

The Worship of God

First Sunday after the Epiphany:
The Baptism of Our Lord
Observing the Ordinance of Baptism

January 7, 2024
Ten O'clock in the Morning

Memorial Baptist Church
Buies Creek, North Carolina

A Baby’s hands in Bethlehem
Were small and softly curled,
But held within their dimpled grasp
The hope of all the world.

And long ago the hands of Christ
Were nailed upon a tree,
But still their holy touch redeems
The hearts of you and me.

~ “The Hands of Christ” (ad.), by Leslie Savage Clark,
American author and poet, 1886-1963.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

All Things Bright and Beautiful
Anne McClain, organ

Patricia Lou Harris

GREETING and † INVOCATION

Brittany Montgomery, Ministry Intern

† HYMN OF PRAISE 117

As with Gladness Men of Old

DIX

CONFESSION OF SIN and ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Edward Beddingfield, Pastor

John 8: 12
I am the Light of the world; whoever follows me
will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

PROCLAIMING

OLD TESTAMENT (responsively)

Isaiah 60: 1-3, 5-6

Mr. Beddingfield

Arise, shine! For your light is come;
And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;
But the Lord will arise upon you, and God’s glory will be seen in you.
And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.
Then you shall see and be radiant! Your heart will thrill and rejoice.
For the wealth of nations shall come to you; a multitude of camels shall cover you.
And they shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

GOSPEL 1

Matthew 2: 1-12
The coming of the Magi.

Ms. Montgomery

† WORSHIP SONG

arr. Sarah McLachlan

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen/We Three Kings
Mariamarta Conrad, Leader

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay
Remember Christ our Savior was born upon this day
To save us all from Satan’s power when we were gone astray
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.

† The congregation is invited to stand.

(Refrain)
Oh, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect Light.

Born a king on Bethlehem’s plain, gold I bring to crown him again
King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign.

Frankincense to offer have I; incense crowns a Deity nigh
Prayer and praising, voices raising, worshipping God on high.

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in a stone-cold tomb.

Glorious now behold Him arise: King and God and Sacrifice
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Worshipping God most high. (Refrain)

Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place
And with love and affection each other now embrace
This holy tide of Christmas all other doth efface
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.

GOSPEL 2

Mark 1: 1-11
The Baptism of Jesus.

Mike Snyder, Reader

SERMON

But Wait! There’s Myrrh

Mr. Beddingfield

RESPONDING

INVITATION TO GIVING AND DISCIPLESHIP

Mr. Beddingfield

† HYMN 412

My Faith Has Found a Resting Place

LANDÅS
stanzas 1, 2 and 3

OFFERTORY

’Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

Lani Smith

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and The Lord’s Prayer (unison)

Ms. Montgomery

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. Amen.

TESTIMONY IN SONG

Cleansed

Gayle/Riddle/Yates/Yates
Ms. Conrad, vocalist

THE ORDINANCE OF BAPTISM

Carlie Grace Snyder, Candidate

Invitation to the Water and Prayer of Dedication
Introduction of the Candidate and Personal Scripture
Baptismal Scripture Romans 10: 9
If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe
in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Charge to the Candidate
Do you believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead? **I do.**
What is your confession of faith? **Jesus is Lord.**

Charge to the Church
Response: **With God’s help, we will.**

The Baptism

SENDING

† HYMN OF SENDING FORTH 4

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY
stanzas 1 and 2

LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY

Ms. Montgomery

† BENEDICTION

Ms. Montgomery

POSTLUDE

March of the Kings

Carl Simone

PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Members: Pat Stiller, Jerry Smith, Jac Whatley, Susan Cannady, Duwayne Grimm, Ofe (Hoyle) Rockholt, Catherine King, Frances Lloyd, Kathy Creed, Burgess Marshbanks, Al Upshaw, Carolyn Walker, Betty Wallace, Jimmy Jung, Pauline Calloway, Linda Smith

Family and Friends: Grace Avrette (mother of David Avrette); Residents of Emerald Health & Rehab with covid; Bill Swan (great-uncle of Heather Giunta); Madilyn & Evelyn Smith; Lacy Massey (stepfather of Jeff Pope); Wayne McLamb (brother-in-law of Jeff Pope); Mary McClain (mother of Greg McClain); Joseph and Sarah Conner; Aaron Bowers (brother of Charissa English); Tonya Taylor (sister-in-law of Carrie Royal)

Aldersgate senior living center (Charlotte, NC): Louise Taylor

Emerald Health and Rehab Center (Lillington, NC): Pat Stiller

In order to keep our prayer list current, we will place names on the list for one month. After one month we will remove names from the list. If there is a need for a name to be on the list for a longer period, please notify us and we will be happy to comply.

Deacons for January 2024: Theresa Batten and Trinity Kelly
Deacons for February 2024: Brandon Brown and Tammy Scarborough

Ushers Today: Randall Johnson, Susan Johnson, Linda Lunney and Siu-Ki Wong
Ushers Jan. 14: Brandon Brown, Bob Cisneros, Adam English and Miles West

No Kids’ Church today
Kids’ Church Jan. 14: (need volunteer)

Nursery today: (need volunteer)
Nursery Jan. 14: (need volunteer)

TODAY, January 7th

Friends Class - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Sarah’s Open Door Class - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Children - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Library)
Youth - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)
* No Kids’ Church

The Floral Committee will be taking down Christmas decorations today following the worship service. All are welcome to stay and help.

MONDAY, January 8th

Deacon’s Meeting: 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, January 10th

WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES RESUME
Children’s Choir: 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)
Simple Supper - Pizza and Salad: 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Mission Kids: 6:30 p.m. (Classroom)
Youth Activity: 6:30 p.m. (Library)
Adult Bible Study: 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY, January 11th

Missions Committee Meeting: 6:30 p.m. (Library)

JANUARY 2024

14 Friends Class - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Sarah’s Open Door Class - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Children - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Library)
Youth - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)
Kids’ Church: during worship (Library)

17 Children’s Choir: 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)
Simple Supper - Menu: TBD: 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Mission Kids: 6:30 p.m. (Classroom)
Youth Activity: 6:30 p.m. (Library)
Adult Bible Study: 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

21 Friends Class - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Sarah’s Open Door Class - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m.
Children - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Library)
Youth - Sunday School: 9:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)
Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)
Kids’ Church: during worship (Library)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Teachers are needed for Kids' Church and Nursery.
The sign up sheet is located on the bulletin board.
Your help is much needed and appreciated!



There will be NO Kids’ Church today, January 7,
but will resume on January 14.

Kids’ Church will be available for children
ages 3 through 3rd grade as of January 14.

Worship packets with activities to aid children with their worship
experience are available in the narthex/foyer.

CHURCH MISSION PROJECTS

- **Clothes Closet:** New date TBD
- **Harnett Food Pantry:** collecting **non-perishable foods and egg cartons**
Needed for January - - **Applesauce**
Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome. Designate contribution as ‘Food Pantry.’
- **Buddy Backpack:** collecting “**nab crackers**”
[cheese with cheese or cheese with peanut butter]
Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome. Designate contribution as ‘Buddy Backpack.’

Memorial Baptist Church

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Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm

Other Staff: By Appointment



Epiphany

*First Sunday after the Epiphany:
The Baptism of Our Lord
Observing the Ordinance of Baptism*

January 7, 2024

Memorial Baptist Church is an inviting, inclusive, Christ-centered community of faith open to all persons who want to walk with us in following the way of Jesus. If you mourn and need comfort; if you’re weary and need rest; if you feel friendless and need friendship; if you need a Savior; if you need love; if you need help; whoever you are and whatever your circumstances, we open the door and in the name of Jesus bid you come.

The Rev. Edward Beddingfield, Pastor
Meredith Lanier Craddock, Associate Pastor
Dr. Phillip and Susan Morrow, Ministers of Music
Anne McClain, Organist
Brittany Montgomery, Ministry Intern
Mariamarta Conrad, Worship Assistant
Ashley Nelson, Administrative Assistant
Wayne Smith, Custodian