artwork based on this year's theme. A light lunch will be served for those attending in person. Register at [foundryumc.org/lenten-workshop](https://foundryumc.org/lenten-workshop).

### **DEAR WHITE CHRISTIANS: JANUARY 11, 2026**

A candid, hopeful exploration of Jennifer Harvey's *Dear White Christians*, calling communities to move from "reconciliation talk" toward reparative action and anti-racist discipleship; expect thoughtful reading, honest conversation, and practical next steps in the way of Jesus, taught by Pastor Jonathan Brown. **Starts Sunday, January 11, 2026, at 10:10 a.m. in Room B2.** Register at [foundryumc.org/dear-white-christians](https://foundryumc.org/dear-white-christians)

### **SOCIAL JUSTICE & SERVICE ACTIVITIES**

#### **SACRED PAUSE MEDITATION: WEDNESDAY EVENING SESSION**

Do you need more grounding and fewer distractions? More community and less isolation? Join Foundry's Sacred Pause group, which gathers **every weekday** over Zoom from **8:00 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. and every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.** to practice meditation and contemplative prayer. It is a beautiful and grounding way to start your day.

Register here: [foundryumc.org/sacred-pause](https://foundryumc.org/sacred-pause)

#### **Point in Time Count- Save the Date!**

This year's will take place on **Wednesday, January 28** with the 29 as a rain date. A Foundry team will meet at the church at 8:30 p.m. and work in the Dupont neighborhood and near the church building. Register at [foundryumc.org/pointintime](https://foundryumc.org/pointintime).

**YOUR GENEROSITY  
SHAPES FOUNDRY'S  
FUTURE**



**GIVE HERE**

**Check in!**



Scan with your  
smartphone camera.



**Foundry United Methodist Church**  
1500 16th St. NW, Washington D.C. 20036  
[foundryumc.org](http://foundryumc.org) | 202.332.4010