

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Third Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024
Ten O'clock in the Morning

Memorial Baptist Church
Buies Creek, North Carolina

There's a song in the air,
There's a star in the sky!
There's a mother's deep prayer,
And a baby's low cry;

There's a tumult of joy
O'er the wonderful birth,
For the Virgin's sweet boy
Is the Lord of the earth.

And the star rains its fire while the beautiful sing,
For the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

~ Josiah Gilbert Holland (1819-1881),
Massachusetts-born novelist, essayist and poet.

GATHERING

PRELUDE *Prelude on GLORIA* Jason Payne
Anne McClain, organist

† OPENING SENTENCE Meredith Lanier Craddock, Associate Pastor,
Edward Beddingfield, 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 83 *Arise, Your Light Is Come* FESTAL SONG

† INVOCATION and WELCOME Mr. Beddingfield
*Ad. fr. The Book of Common Prayer,
The Light of Christ*

God of light and love, of joy and peace, of hope and promise:
By the birth of your Son you have visited our world and poured upon us the light
of your incarnate love. Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts,
may shine forth in our lives through joyful praises and faithful living;
we pray in the name of the One who is the Light of the world,
even our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

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

THIRD SUNDAY: *Everlasting Father* MBC Children

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *(please sing with choir as directed)*

Of the Father's Love
Congregational part:

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LITANY *(responsively)*

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

And he will be called Everlasting Father.

We wait for the one who knows our deepest thoughts and fulfills our greatest need.

And he will be called Everlasting Father.

We wait for the one who loves us as a parent loves a child.

And he will be called Everlasting Father.

We wait for the one whose light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness does not overcome it.

And he will be called Everlasting Father.

CANDLE LIGHTING: The Candle of Joy

CONCLUDING PRAYER

PROCLAIMING

TAPESTRY OF LIGHT

A CELTIC CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
by Joseph M. Martin

Carols of Hope and Light

Longing for the Light

Sarah and Joseph Conner, soloists

An Advent Garden

The Holy Child of Mary

O Wondrous Night

Dayna Scarborough, soloist

A Celtic Noel

Carols of the Quest

A Celtic Gloria!

Bethlehem Light

Susan Morrow, soloist

Carols of Celebration

RESPONDING

PASTORAL PRAYER

Mr. Beddingfield

INVITATION TO GIVE and OFFERTORY

Mr. Beddingfield

Bring A Torch
Mrs. McClain, organ
David Johnson, trumpet

arr. Lani Smith

SENDING

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Mr. Beddingfield

† HYMN OF SENDING 100

Angels We Have Heard on High
stanzas 1 and 3

GLORIA

† LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY

Mr. Beddingfield

† BENEDICTION

Mr. Beddingfield

POSTLUDE

Joy To The World
Mrs. McClain

arr. Gerald Peterson

Chancel Choir and Orchestra

Director: Phillip Morrow

Gail Cogdill	Donna Penny	
Joseph Conner	Lorrie Pope	Cai Davis, cello
Sarah Conner	Rex Pope	Maja Jelic, violin
Mariamarta Conrad	Bruce Powers	Anne McClain, piano
Joseph Das	Jean Powers	
Mary Joe Howard	Dayna Scarborough	
Greg McClain	Olivia Scarborough	
Izzy Morrow	David Steegar	
Susan Morrow	Abi Van Tol	

Narrators: Michael Cogdill and Charlotte Riewestahl

PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

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

Family and Friends: Mary McClain (*mother of Greg McClain*); Rosa Paquette (*friend of Susan Johnson*); Karon Mathews (*friend of Lorrie Pope*); Kelly McLamb (*daughter of Jerry and Betty Wallace*); 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

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

Ushers Today: Beverley Howard, Ron McLamb, Scotty Scarborough and Lee Turlington
Ushers Dec. 22: Cherry DeVane, Chad Godwin, Derek Hogan and Jeff Pope

No Kids' Church Today
Kids' Church Dec. 22: (need volunteer)

Nursery today: (need volunteer)
Nursery Dec. 22: Charlotte Riewestahl

TODAY, December 15th

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.

WEDNESDAY, December 18th

* No Children's Choir
 * No Supper
Church-wide Caroling: 5:30 p.m.
Meet at the church for instructions.
Chancel Choir Rehearsal: 7:00 p.m. (Sanctuary)

DECEMBER 2024

22 Fourth 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)
Fireside at Memorial: 7 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)
This is your chance to showcase your talents . . . playing an instrument, singing, dancing, juggling, etc. To contribute your own unique talent, see Dr. Morrow TODAY. Please bring Christmas desserts or treat to share afterward.

24 Christmas Eve Service: 5:30 p.m.
Lessons and Carols, Candles and Communion

25 Church Office Closed for Christmas Holiday


26 Church Office Closed for Christmas Holiday

*** 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. Questions? See Cherry DeVane.



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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meredith@memorialbcnc.org
ashley@memorialbcnc.org
 Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm
 Other Staff: By Appointment



MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 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