

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

*A Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols*  
*with Candles and Communion*

December 24, 2022

Memorial Baptist Church

Five-thirty in the Evening

Buies Creek, North Carolina

Let not our hearts be busy inns that have no room for Thee,  
But cradles for the living Christ on His nativity.

~ Ralph Spaulding Cushman (1879-1960): New York Methodist minister, later bishop in Denver and St. Paul; interim minister at Hayes Barton Methodist Church, Raleigh, 1956.

GATHERING

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

PRELUDE

*He Is Born*

Mary McDonald

Anne McClain, *Organist*

WELCOME and † CALL TO WORSHIP

Edward Beddingfield, *Pastor*

*Ad. fr. The Book of Common Prayer, The Nativity of Our Lord (p. 212).*

Our hearts are made glad by the yearly celebration of the birth of God’s Son.  
**Now may we, who joyfully receive him as our Savior,**  
**follow him also as our Lord, until with sure and certain confidence**  
**we behold him when he comes to judge and rule the world with truth and grace.**  
We gather this night in the true Christmas spirit of hope, and joy, and peace;  
**And we welcome the birth of our blessed Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.**

† GATHERING HYMN

*Once in Royal David’s City*

IRBY

Temple Cannady, *soloist*

(*solo*) Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed.  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

(*all*) He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall.  
With the poor, the scorned, the lowly lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love,  
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above.  
And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

BIDDING PRAYER

Meredith Lanier Craddock, *Associate Pastor*

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

WAITING

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

with Lalia and Joe Turlington  
and Grant and Garrett Johnston

The Prophets, John the Baptist, Mary and Joseph,  
the Angels and the Shepherds

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3: 1-7, 14-15

Bob Cisneros

He will strike your head,  
and you will bruise his heel.

CAROL 93

*It Came upon the Midnight Clear*

CAROL

stanzas 1 and 2

THE SECOND LESSON

Matthew 1: 18-25

Ellie Rich

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall call his name Immanuel,  
which means, “God with us.”

CAROL 110

*That Boy-Child of Mary*

BLANTYRE

stanzas 1 and 3

THE THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 11: 1-10

Lisa Spainhour and  
Trinity Kelly

A shoot shall come forth from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

† CAROL 78

*Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming*

ES IST EIN ROS’

stanzas 1 and 2

COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Mr. Beddingfield

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Mrs. Craddock

THE BREAD

Luke 1: 30, 35

Mr. Beddingfield

The angel said, Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.  
The Holy Spirit will come upon you,, and the power of the Most High  
will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born  
will be called Holy, the Son of God.

THE CUP

Isaiah 9: 6

Mrs. Craddock

For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given . . .  
and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,  
the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

THE BIRTH

THE FOURTH LESSON

Micah 5: 2-5

Gail Cogdill

But you, Bethlehem, though you are little among the clans of Judah,  
out of you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel.

CAROL 106

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

W ZLOBIE LEZY

THE FIFTH LESSON

Luke 2: 1-7

Turlington Family

And she brought forth her first-born son,  
and wrapped him in swaddling clothes,  
and laid him in a manger.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Turlington Family

SONG OF TESTIMONY

*O Holy Night*

Adolphe Adam

Susan, Hilary and Izzy Morrow

THE SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2: 8-14

Turlington Family

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace,  
goodwill to all people.

CAROL 94

*Angels, From the Realms of Glory*

REGENT SQUARE

stanzas 1 and 2

THE SEVENTH LESSON

Responsive Reading 75

Traci Snyder

John 1: 1-5, 10-14, and 3: 16  
And the word was made flesh, and dwelt among us.

† CAROL 88

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

MENDELSSOHN

stanzas 1 and 2

SENDING

† LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*Candles are battery operated. When directed,  
move the switch at the base of the candle to turn it on.  
After the service concludes in the courtyard, please turn off  
the candle and return it to a basket by the door.*

† RECESSIONAL CAROL

*Silent Night, Holy Night*

STILLE NACHT

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child! Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight!  
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, Love’s pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light.  
With the angels let us sing Alleluia to our king;  
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

† BENEDICTION and DISMISSAL

Mr. Beddingfield

PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

**Members:** Will and Christine Roberts, Harriet Enzor, Betty Wallace, Jimmy Jung, David Price, Carolyn Walker, Linda Smith, Mary Lou Ellen, Pauline Calloway

**Family and Friends:** Adrienne Cannady Nienaber (*daughter of Susan Cannady*), Sandy Howard (*friend of Susan Cannady*), David Lanier (*brother of Meredith Craddock*), Virginia Blackwell (*mother of Anne McClain*), Mary Anne Tomlinson (*mother of Meredith Williams*), Kathleen Whatley (*mother of Jac Whatley*), Brian Worth (*friend of Cindy Avrette*), Frank and Peggy Giunta (*grandparents of Heather Giunta*), Laura Yarbrough, Teresa Roberts, Paul Daley (*retired director of Cameron Boys Camp and Camp Duncan for Girls*), Bob Appel (*husband of Debbie Appel*)

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

**Prayers of Comfort** are extended to the family of Ofelia Hoyle in the death of her sister, Virginia Stern, on Sunday, December 18th. Her service was Friday, December 23rd.

**Prayers of Comfort** are also extended to the family of Theresa Batten in the death of her nephew, Nathan Dixon, on Wednesday, December 21st.

*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.*


December 2022 Calendar

- 24 *Christmas Eve Service:* 5:30 p.m.
- 25 *Merry Christmas*  
*Christmas Day Service:* 10:00 a.m.
- 26 **Church Office Closed for Holiday**
- 27 **Church Office Closed for Holiday**
- 28 **\* No Wednesday Night Activities**

January 2023 Calendar

- 1 **Friends Class - Sunday School:** 8:45 a.m. (In Person & Online)  
**Sarah’s Open Door Class - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m. (In Person & Online)  
**Children - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Youth - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Worship Service:** 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
**No Kids’ Church Today**
- 2 **Church Office Closed for Holiday**
- 4 **\* No Wednesday Night Activities**

**\* Year-End Giving:**  
In planning your year-end giving, please be reminded that your contributions must be received in the church office by **December 30, 2022 (or post-marked by December 31, 2022)** in order to be reported as a 2022 gift.

 You may place your offering in the offering plate during the service, or use this QR code to donate using your phone, or click the **Donate** tab on the website. Thank you for giving to Memorial Baptist Church.



**Missions Mailbox**

MBC Mission Kids **Missions Mailbox** is open for business. If you would like to “mail” a Christmas card to someone in our congregation, drop them off at the mailbox that is set up in the narthex. The cost to “mail” a card is only **25¢** each. All the money raised will go to support a mission project.

The **Missions Mailbox** will be open for business until December 25<sup>th</sup>.

Check the bulletin board for more community announcements.

**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](http://www.memorialbcnc.org)  
Emails: [edb@memorialbcnc.org](mailto:edb@memorialbcnc.org)  
[meredith@memorialbcnc.org](mailto:meredith@memorialbcnc.org)  
[ashley@memorialbcnc.org](mailto:ashley@memorialbcnc.org)  
Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm  
Other Staff: By Appointment



MEMORIAL  
BAPTIST CHURCH

*A Christmas Eve Service  
of Lessons and Carols  
with Candles and Communion*

*December 24, 2022*

*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  
Mariamarta Conrad, Worship Assistant  
Ashley Nelson, Administrative Assistant  
Wayne Smith, Custodian