

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2024
Ten O'clock in the Morning

Memorial Baptist Church
Buies Creek, North Carolina

Hark! the glad sound: the Saviour comes,
The Saviour promised long;
Let every heart prepare a throne,
And every voice a song.

He comes, the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure;
And with the treasures of his grace
To enrich the humble poor.

He comes, the prisoner to release
In evil's bondage held;
The gates of brass before him burst,
The iron fetters yield.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Your welcome shall proclaim,
And Heaven's eternal arches ring
With your beloved name.

~ Selected stanzas (ad.) of a hymn by Phillip Doddridge, English
Nonconformist minister, educator and hymnwriter, 1702-1751.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Gloria in Excelsis Deo
Anne McClain, organist

Roger C. Wilson

† OPENING SENTENCE

Meredith Lanier Craddock, Associate Pastor
Isaiah 9: 2, 6

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has the
light shined. For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given,
and the government will be upon his shoulder; and his name
shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

† PROCESSIONAL HYMN 76

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

† INVOCATION and WELCOME

Edward Beddingfield, Pastor

*Ad. fr. The Book of Common Prayer,
Collect for the Nativity of St. John the Baptist*

Almighty God, by whose gracious providence your servant John the Baptist
was wonderfully born, and was sent to prepare the way for your Son Jesus by
preaching the message of the prophets and calling all who heard to repentance:
Help us also to listen to his preaching, to follow his teaching, and to live by his example,
that we may repent of our own sins, speak the truth, rebuke wrongdoing,
suffer if necessary for the truth's sake, and patiently and hopefully look and long for
the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ in our lives and in our world;
for it is in Christ's name that we pray, **Amen.**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (responsively)

Mr. Beddingfield

Luke 1: 68-79: The *Benedictus* (with introduction)

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, who has visited and redeemed his people,
and has raised up for us a horn of salvation in the house of his servant, David;

**As he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from long ago,
that we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all who hate us.**

Thus God performed the mercy promised to our ancestors,
and remembered his holy covenant, the oath he swore to our father, Abraham:

**That we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies,
might serve God without fear, in holiness and righteousness
before him all the days of our lives.**

† The congregation is invited to stand.

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
to give to God's people the knowledge of salvation and the forgiveness of sins,
through the tender mercy of our God.

**Then a new day shall dawn upon us from on high,
to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet in the way of peace.**

WAITING

Of the Father's Love

A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent
Words by Marcus Aurelius C. Prudentius, 4th c.,
Tr. John M. Neale & Henry W. Baker
Music by Joel Raney

SECOND SUNDAY: *Mighty God*

MBC Youth

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (please sing with choir as directed)

Of the Father's Love
Congregational part:



ev - er - more and ev - er - more, Em - man - u - el.

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LITANY (responsively)

During Advent, we wait for the one promised in Scripture.

And he will be called Mighty God.

We wait for the one whose power has no limits and whose strength knows no end.

And he will be called Mighty God.

We wait for the one whose everlasting light illumines even the darkest night.

And he will be called Mighty God.

We wait for the one whose love and mercy never end
and whose faithfulness endures forever.

And he will be called Mighty God.

CANDLE LIGHTING: The Candle of *Love*

CONCLUDING PRAYER

* Following the Concluding Prayer, children from age 3 through 3rd grade may
meet Mrs. Meredith at the back of the sanctuary to leave for Kids' Church.
Parents may pick up their children in the church library after the service.

PROCLAIMING

GOSPEL

Luke 3: 1-6

Mr. Beddingfield

The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
Prepare the way of the Lord! Make his paths straight!
Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill
shall be made low; and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough places smooth, and all flesh shall see
the salvation of our God.

SERMON

Road Work Ahead

Mr. Beddingfield

RESPONDING

ANTHEM

Carols of Hope and Light

arr. Joseph Martin

Rejoice, rejoice, your Light will come on Christmas day, on Christmas day.
Rejoice, rejoice and greet the Son on Christmas day in the morning.
Rejoice, rejoice, prepare the way for Christmas day, for Christmas day.
Rejoice, rejoice, declare your praise on Christmas day in the morning.

Arise and shine! Your Light will come, and God will send His chosen one.
Arise and shine! Your Light will come. Rejoice and see what the Lord has done.
Come raise your songs of joy and mirth. Sing of the Promise come to earth.

Let all creation lift its voice with heart and soul and voice. Give ye heed to what we say:
"News! News! Soon the Lord will come to stay. To a lowly cattle stall,
God will give a gift to all." Lift a song of praise! Lift a song of praise!

Alleluia! Sing to God a jubilant song!

Let all the people sing! Let steeples ring, for on Christmas day, Light will come!

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

Mr. Beddingfield

**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.**

INVITATION TO GIVE and OFFERTORY

Mr. Beddingfield

Reflection on an Ancient Plainsong
Mrs. McClain

Michael Ryan

SENDING

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Mr. Beddingfield

† HYMN OF SENDING 79

Blessed Be the God of Israel
stanzas 1, 2 and 5

FOREST GREEN

† LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY

Mr. Beddingfield

† BENEDICTION

Mr. Beddingfield

POSTLUDE

Join the Triumph of the Skies
Mrs. McClain

Douglas E. Wagner

Deacons for December 2024: Charlotte Riewestahl and Olivia Scarborough
Deacons for January 2025: Lisa Lanier and Tom Spainhour

Ushers Today: Brandon Brown, Bob Cisneros, Adam English and Miles West
Ushers Dec. 15: Beverley Howard, Ron McLamb, Scotty Scarborough and Lee
Turlington

Kids' Church Today: Meredith Craddock

Kids' Church Dec. 15: (need volunteer)

No Nursery today

Nursery Dec. 15: (need volunteer)

PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

Members: Isla Brown, Doris Eller, Linda Smith, Carolyn Walker, Betty Wallace

Family and Friends: Family of Don Bennett (*brother of Elva Scarborough*); Catie Kuipers (*niece of Jonathan McClain*); Debbie McClain (*sister-in-law of Anne McClain*); Rosa Paquette (*friend of Susan Johnson*); Karon Mathews (*friend of Lorrie Pope*); Kelly McLamb (*daughter of Jerry and Betty Wallace*); Mary McClain (*mother of Greg McClain*); Lee Lanier (*father of Meredith Craddock*); Tom Patton (*neighbor of Ed Beddingfield*); International teachers and their families

Aldersgate Senior Living Center (Charlotte, NC): Louise Taylor

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

TODAY, December 8th

Second 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. (Family Life Center)

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

Kids' Church: during worship (Library)

Advent Dinners: 5:00 p.m. (*Questions? See Olivia Scarborough today.*)

"Radio J-O-Y!" Children's Christmas Musical: 7:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)

WEDNESDAY, December 11th

*** No Children's Choir**

YOUTH COMMITTEE FUNDRAISER DINNER - Pizza and Salad: 5:45 p.m.

{Funds raised will go towards Youth Ministry}

Gingerbread House Decorating: 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)

This event is for ALL ages! The church will provide the gingerbread house. Please bring any of your favorite decorating candy to share.

Some candy, snacks & icing will be provided.

Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

DECEMBER 2024

15 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. (Family Life Center)

Chancel Choir Cantata - Tapestry of Light: 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)

*** No Kids' Church Today**

Buies Creek Christmas Parade: 4 p.m.

Fireside at Memorial

Sunday, December 22 at 7 p.m.

Here's your chance to showcase your talents . . . playing an instrument, singing, dancing, juggling, etc.

To contribute your own unique talent, see Dr. Morrow.



*** 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 30, 2024** (or post-marked by **December 31, 2024**) in order to be reported as a 2024 gift.

Ways to Donate to MBC:

- **Offering plates** during the Offertory portion of our service.
 - Mailing a **check** payable to: *Memorial Baptist Church*
P.O. Box 485
Buies Creek, NC 27506
 - *Our website at www.memorialbcnc.org by clicking the **Donate** tab.
 - *Scanning the **QR Code** shown here on your mobile device.
- *(If you want 100% of your donation to benefit MBC, please increase your gift by 3% to help cover the transaction expenses.)*



Don't forget to pick up a 2024 Advent Devotional booklet for your family today. They are on the table in the narthex.

Missions Mailbox

MBC Mission Kids are hosting their annual **Missions Mailbox** through Sunday December 22nd.

Missions Mailbox is offered for you to be able to "mail" a Christmas card to someone in our congregation. The mailbox is set up in the narthex. The cost to "mail" a card is still only **25¢** each.

All the money raised will go to support a mission project.



CHURCH MISSION PROJECTS

- **Clothes Closet:** Next date TBD
- **Harnett Food Pantry:** collecting **non-perishable foods**
(Egg cartons are no longer needed at this time.)
Needed for December -- **Peanut Butter**
Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome; designate as 'Food Pantry.'
- **Buddy Backpack:** collecting **sandwich crackers "nabs"**
Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome; designate as 'Buddy Backpack.'
- **Belts for HCMS:** *Donations of used men's or boys' belts that can be used for students at the school.*

Memorial Baptist Church

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

Other Staff: By Appointment



MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 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
Ashley Nelson, Administrative Assistant
Wayne Smith, Custodian