

Welcome

Third Sunday in Advent

December 15, 2019



Union Lutheran Church
4770 Bringle Ferry Rd. Salisbury, NC 28146
704-636-5092 <http://ulcsalisbury.org>

Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

Rev. Thomas W. Corbell, Interim Pastor
Cell phone 704-682-0503—pastor @ulcsalisbury.org

Rev. T. C. Plexico, Pastor Emeritus

Music Director: Sara Welch— musicdirector@ulcsalisbury.org
Organist: Tina Brown - organist@ulcsalisbury.org
Secretary: Ruth Goodman - office@ulcsalisbury.org
Sexton: Phil Cauble 704-213-0646—sexton@ulcsalisbury.org

*A congregation of the North American Lutheran Church
Christ Centered - Mission Driven - Traditionally Grounded - Congregationally Focused*

The Third Sunday in Advent – December 15, 2019 – Order of Worship

Welcome and Announcements

Kay Morgan

Prelude

O Come, Little Children – Arr. Bober

Confessions of Sins:

P. In this Season of Advent let us prepare for worship by confessing our sins.

(Silence for personal confession.)

P. And now, as a family in Christ, we confess together:

C. O Holy God of Promise, we so often place our trust in the things we can see, touch and easily believe. But you did not ask us to believe what is easy, you have asked us to believe what is true! Forgive us, Holy One, when we doubt the ways you work. Forgive us when we find it hard to believe an ancient story. Forgive us we question how you chose to enter the world, born as one of us. Forgive our lack of faith and belief in ways which seem so impossible to believe. Help us to look in faith, open our belief, and set aside our doubts that you sent your Son, born of a virgin — the One who has come to set us all free. We offer these prayers in the name of your Son, Emmanuel, God with us. Amen.

P. O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today. As we journey through Advent, we know that Christ has already come into our world and lives, has already been born in us. We are renewed and restored. Go and share the good news of God's love and restoration. **C. Amen.**

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath Service

The Matt Miller Family

Advent Litany (Family leads the congregation in the litany.)

L. Praise be to your God!

C. For He has done marvelous things.

L. He promised to send His Son, Jesus.

C. We wait and anticipate His coming anew!

Hymn

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah.

Light one candle to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.

Light two candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gently lead them homeward.

Light three candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
Lift your heads and lift high the gateway for the King of glory.

Prayer of the Day

Lord Jesus Christ, give ear to our prayers, and lighten the darkness of our hearts by your gracious visitation; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Fourth Sunday of Advent Gospel: Matthew 11:2-15

2 When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples 3 and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" 4 And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: 5 the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. 6 And blessed is the one who is not offended by me." 7 As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? 8 What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. 9 What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. 10 This is he of whom it is written, 'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.' 11 Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. 12 From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. 13 For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, 14 and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. 15 He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Pastor's Meditation

Straw Against the Chill by Kathy Mattea

*In a town of David, not so near to spring,
At the heart of love, there came a lovely thing.
It was the time of Mary, the time of Caesar's reign.
Nothing in our lives would ever be the same.*

Chorus: *It was so long ago, but we remember still:*

Star upon the snow, straw against the chill.

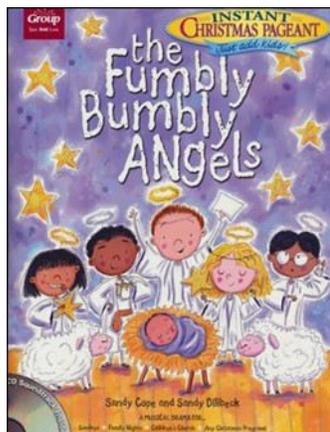
A planet dancing slow, a tree upon a hill.

Star upon the snow, straw against the chill.

*Stumbling in the darkness, it was her time for birth,
Bearing in her womb, the King of all the earth.
Searching for some shelter, by a cruel decree,
They found a kind of glory the mighty never see. **Chorus***

*There within a stable, the baby drew a breath
There began a life that put an end to death,
And all the frozen stillness, mighty voices heard:
"God is here among you! Human is the Word!" **Chorus***

The Children's Christmas Play *The Fumbly Bumbly Angel*
by Sandy Cope and Sandy Dillbeck



(Congregational Hymns sung during the play.)

Go Tell It on The Mountain

Refrain

**Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born**

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light **Refrain**

Refrain

**Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born**

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o're the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

Chorus

***Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria in excelsis Deo***

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

The First Noel

The first Noel the angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay:
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep

**Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel!**

We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain following yonder star

Refrain:

**O Star of wonder, star of night
Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding
Guide us to thy Perfect Light**

Glorious now behold Him arise King and God and Sacrifice
Alleluia, Alleluia Earth to heav'n replies. **Refrain:**

Mary Did You Know - Composed by Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene
Duet by Kat and Emma Clifton

Joy to the World

Joy to the World; The Lord is come;
Let Earth receive her King:
Let every Heart prepare him Room,
And Heaven and Nature sing.

No more let Sins and Sorrows grow,
Nor Thorns infest the Ground:
He comes to make his Blessings flow
Far as the Curse is found.

He rules the World with Truth and Grace,
And makes the Nations prove
The Glories of his Righteousness,
And Wonders of his Love.

The Offering

The Prayers and The Lord's Prayer

The Benediction

Hymn

Oh, Come, Oh, Come Emmanuel

LBW 34

Postlude

Text, Tune, and/or Arr. used by permission - Augsburg Fortress license #10475 & CCLI license #11080954

Lessons for Next Week:

Isaiah 7:10-17; Psalm 24; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25



Children's' Christmas Bags to be picked up at the kitchen window following the play.



Holy Communion will be offered after the service to those who can remain after the service. Please come to the back of the Fellowship Hall and Pastor Corbell will administer the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

ASSISTANTS SERVING SUNDAYS IN DECEMBER

Acolytes: Jordan and Mallory Eagle

Lay Reader: Robyn Arey and Steve Walton

Communion Assistants: Brad Huffman and Steve Walton

Ushers: Phil Cauble (HU), Mike Cauble, Larry Barringer, Don Davis

LOOSE OFFERING: Building Repair Fund

Nursing Home Residents - Gladys Morgan, Pat Kluttz, Brenda Mahaley, Jane Peeler, Zarah Plyler, Pat & Wayne Miller, Ruth Monroe, and Jean Kluttz (Autumn Care), Bob Wilhelm (The Meadows-Rockwell), Jean Ray and Betty Herion (Brookdale), Ed & Betty Denker (Trinity Oaks, Apt. 123B).

Homebound Members - Ray Chambers, Mary Brady, Rachel Earnhardt, Billy Waller, Michael Walton, and Frances Norris.

Sick/Surgery/Recovery—Gladys Morgan, Josh Eagle, Ruth Myers, Teresa Kesler, Linda Hartley, Phoebe & Marvin Nunn, Bob Goodwin, Glenn Eagle, Donnie Miller, Pat Kluttz, Larry Shepherd, Harold Miller, Grace Morgan, Effie Vellines, Lynn Coughenour, Karen Plyler, Tommy Kerns, Eric Miller, Bill Broadway.

Continual Prayer – Jamie Troutman (son of Joan Troutman), Shelia Mulkey, June Fraley, Tamara Honeycutt, Teresa Frank, (Pam Vellines cousin), Yvette Bates (coworker of Karen Barringer), Marie Gorapic, (sister of Linda Spencer), Vanna Calloway, friend of Kat Clifton, Ophelia Curlee (sister-in-law of Grace Morgan), Karen DeMunbrun (Niece of Grace Morgan), Hong Nguyen (Pete Nguyen's mother), Justin West and David Mitchell (friends of Pete Nguyen), Robert Parker (brother of Jimmy Parker), Pat Miller, (friend of Jan Huffman), Della Morgan (mother of Pam Vellines), Nancy Ballew (mother of Kat Clifton), Donna Collins (friend of Sharon Leazer), Evonne Batten (mother of Lisa Morgan), Robert Cook (uncle, Lisa Morgan).

WEEKLY EVENTS:

Sun. Dec. 15	9:30 am Sunday School
	10:30 am Worship & Holy Communion-Children's Play
	3:00 pm Youth Bell Practice
Tues. Dec.17	7:00 pm Property/Cemetery Committee Meeting
Wed. Dec. 18	6:30 pm Belles and Beaus
	7:00 pm Scouts
	7:30 pm Chancel Choir
Fri. Dec. 20	4:30 pm Game Night meets at Blue Bay E. Innes for Christmas Meal
Next Sun. Dec. 22	9:30 am Confirmation
	9:30 am Sunday School
	10:30 am Worship & Holy Communion



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

It is that time of the year again! We have pre-ordered 40 poinsettias for Christmas. Please complete and return the form below to Ruth Goodman by Sunday, December 15 2019. Cost will be \$10.00 each. (One form per poinsettia - additional forms in the hallway.)

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Given by _____



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

It is that time of the year again! We have pre-ordered 40 poinsettias for Christmas. Please complete and return the form below to Ruth Goodman by Sunday, December 15, 2019. Cost will be \$10.00 each. (One form per poinsettia - additional forms in the hallway.)

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Given by _____