THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Third Sunday of Advent *Joy*

December 17, 2023 Ten O'clock in the Morning Memorial Baptist Church Buies Creek, North Carolina

Today in Bethlehem hear I Sweet angel voices singing: "All glory be to God on high, Who peace on earth is bringing." Today in Bethlehem hear I Even the lowly singing: With angel-words they pierce the sky; All earth with joy is ringing.

~ John of Damascus (c. 675 – c. 749), an Arab Christian monk, priest, hymnwriter (some still used today), theologian and teacher.

GATHERING

PRELUDE O Magnify the Lord

im Doran

Anne McClain, organ

arr. Tim Doran

GREETING Edward Beddingfield, Pastor

† INVOCATION Meredith Lanier Craddock, Associate Pastor

† HYMN OF PRAISE 88

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing stanzas 1 and 2

MENDELSSOHN

.......

PROCLAIMING

the MYSTERY and the MAJESTY

A CANTATA BY JOSEPH M. MARTIN

A Christmas Flourish

Susan Morrow, soloist

Carol of Longing

CAROL OF THE BIRDS

Dayna Scarborough, soloist

Advent Jubilation

THE ADVENT WREATH Randall and Susan Johnson
Adriane, Dan, Emily and Ava Karlinski

Scripture: Luke 1: 26-33 (*The Annunciation to Mary*)

Candle: Joy

Nativity Figure: Mary

* Following the Advent Wreath, children from age 3 through 4th grade may meet

Ms. Brittany at the back of the sanctuary to leave for Kids' Church.

Parents may pick up their children in the church library after the service.

The Coming Joy

Izzy Morrow, soloist

Upon a Midnight Clear

A Call to Christmas Joy

J. P. Williams/Paige/Martin

Journey to Bethlehem

Susan Morrow, soloist Sarah Conner, soloist

The Beautiful Impossible

J. Martin

Joseph Conner, soloist

RESPONDING and SENDING

OFFERTORY I Wonder As I Wander arr. Tim Doran

A Noel Proclamation J. Martin

† HYMN OF SENDING FORTH 105 Child in the Manger BUNESSAN

stanzas 1 and 3

LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY Mr. Beddingfield

† BENEDICTION Mr. Beddingfield

POSTLUDE Postlude on ANTIOCH Gerald Peterson

Chancel Choir and Orchestra

Director: Phillip Morrow

Gail Cogdill
Joseph Conner
Sarah Conner
Joseph Das
Mary Joe Howard
Greg McClain
Izzy Morrow
Donna Penny
Bruce Powers
Jean Powers
Ellie Rich
Dayna Scarborough
Olivia Scarborough
David Steegar

Susan Morrow

Cai Davis, cello Anne McClain, piano Emma McCulloch, flute Brett Phillips, bass Carey Sleeman, violin Dan Snyder, clarinet

Narrator: Charlotte Riewestahl

Kathy Whatley

Readers: Temple Cannady, Conrad Riewestahl, Garrett Riewestahl, Nate Rich and Carlie Snyder

† The congregation is invited to stand.

PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

<u>Members</u>: Jac Whatley, Susan Cannady, Duwayne Grimm, Ofe (Hoyle) Rockholt, Catherine King, Frances Lloyd, Kathy Creed, Burgess Marshbanks, Al Upshaw, Carolyn Walker, Jeff Pope, Betty Wallace, Jimmy Jung, Pauline Calloway, Linda Smith

<u>Family and Friends</u>: Family of John Rouse; Multiple family members of Charissa English; Joseph and Sarah Conner; Tonya Taylor (sister-in-law of Carrie Royal); Madilyn Smith; Caroline Upshaw; Michael Warren (brother of Donna Haynes); Aaron Bowers (brother of Charissa English)

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

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

<u>Prayers of Comfort</u> are extended to the family of Joseph Das in the death of his father, Victor Das, on Sunday, December 10th. His memorial service was held Friday in Bangalore, India.

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.

<u>Deacons for December 2023</u>: Ron McLamb and Joe Turlington <u>Deacons for January 2024</u>: Theresa Batten and Trinity Kelly

<u>Ushers Today</u>: Beverley Howard, Ron McLamb, Scotty Scarborough

and Lee Turlington

<u>Ushers Dec. 24</u>: Cherry DeVane, Chad Godwin, Derek Hogan and Jeff Pope

<u>Kids' Church today</u>: Brittany Montgomery

No Kids' Church Dec. 24

Nursery today: (need volunteer)
Nursery Dec. 24: (need volunteer)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

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

TODAY, December 17th

Third Sunday of Advent

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)

Chancel Choir Cantata-Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)

Kids' Church: during worship (Library) Fireside at Memorial: 7 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

Please bring a Christmas dessert or treat to share afterward.

WEDNESDAY, December 20th

* No Children's Choir

* No Simple Supper

Church-wide Caroling: Meet at MBC at 5:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

DECEMBER 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent

* No Sunday School

Worship Service: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)

* No Kids' Church

Christmas Eve Service: 5:30 p.m.

Lessons and Carols, Candles and Communion

- 25 Church Office Closed for Christmas Holiday
- Church Office Closed for Christmas Holiday
- * No Wednesday Night Activities
- 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

IANUARY 2024

Happy New Year Church Office Closed

* Year-End Giving: In planning your year-end giving, please be reminded that your contributions must be received in the church office by noon on **December 29, 2023** (or post-marked by December 31, 2023) in order to be reported as a 2023 gift.



"Advent is a season to linger in longing. This poses a challenge in our tired, time-tabled culture. We are used to having what gratifies..."

Please take a devotion book & spend a few moments everyday praying, reading & reflecting. During this time of longing, as we wait for our Savior's birth, let's spend some time waiting with God.



CAPITAL DEBT CAMPAIGN

Thanks to the donor and all of you for your faithful giving to MBC, our Capital Campaign goal has more than been met!!

\$20,000.00 \$20,320.45 Gifts Received as of 12-15-23

102%

CHURCH MISSION PROJECTS

Harnett Food Pantry: collecting **non-perishable foods** and **egg cartons** Needed for December - - Peanut Butter 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



Third Sunday of Advent Joy

December 17, 2023

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

Check the bulletin board for community announcements.