

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

*The Sunday after Christmas*

December 26, 2021  
Ten O'clock in the Morning

Memorial Baptist Church  
Buies Creek, North Carolina

These are the things our Christmas Day should leave  
Untarnished and untouched by dust and blight:  
The warm, sweet kindness of Christmas Eve,  
Its heavenly glow of rapture and delight;  
The breathless wonder that the stars awake;  
The new-found faith that where a child is born  
There is a little life for God's own sake,  
Though lowly be its lot on Christmas morn;  
The wide good-will we feel for humankind;  
And that true peace that heals the aching mind.  
And though the hurrying years be loud with strife,  
A radiance lives that yet we all shall see –  
A golden glory, rich with fullest life,  
That flows from highest heaven's Divinity.

~ "Sonnet for Christmas" (ad.), by Congregationalist minister  
and Poet Laureate of the State of Maryland,  
Vincent Godfrey Burns, 1893-1979

## GATHERING

*Thank you for wearing a mask (the CDC and State health authorities recommend masks to be worn inside regardless of vaccination status).  
Masks and hand sanitizer are available from an usher if you need them.  
Pews are marked for social distancing guidelines,  
or if you prefer an usher can assist you with seating.*

WELCOMING MUSIC

GREETING Edward Beddingfield, *Pastor*

PRELUDE *Joy to the World* arr. Diane Bish  
Anne McClain, *organ*

† CHRISTMAS CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsively*) Meredith Lanier, *Associate Pastor*  
Isaiah 52: 7, 9-10 (*ad.*)

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the One who publishes peace,  
who brings good news of good things, who announces salvation,  
who says to the people of God, "Your God reigns!"  
Break forth together into singing, you ruined and broken-hearted;  
for the Lord has comforted and redeemed his people.

**The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.**

† CAROL 87 *Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come* ANTIOCH  
stanzas 1 and 4

INVOCATION Ms. Lanier

## CELEBRATING

THE ADVENT WREATH Psalm 62: 1-2, 5-8 Carrie, Sarah and Amos Royal

*Candles for the Prophets and John the Baptist*  
For God alone my soul waits in silence,  
from whom comes my salvation.  
God alone is my rock and my salvation,  
my fortress; I shall never be shaken.

*Candles for Mary and Joseph and the Angels and Shepherds*  
For God alone my soul waits in silence,  
from whom is my hope.  
God alone is my rock and my salvation,  
my fortress; I shall not be moved.

*The Christ Candle*  
On God rests my deliverance and my honor;  
my mighty rock, my refuge, is God.  
Trust in God at all times, O people;  
pour out your heart before him;  
God is a refuge for us.

THE CHRISMON TREE  
*Crown, Crown of Thorns, Cross with Crown*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF GRACE Ms. Lanier

## PROCLAIMING

SONG OF REFLECTION *No Room* Lanny Wolfe  
Susan Morrow, *vocalist*

GOSPEL Luke 2: 22-35 (*The Nunc Dimittis*) Mr. Beddingfield  
Lord, now let your servant depart in peace,  
according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples –  
a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.

EPISTLE Romans 13: 11 Mr. Beddingfield  
Besides this, you know what hour it is,  
how it is full time now to wake from sleep.  
For salvation is nearer to us now  
than when we first believed.

SERMON *Almost* Mr. Beddingfield  
(Fourth and last in an Advent series:  
"The Soundtrack of Christmas")

## RESPONDING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and The Lord's Prayer (*unison*) Mr. Beddingfield

† CAROL 85 *The First Nowell* THE FIRST NOWELL  
stanzas 1 and 4

*Those wishing to respond to the invitation may meet the pastor  
at the front of the sanctuary during the Carol.*

## SENDING

LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY and OFFERTORY INVITATION Mr. Beddingfield

BENEDICTION *Ad. fr. John Claypool* Mr. Beddingfield  
Go now into God's world as those who are called to be God's people,  
remembering as you go that by God's goodness you were born into this life,  
by God's grace you have been kept to this very hour,  
and by God's love, fully revealed in Jesus Christ, you are being redeemed,  
now and forevermore. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE *Sing We Now of Christmas* arr. Jason W. Krug

*Worshippers may depart the sanctuary without direction by an usher.  
Please proceed through the foyer to the courtyard for visiting.  
Thank you for remaining masked until you are outside.*

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

### WAYS TO DONATE TO MBC:

- (1) **Offering plates** are on the tables in the foyer as you leave.
- (2) You may also use your phone and click the **QR code below**; OR
- (3) **To give online** use the "Donate" tab on our webpage, <https://memorialbcnc.org>.  
(If you want 100% of your donation to benefit MBC, please increase your gift  
by 3% to help cover the transaction expenses.)

*Thank you for your cooperation!*



### PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

**Members:** David Price, Carolyn Walker, Ofelia Hoyle, Bob and Jeanne Barker,  
Linda Smith, Mary Lou Ellen, Pauline Calloway

**Family and Friends:** Family of Zack Eubanks, Family of Dennis Riewestahl,  
James Blackwell and family (*brother of Anne McClain*), Maggie Smale (*friend of Sharon  
McDonald*), Beth Stiller (*sister of Susan Morrow*), Alberta Wells (*friend of Susan  
Johnson*), Jimmy Jones (*friend of Susan Johnson*), Bob Appel, Linda Enzor-Manson  
(*sister of Harriet Enzor*), Andrew and Josh Manson (*nephews of Harriet Enzor*), Laura  
Yarbrough, David Whiteman

**Arbor Landing at Ocean Isle (Shallotte):** Pat Stiller

**Oak Hill Assisted Living Center (Angier):** Ester Howard and Frances McQuade

**Prayers of Comfort** are extended to the family of Lauren McMillan, daughter of  
Rick and Karen McMillan, in her death on December 10th. Funeral services were  
in Asheville, NC. Rick has been a member of our Chancel Choir.

*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.*

**TODAY, December 26<sup>th</sup>**

**Friends Class - Sunday School:** 8:45 a.m. (Zoom)  
**Sarah's Open Door Class - Sunday School:** 9 a.m. (Classroom/Zoom)  
**Indoor Worship Service:** 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
**No MBC Kid's Church Today**  
**No Youth Sunday School Today**

**MONDAY, December 27<sup>th</sup>**

Church Office Closed for Christmas Holiday

**WEDNESDAY, December 29<sup>th</sup>**

**\* No Wednesday Night Activities**

**FRIDAY, December 31<sup>st</sup>**

Church Office Closed for New Years Holiday

**JANUARY 2022**

**1** *Happy New Year*

**2** **Friends Class - Sunday School:** 8:45 a.m. (Zoom)  
**Sarah's Open Door Class - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m. (Classroom/Zoom)  
**Indoor Worship Service:** 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
**MBC Kid's Church:** 10:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall/Playground)  
**Youth Sunday School:** 5:30 p.m. - *during the month of January* (Zoom)

**5** **\* No Wednesday Night Activities**

**9** **Friends Class - Sunday School:** 8:45 a.m. (Zoom)  
**Sarah's Open Door Class - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m. (Classroom/Zoom)  
**Indoor Worship Service:** 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
**MBC Kid's Church:** 10:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall/Playground)  
**The Floral Committee will be taking down Christmas decorations immediately following the worship service. All are welcome to stay and help.**  
**Youth Sunday School:** 5:30 p.m. - *during the month of January* (Zoom)

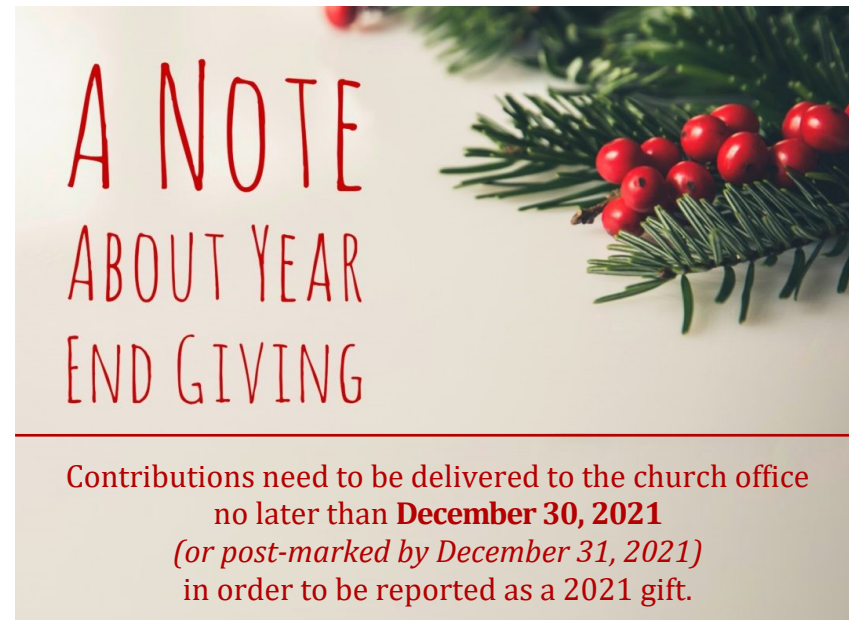
**Deacons for December:** Gail Cogdill and Tom Spainhour

**Deacons for January:** Theresa Batten and Laura Rich

**Ushers Today:** Nancy Brady, Bob Cisneros, Barrett Kesling and Miles West

**Ushers for Jan. 2:** Al Hardison, Randall Johnson, Susan Johnson and Linda Lunney

**No Kid's Church Today**



**A NOTE ABOUT YEAR END GIVING**

Contributions need to be delivered to the church office no later than **December 30, 2021** (or post-marked by December 31, 2021) in order to be reported as a 2021 gift.




# MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

*The Sunday after Christmas*

*December 26, 2021*

*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.*



We would like to be able to offer nursery services for guests and visitors. We also need volunteers to teach our children during the Kid's Church time.  
**We can't do any of this without your help.**

If you would be willing to help in either area, please tell the church office.

**CHURCH MISSION PROJECTS**

- **Clothes Closet:** February 2022
- **Buddy Backpack:** collecting individuals cereal boxes  
*You may also make a monetary donation to Memorial Baptist Church and put 'Buddy Backpack' on the memo line.*
- **Harnett Food Pantry:** collecting non-perishable foods and egg cartons  
*You may make a monetary donation to Memorial Baptist Church and put 'Food Pantry' on the memo line.*
- **HCMS Hygiene Kits**

**Memorial Baptist Church**  
271 Leslie Campbell Avenue/P.O. Box 485  
Buies Creek, NC 27506  
Telephone: 910-893-4162 Fax: 910-893-2167  
Website: www.memorialbcnc.org  
email: ashley@memorialbcnc.org  
Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm  
Other Staff: By Appointment

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