

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

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

December 24, 2025
Five-thirty in the Evening

Memorial Baptist Church
Buies Creek, North Carolina

GATHERING AND WAITING

CAROLS IN THE COURTYARD

Duwayne Grimm, *trumpet*

PRELUDE

O Come, All Ye Faithful
Anne McClain, *organ*

arr. Lloyd Larson

† OPENING SENTENCE Isaiah 9: 2, 6 Meredith Lanier Craddock, *Associate Pastor*

† PROCESSIONAL CAROL *Once in Royal David's City* IRBY
Carlie Snyder, *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.

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.

† INVOCATION and BIDDING PRAYER Edward Beddingfield, *Pastor*

† BIDDING CAROL 89 *O Come, All Ye Faithful* ADESTE FIDELES
stanzas 1 and 2

ADVENT WREATH Meredith, Lee and John Duncan Williams

The Wonder of Christmas

Music by Joel Raney

Congregational Response

There is won - der in the hope of the birth of a
King, there is won-der in the sound of the an-gels as they
sing. O - come, O come, Em - man - u -
el, and join us here.

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† Worshippers are invited to stand.

PROCLAIMING AND REJOICING

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 40: 1-5 Ryan Craddock
Comfort, comfort ye my people.

† Carol 83 *Arise, Your Light Is Come* FESTAL SONG

THE SECOND LESSON Micah 5: 2, 4-5a Alice Thomas
But you, Bethlehem . . .

† Carol 120 *O Sing a Song of Bethlehem* KINGSFOLD
stanzas 1 and 2

THE THIRD LESSON Matthew 1: 18-25 Lorrie Pope
And you shall call his name Jesus.

Mary's Song *Breath of Heaven* Amy Grant/Christopher Eaton
Hilary, Izzy and Susan Morrow

THE FOURTH LESSON Luke 2: 1-7 Madison Godwin
And she gave birth to her first-born son.

† Carol 103 *Away in a Manger* CRADLE SONG
stanzas 1 and 3

THE FIFTH LESSON Luke 2: 8-14 Bob Cisneros
Shepherds abiding in the field.

MEDITATION *Do You See What I See?* Edward Beddingfield, *Pastor*

Witness in Song *What Child is This?* GREENSLEEVES
Mariamarta Conrad, *vocalist*

HOLY COMMUNION Mr. Beddingfield and Mrs. Craddock

Invitation to the Table

Consecration of the Supper

*When directed open first the bread, then the cup,
by removing the paper cover. Gluten-free elements
are located in the center of each tray.*

The Bread Matthew 1: 20-21
The angel said, "Joseph, do not be afraid to take Mary
to be your wife; for that which is conceived in her is of the
Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus,
for he will save his people from their sins."

The Cup Matthew 1: 22-23
All this took place to fulfill what was spoken of the Lord
by the prophet, saying, "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and
bear a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel,
which means, 'God with us.'"

The Promise I Corinthians 11: 26
For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup,
you proclaim the Lord's death – and his birth –
till he comes again.

THE SIXTH LESSON Luke 2: 15-20 Wayne Smith
Let us go now even unto Bethlehem.

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

THE SEVENTH LESSON John 1: 1-5, 9-14, 16 Joseph Das
In the beginning was the Word.

† Carol 94 *Angels, from the Realms of Glory* REGENT SQUARE
stanzas 1, 2 and 4

REFLECTING AND 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: Joyce Sills, David & Trula Gray, Hilary Morrow, Susan Cannady, Kay Hedgepeth, Betty Wallace, Kathryn King & Maxie Gleaton (*husband of Kathryn King*), Doris Eller, Linda Smith

Family and Friends: Family of Daniel Karlinski (*father of Dan Karlinski*); Jerry Barber (*nephew of Jeanne Barker*); Harriet Whiteman; Roberta Blackwell (*sister of Anne McClain*); Emily Caldwell (*niece of Theresa Batten*); International teachers & families

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

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.



A NOTE ABOUT YEAR END GIVING

In planning your year-end giving, all contributions should be received in the church office by noon on **December 31, 2025** (or post-marked by December 31) in order to be reported as a 2025 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.)



December 2025 Calendar

- 25 *Merry Christmas!*
Church Office Closed for Holiday
- 26 **Church Office Closed for Holiday**
- 28 **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)
*** No Kids' Church**
- 31 *** No Wednesday Night Activities**

January 2026 Calendar

- 1 *Happy New Year*
Church Office Closed for Holiday
 - 4 **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)
*** No Kids' Church**
- The Floral Committee will be taking down Christmas decorations today following the worship service. If you can, please stay and help.**



Mission Mailbox

Check the **Mission Mailbox** to see if you have any Christmas cards.

Memorial Baptist Church

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 Buies Creek, NC 27506

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 meredith@memorialbcnc.org
 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, 2025

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