



***Please stand if you are able**
UMH is United Methodist Hymnal (red book)
TFWS is The Faith We Sing (black book)

Welcome/Brief Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Hymn TFWS 2090 (v 2)

Advent Song

Call to Worship (*responsive*):

Leader: People of God, Christ has invited us here!

All: We gather to praise God, who brings justice and righteousness to all.

L: We gather to give thanks to God for hope and peace.

A: Blessed be the Lord, who has done marvelous things.

L: Let us praise God together!

Opening Prayer (*in unison*):

All: O God, whose will is justice for the poor and peace for the afflicted, let your herald's urgent voice pierce our hardened hearts and announce the dawn of your kingdom. Before the advent of the One who baptizes with the fire of the Holy Spirit, let our complacency give way to conversion, oppression to justice, and conflict to acceptance of one another in Christ. We ask this through the One whose coming is certain, whose day draws near: your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*Opening Hymn (on screen)

Set a Fire

Joys & Concerns with Pastoral Prayer

Tithes & Offerings with Offertory

*The Doxology UMH 95

Children's Time

Scripture

Matthew 3:1-12

Hymn TFWS 2272

Holy Ground

Scripture

Romans 15:4-13

Message

Preparing Our Hearts: The Way

Holy Communion

UMH pg. 13

*Hymn (on screen)

Fierce Jesus Culture

*Benediction

*Postlude



Scan/click with
your cell phone if
you would like to
give electronically!

*Has God laid something on your heart from today's worship?
Write it down so you don't forget to take it into your week!*

*Tell someone you didn't come in with that you love them
and that you're glad they're here!*

**Meet Jesus ~ Follow Jesus ~ Serve Jesus
Love Boldly ~ Serve Joyfully ~ Lead Courageously**

ANNOUNCEMENTS/IMPORTANT NOTES

Welcome! We're so glad you are here worshiping with us today! Children are *always* welcome to stay and participate in worship. The nursery is open and located in the corner of the fellowship hall. If this is your first time with us, please fill out a Welcome Card and place in the offering plate. We Livestream our services each Sunday. You can find these services on our church Facebook page: www.facebook.com/1stUMCGouv/

-RIP IT- Free exercise group. Check FB group for updates.

-Bible Studies- Wednesdays **10am** in Rm 103 (Acts), Thursdays at **7pm**.

-Christmas Caroling- Sat. Dec. 13th meet at the church at **4pm**.

-Angel Tree- The angels have been hung on the tree. Please put your name and Angel # on the clipboard after choosing your angel. Gifts should be returned, unwrapped, to the office no later than **Sun. Dec. 14th**.

-Blue Christmas Service- Mon. Dec. 22nd at **7pm**. Location TBD

-Christmas Eve Candlelight Service- Wed. Dec. 24th at **9pm**.

Our Christmas Eve Offering has been chosen to bless 2 missions this year: local mission- Ryan's Wish; global mission- support the people of Ukraine.

Read Ahead: James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

Bishop: Rev. Héctor A. Burgos

District Superintendent: Rev. Yohang Chun

Pastor: Benjamin Lalka pastorbenlalka@gmail.com

Pastor Office hours: Tues.-Fri. 9am-1pm Day of Rest: Mondays

Admin Asst.: Amy Franco FirstUMCGouverneur@gmail.com

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First United Methodist Church of Gouverneur

Pastor Benjamin Lalka

Choir Director: Don Schuessler

Organist: Glenda Schuessler

December 7, 2025

