



**Union Lutheran Church**  
 4770 Bringle Ferry Road  
 Salisbury, NC 28146  
 704-636-5092  
 office@ulcsalisbury.org  
 www.ulcsalisbury.org



**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

December 1, 2024

10:30 a.m. Worship & Holy Communion

Union Lutheran Church welcomes you as you join us in worship this morning. Please fill out the communion/visitor card so that we can be made aware of your presence. If you have questions or are interested in the ministries and life of Union, please see the pastor, contact the church office, or scan the QR code.

We welcome children to be a part of worship. A nursery is also provided for those attending to the needs of infants and small children.

*(Please stand when indicated by \*)*

Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW) green hymnal  
 With One Voice (WOV) blue hymnal  
 P=Pastor, C=Congregation, L=Lay Reader

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**ORDER FOR WORSHIP**

*Lutheran Book of Worship Setting 2*

Welcome & Announcements

Recognition of Outgoing Council Members

Thank you for faithfully serving God through your leadership on the Church Council:  
 Amanda Cauble, Tara Davis and Frank Merrell

Prelude: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (Sherman) Belles & Beaus

**GATHERING**

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

\* Invocation (*Matthew 28:19*) LBW p. 77

P In the name of the Father, and of the **+** Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

\* Brief Order of Confession & Forgiveness (*1 John 1:8-9*) LBW p. 77

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P Most merciful God,

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

\* Absolution (*John 20:22-23*)

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

\* Hymn: *Wake Awake, for Night Is Flying*

LBW# 31

1 **Wake, awake, for night is flying, the watchmen on the heights are crying;  
Awake, Jerusalem, at last. Midnight hears the welcome voices,  
And at the thrilling cry rejoices: "Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.  
The bridegroom comes! Awake; your lamps with gladness take!"  
Alleluia! Prepare yourselves to meet the Lord,  
Whose light has stirred the waiting guard.**

2 **Zion hears the watchmen singing, and in her heart new joy is springing.  
She wakes, she rises from her gloom, for her Lord comes down all-glorious,  
The strong in grace, in truth victorious. Her star is ris'n; her light is come.  
Oh, come, you Blessed One, Lord Jesus, God's own Son.  
Sing hosanna! We go until the halls we view  
Where you have bid us dine with you.**

3 **Now let all the heav'ns adore you, and saints and angels sing before you.  
The harps and cymbals all unite. Of one pearl each shining portal,  
Where, dwelling with the choir immortal, we gather round your dazzling light.  
No eye has seen, no ear has yet been trained to hear, what joy is ours!  
Crescendos rise; your halls resound; hosannas blend in cosmic sound.**

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878, alt.  
Tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608  
Augsburg Fortress License # SBL10475H © AF Hymns License

\* Apostolic Greeting (*Romans 1:7*)

LBW p. 78

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

\* Kyrie (Mark 10:47)

LBW p. 78-79

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen**

*Hymn of Praise (Luke 2:14; John 1:29; Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9) is omitted during Advent.*

\* Salutation (2 Timothy 4:22)

LBW p. 82

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

\* Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray. Stir up your power, O Lord, and come, that by your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by your mighty deliverance; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

Old Testament Lesson: Jeremiah 33:14-16

The first lesson is from the 33<sup>rd</sup> chapter of Jeremiah.

<sup>14</sup>“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: ‘The Lord is our righteousness.’”

L Here ends the reading.

Psalm 25:1-10 *The psalm of the day is sung in unison.*

<sup>1</sup>To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul; my God, I put my | trust in you;\*

let me not be humiliated,  
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.  
<sup>2</sup>Let none who look to you be | put to shame;\*  
let the treacherous be disappointed | in their schemes.  
<sup>3</sup>Show me your | ways, O Lord,\*  
and teach | me your paths.  
<sup>4</sup>Lead me in your | truth and teach me,\*  
for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all | the day long.  
<sup>5</sup>Remember, O Lord, your compas- | sion and love,\*  
for they are from | everlasting.  
<sup>6</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;\*  
remember me according to your love  
and for the sake of your good- | ness, O Lord.  
<sup>7</sup>Gracious and upright | is the Lord;\*  
therefore he teaches sinners | in his way.  
<sup>8</sup>He guides the humble in | doing right\*  
and teaches his way | to the lowly.  
<sup>9</sup>All the paths of the Lord are | love and faithfulness\*  
to those who keep his covenant and his | testimonies.  
<sup>10</sup>For your name's | sake, O Lord,\*  
forgive my sin, for | it is great.

New Testament Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

The second lesson is from the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter of 1 Thessalonians.

<sup>9</sup>What thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, <sup>10</sup>as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith? <sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, <sup>12</sup>and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, <sup>13</sup>so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

L Here ends the reading.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath (1<sup>st</sup> Advent Candle: Hope/Prophet)

*Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (stanza 1)*

WOV# 630

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

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954  
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
Music: Yiddish folk tune, arr. Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954  
Augsburg Fortress License # SBL10475H © AF Hymns License

Children's Message

*Children are invited to come forward for the Children's Message.  
Following the Children's Message, the children are asked to sit with their families.*

\* Gospel Acclamation (John 6:68)

LBW p. 83

**C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 21st chapter.

**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

\* Holy Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

<sup>25</sup>{Jesus said,} “There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, <sup>26</sup>people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” <sup>29</sup>And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. <sup>30</sup>As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>34</sup>But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. <sup>35</sup>For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon: *Ready or Not, Here He Comes!*

Pastor Carl Haynes

\* Hymn of the Day: *Hark, the Glad Sound*

LBW# 35

- 1 Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes,  
The Savior promised long; Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne  
And ev'ry voice a song.**
- 2 He comes the pris'ners to release; In Satan's bondage held.  
The gates of brass before him burst, The iron fetters yield.**
- 3 He comes the broken heart to bind, The bleeding soul to cure,  
And with the treasures of his grace To enrich the humble poor.**
- 4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Your welcome shall proclaim,  
And heav'n's eternal arches ring With your beloved name.**

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751  
Tune: arr. Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820  
Augsburg Fortress License # SBL10475H © AF Hymns License

\* Church Council Recognition, Installation, and Reaffirmation

P The following were elected to serve a three-year term on the Church Council: Karen Barringer, Pete Nguyen, and Brad Trexler.

Reaffirmation of Current Church Council Members: Phil Cauble, Ali Davis, Kevin Huffman, Vicki Hunter, John Knight, Sharon Leazer, Dusty Morgan, Sr., Thad Mulkey, and Debbie Rinehart.

The following persons, having been elected by the congregation to positions of leadership, are asked to come forward as their names are read.

In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ liberated you from sin and death and made you members of his Church. Through Word and Sacrament you have been nurtured in faith. I ask you, together with all who are here gathered, to confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we are baptized.

\* Creed (**Romans 10:9-10**)

LBW p. 84

**C We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic\* and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen**

\* *Or, the holy Christian Church,*

P *St. Paul's writes:* There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives to everyone ability for particular service. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person, for the good of all.

You have been elected to position of leadership and trust in this congregation.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this household of faith reflect Him in whose

name we gather.

You are to work together with other members to see that the worship and work of Christ are done in this congregation, and that God's will is done in this community and in the whole world.

You are to be diligent in your specific area of serving, that the one Lord who empowers you is glorified.

You are to be examples of faith active in love, to help maintain the life and harmony of this congregation.

On behalf of your sisters and brothers in Christ, I ask you: Are you ready to accept and faithfully to carry out the duties of the offices to which you have been elected? If so, please respond:

Council Members: Yes, by the help of God.

P People of God, I ask you: Will you support these, your elected leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

C **Yes, by the help of God.**

\* Prayers of the Church (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

LBW p. 85

A Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Loving God, you promised your people of old that you would send a Savior to rescue us from our sin. Abide with us as we wait and watch in this Advent season. Help us to slow down and be present to your life giving Word in our midst, that we may hear and respond in faithfulness and praise.

Lord in your mercy. **C Hear our prayer.**

Holy God, you have brought us to a new church year once again. Grant us your grace to see this as a new beginning, one where you offer us forgiveness and restoration. May your mercy and grace transform our lives and renew our minds.

Lord in your mercy. **C Hear our prayer.**

Healing Lord, surround those who are ill, grieving, or in despair with your healing grace and love. Reveal to them your tenderness and compassion through the lives of those who care for them. Grant them new life and renewed health. [We pray especially for ...].

Lord in your mercy, **C Hear our prayer.**

Lord of all, help us to remain faithful as the signs of the second coming of Christ become ever prominent. May we notice them and prepare our hearts for our Savior's return, daily living by faith and without fear. When trials come, help us to trust in your never failing promises to your people that you will never leave us orphaned or alone.

Lord in your mercy, **C Hear our prayer.**

*The prayers conclude:*

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy;  
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen**

\* Sharing of the Peace (John 20:19)

LBW p. 86

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

Offering (Malachi 3:10)

*The Offering is received as the Lord's Table is prepared.*

*All loose offering will go towards the Social Ministry Fund.*

*The monthly benevolence will go towards Battered Women's Shelter.*

Anthem: *Come, Jesus, Holy Son of God* (Handel)

Chancel Choir

### **MEAL**

*God invites us to His table.*

\* Offertory (Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19)

LBW p. 86

**C Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,  
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer now.  
Grace our table with your presence, and give us  
a foretaste of the feast to come.**

\* Offertory Prayer

LBW p. 88

A Let us pray. Blessed are you,

**C O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed  
us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our  
lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him  
who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

\* The Great Thanksgiving (2 Timothy 4:22)

LBW p. 88-91

P The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

**C We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right and salutary . . . *(Here the minister continues with the preface appropriate to the day or season, concluding:)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

\* Sanctus *(Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9; Revelation 4:8-11)*

LBW p. 89

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

\* Words of Institution *(33)*

LBW p. 90

*(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26)*

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

\* The Lord's Prayer *(Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4)*

LBW p. 91

C **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom 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 kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

*Those who are assisting with Holy Communion are asked to come forward at this time.*

Agnus Dei *(John 1:29)*

LBW p. 92

C **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

Distribution of Communion *(Mark 14:23)*

*All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with and under the form of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation.*

*All who do not commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.*

*Please fill out the communion card in the pew and hand to the Usher as you follow their directions to the communion station.*

*Gluten Free wafers and grape juice are also available upon request.*

\* Blessing (1 Thessalonians 5:23)

LBW p. 792

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
C Amen

\* Post-Communion Canticle (Luke 2:29-32)

LBW p. 92-93

C **Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

\* Post-Communion Prayer

LBW p. 94

P Let us pray. Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
C Amen

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

\* Benediction (Numbers 6:24-26)

LBW p. 95

P The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.  
C Amen

\* Hymn: *Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

LBW# 29

1 **“Comfort, comfort now my people; Tell of peace!”  
So says our God. Comfort those who sit in darkness  
Mourning under sorrow’s load. To God’s people now proclaim  
That God’s pardon waits for them! Tell them that their war is over;  
God will reign in peace forever!**

2 **For the herald’s voice is crying In the desert far and near,  
Calling us to true repentance, Since the Kingdom now is here.  
Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way!  
Let the valleys rise to meet him, And the hills bow down to greet him!**

3 **Straight shall be what long was crooked, And the rougher places plain!  
Let your hearts be true and humble, As befits his holy reign!  
For the glory of the Lord Now on earth is shed abroad,  
And all flesh shall see the token That God’s word is never broken.**

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1611-1684; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829-1878, alt.  
Tune: Trente quatre pseumes de David, Geneva, 1551  
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\* Blessing & Dismissal (**Matthew 28:19**)

**P** You have been nurtured in Word and Sacrament now go therefore and make disciples of all nations

**C** **Baptizing them in the name of the Father, † Son and of the Holy Spirit.**

**P** Union Lutheran Church you are sent!

**C** **Amen, amen, amen**

Postlude: *Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying* (Costello)

*During the season of Advent, the Altar Greenery is given to the glory of God.*

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**Those Serving on December 1**

**Guest Pastor:** Pastor Carl Haynes

*We welcome Pastor Carl to worship today!*

**Acolytes:** Noah Trexler and Adam Thompson

**Altar Guild & Communion Assistants:**

Genevieve Baker, Patsy Lyerly, and Vivian Sprinkle

**Lay Reader:** Patsy Lyerly

**Ushers:** Larry Barringer, Phil Cauble, Tara Davis and Adam Thompson

**Offering Counters:** Patsy Lyerly, Sonya Mulkey and Vivian Sprinkle

*Attendance information will be shared in the December 8 bulletin.*

**Part 4: Holy Baptism**

The Promise of Baptism



What gifts or benefits does Baptism bring? *It brings about forgiveness of sins, delivers from death and the devil, and gives everlasting salvation to all who believe, as the Word and promise of God declare.*

(Martin Luther’s Small Catechism ~ Sola Publishing 2010 Edition Pocket Version page 23)

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**Union News**

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**Sunday, December 1**

**9:15 a.m.** Kids Choir (5th grade and under) in Choir Room

**9:30 a.m.** Belles & Beaus (Nave)

**9:35 a.m.** Sunday School

The Ten Commandments ~ Deuteronomy 5:1-21; Mark 12:28-31

*“God declared to you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, that is, the Ten Commandments, and he wrote them on two tablets of stone.” (Deuteronomy 4:13)*

Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class  
The Ten Commandments

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class  
Jesus' Ancestry ~ Galatians 4:1-7; Ruth 1-4, 4:9-17; Luke 3:23-38

**10:30 a.m.** Worship & Holy Communion

Lighting of Advent Candle: Hope/Prophet

Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36

Sermon: *Ready or Not, Here He Comes!*

**10:30 a.m.** Church Council Installation, Reaffirmation & Recognition

Recognition of Outgoing Council Members:

Thank you for faithfully serving God through your leadership on the Church Council:  
Amanda Cauble, Tara Davis and Frank Merrell

The following were elected to serve a three-year term on the Church Council: Karen Barringer, Pete Nguyen, and Brad Trexler.

Reaffirmation of Current Church Council Members: Phil Cauble, Ali Davis, Kevin Huffman, Vicki Hunter, John Knight, Sharon Leazer, Dusty Morgan, Sr., Thad Mulkey, and Debbie Rinehart.

***We need YOUR help!***

*Contact persons:*

*Dusty Morgan, Sr. and Pastor Heidi*



*This year Union Lutheran Church is excited to announce that we will be celebrating Christmas with a Christmas Program entitled **Prince of Peace** on **Sunday, December 22**, at **6:30 p.m.** in the large fellowship hall.*

*What's needed: Actors, Narrators, Volunteers, Props, Sound & Video, Stage Manager*

**Scheduled Practices**

*Sundays, December 1 & 8, at 4:00 p.m.*

*Saturday, December 21, at 6:30 p.m.*

**Help** is needed on **Sunday, December 1**, at **4:00 p.m.** to bring down decorations for the Fellowship building and the Sanctuary. Please contact Phil Cauble if you can help!

**This Week's Schedule**

Monday, Dec. 2

**9:30 a.m.** Fellowship Building Christmas Decorations Setup  
Contact Person: Cheryl Kluttz

Tuesday, Dec. 3

**6:30 p.m.** Advent Worship in the Chapel

*The Light of Grace* ~ Hope: Zechariah (Psalm 39:7)

In his old age, after years of waiting and not giving up hope, Zechariah is blessed with a son, John the Baptist, who prepared the way for the Light of Grace, Jesus.

Wednesday, Dec. 4

**10:30 a.m.** Advent Worship in the Chapel

*The Light of Grace* ~ Hope: Zechariah (Psalm 39:7)

**6:30 p.m.** Catechism Confirmation

**6:30 p.m.** Belles & Beaus

**7:30 p.m.** Chancel Choir

Thursday, Dec. 5

**12 noon** Frank Merrell (large fellowship hall)

**NALC Disaster Response**

Toys & Gift Cards for Western, NC

**Deadline:** Friday, December 6

**Drop Off Location:**

Pew (outside of church office) or  
Supply Closet (small fellowship hall)



In cooperation with the NALC Disaster Response team, we are asking for **toys** for children, and Walmart or Amazon **gift cards** for teens, who have been affected by Hurricane Helene in Western NC.

Please place toys and gift cards either on the pew outside of the church office or in the Supply Closet when entering the small fellowship hall.

The following week, Disaster Response volunteers will pick up the toys and gift cards from the warehouses and will coordinate drop offs in the affected areas NLT 14 December.

Thanks for your generosity and cooperation in helping to meet the needs of those affected!

Blessings and peace, Pastor Steven King

Saturday, Dec. 7

Megan Cline (small fellowship hall)

**Sunday, December 8**

**9:15 a.m.** Kids Choir in Choir Room

**9:35 a.m.** Sunday School

The Golden Calf ~ Exodus 32:1-24; 1 Corinthians 8:406

*Moses' anger burned hot, and he threw the tablets out of his hands and broke them.*

(Exodus 32:19)

Rabbit Hole Adult Sunday School Class

The Golden Calf

Drew Wise Adult Sunday School Class  
God’s Promise ~ 2 Samuel 7:1-17; Isaiah 9:1-7

**10:30 a.m.** Worship & Holy Communion

Lighting of Advent Candles: Hope/Prophet and Faith/Bethlehem

Malachi 3:1-7b; Psalm 66:1-12; Philippians 1:2-11; Luke 3:1-14

Sermon: *An Ear-Piercing Intrusive Voice*

**4:00 p.m.** 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee

**4:00 p.m.** Christmas Program Practice (all ages)

*During the season of Advent, the Altar Greenery is given to the glory of God.*

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*Please note as of Christ the King Sunday, we have refreshed our prayer list and kindly ask that you please resubmit your prayer requests by filling out the prayer request card in the Narthex. If you have a praise report, we are always happy to hear about them too and invite you to share them with the church office to include in our monthly newsletter.*

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER...**

**Nursing Homes** – Brenda Mahaley (Autumn Care Room 815), Ruth Monroe (Autumn Care Room 818), Jean Ray (Autumn Care Room 201) & Jay Rusher (Autumn Care), Pat Kluttz (Brookdale Room 56)

**Homebound/Shut-ins Members** – Sarah Bame, Rachel Earnhardt, Teresa Kesler, James & Jean Kluttz, Rev. TC & Mary Plexico, Macky Swicegood, Billy Waller & Michael Walton

**Sick/Surgery/Recovery** – Macky Swicegood

**Continual Prayer** – Jeff Matthews (cancer patient), Union Fire Department #76, Global Missions (Congo, Slovakia, and Haiti), especially for our NC neighbors affected by natural disasters & those affected by political disasters

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**OUR MISSION:** Christ Centered ~ Mission Driven~ Traditionally-Grounded ~ Congregationally Focused (*Matthew 28:18-20*)

**OUR 2024 VISION:** “Love God and Love our Neighbor” (*Mark 12:30-33*)

**OUR 2024 ACTION PLAN:** “By feeding, clothing, visiting, helping...” (*Matthew 25:35-40*)

