November 29th, 2026 **1st Sunday of Advent**

Preludes

Welcome

Call to Worship:
Long ago, God's people waited for the coming of the Messiah. Today, we gather with that same hope.
We wait with open hearts, trusting in God's promises.
God came into the world in a way no one expected, bringing light into the darkness.
Open our eyes, Lord, to see Your light shining among us.
What if God is moving in our world today, in places we have never thought to look?
Help us recognize Your presence in the ordinary moments of our lives.
Come, let us worship the God who came, who is with us, and who will come again!
Come, Lord Jesus! Fill our hearts with hope and make us ready to receive You!

Opening Prayer:
Gracious God, as we begin this Advent journey, open our hearts to the wonder of Your coming. Help us look beyond our expectations and recognize Your presence in unexpected places. Just as Mary trusted Your promise without knowing what lay ahead, give us the courage to follow wherever You lead. May this season awaken our faith, renew our hope, and prepare us to welcome You into our lives. In Jesus' name, Amen

*Opening Praise: "Open My Eyes, That I May See"

Lighting the First Advent Candle
Hope

Children's Message "5 Minute Bible Stories w/Pastor B"
"What If…?" Advent Week 1
"The Surprise Nobody Expected!"

Joys and Concerns/Prayers for the People
The Lord's Prayer
*GLORIA PATRI UMH #070

The Offertory
*"The Doxology" UMH #095
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION:
Gracious God, as we begin this Advent journey, we thank You for the unexpected ways Your love enters our lives. Receive these gifts as an expression of our gratitude and faith. Use them to bring hope to those in need, light to those in darkness, and love to our community. Open our eyes to see where You are working and our hearts to join You in that work. In Jesus' name, Amen.

*Hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" UMH #211

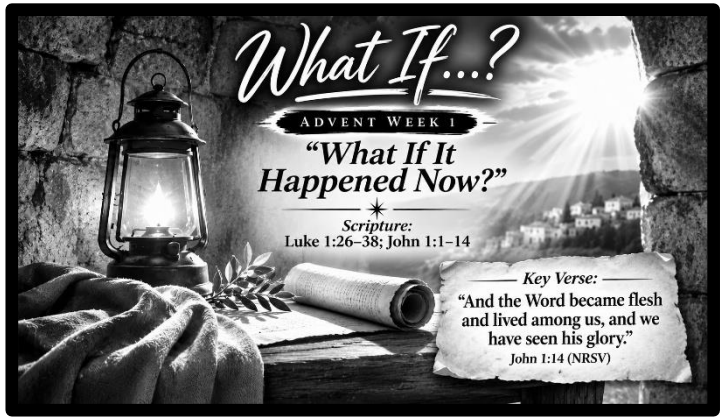
The Scripture Lesson(s): Luke 1:26–38; John 1:1–14

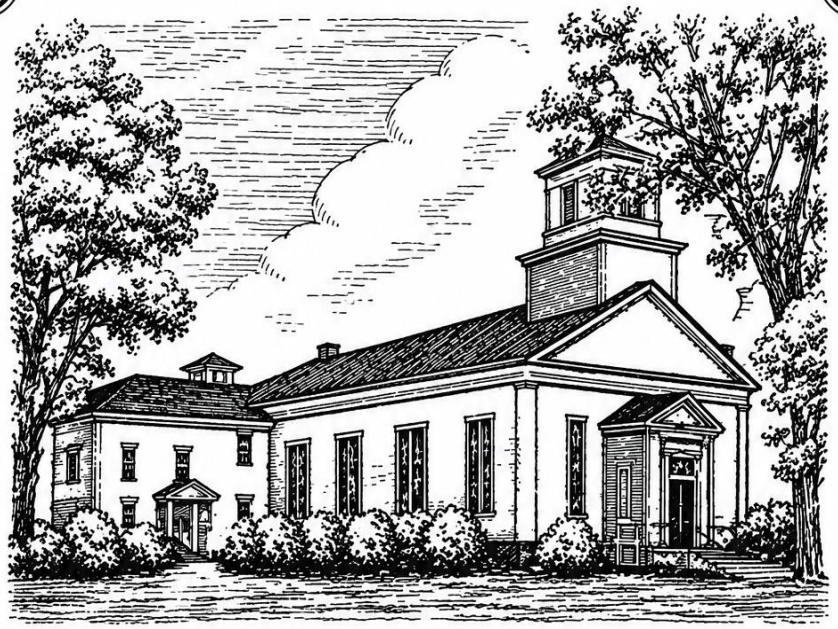
Message: "What If…?"
Advent Week 1
"What If It Happened Now?"

Music Ministry "Light of the World"

*Hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" UMH #196

Benediction and Going Forth:





First United Methodist Church

OF MEXICO, NY

"Making Disciples of Jesus Christ, for the Transformation of the World"

All are Welcome, None are Turned Away!

Mexico First
United Methodist Church

Clergy: Pastor Brandin Greco
Music Director: Mrs. Kaylee Gilmore

What If...?

AN ADVENT TO TRINITY JOURNEY

ADVENT WEEK 1

What If It Happened Now?

Recognizing God in Unexpected Places

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2026