



WALLACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

205 West Main Street • Wallace, North Carolina 28466
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Visit our Website: www.wallacepresbyterian.com

We support Presbyterian Church (USA) mission co-workers,
Rev. Dustin and Sherri Ellington, in Lusaka, Zambia, Africa.

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

11:00 a.m.

The congregation is asked to remain silent during the prelude as a time of prayer and meditation.

*"A prison cell, in which one waits, hopes...and is completely dependent on the fact that the door of freedom has to be opened from the outside, is not a bad picture of Advent."
Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945), German pastor killed by the Nazis*

*"Every year we celebrate the holy season of Advent, O God. Every year we pray those beautiful prayers of longing and waiting, and sing those lovely songs of hope and promise."
Karl Rahner (1904-1984), German Jesuit priest and theologian*

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" arr. by Molly Ijames

*Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne.*

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Advent Candle

Miller Ludlum and Hope Turnbull

WAIT for the Light

(See insert)

Opening Sentences

Elder Hope Turnbull

Leader: The days are shorter and darkness comes early to our lives.

All: Lord, hear our prayers through the darkness.

Leader: Come, seek the Lord. Place your hope in God's mercy and love.

All: Lord, we seek your presence among us.

Leader: Look closely! God is making us ready.

All: Lord, brighten our spirits this day, and help us to receive your Good News. Amen.

*Hymn #92

"While We Are Waiting, Come"

WAITING

*Unison Prayer of Confession

God our Maker, we confess that we are not ready to meet you. We study the trends of our times and ignore the signs of your reign. We trust in things that pass away and forget your eternal promise. Forgive us, God of grace. Strengthen us, by your hand, so that we may be ready for that day when you come to reign in glory. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, hear our prayers . . .

(A time for silent prayers of confession . . .

"Great God, what do I see and hear!
The end of things created! The judge of mankind doth appear on clouds of glory seated! The trumpet sounds; the graves restore, the dead which they contained before; Prepare, my soul, to meet Him!"
Martin Luther (1483-1546), German theologian, priest, and Protestant Reformer

"But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ."
Philippians 3:20

"During Advent we occupy our greatest longings."
Ruth Haley Barton, founder of the Transforming Center, a ministry dedicated to strengthening the souls of pastors, Christian leaders and the congregations and organizations they serve.

*Responsive Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low. Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

Gloria Patri

Glory Be to the Father

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

Children's Sermon

Prayer for Illumination

Speak to us, Lord. Speak to us in the waiting, the watching, the hoping, the longing, the sorrow, the sighing, the rejoicing. Speak to us by your Word in these Advent days, and walk with us until the day of your coming. Amen.

Epistle Lesson

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Elder Hope Turnbull

Gospel Lesson

Luke 21:25-36

Sermon

"The World Holds Its Breath"

Dr. Philip K. Gladden

A Time for Silent Reflection

Pastoral Prayer with the Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

GIVING THANKS TO GOD

*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

FEED OUR HUNGRY CHILDREN BACKPACK/MINISTRY OFFERING

Offertory

"Who Shall Separate Us?"

Pepper Choplin, 2009

Who shall separate us from the love of our Lord?

I am persuaded that nothing on earth can separate us from the love of God.

Nothing in life and nothing in death can separate us from the love of God.

No angels, no powers can separate us from the love that is in Jesus, Christ Jesus, our Lord.

For we are more than conquerors over danger, trial and sword.

We are more than conquerors through the power of the love of our Lord.

I am persuaded that nothing on earth can separate us from the love of God.

No things present or things to come can separate us from the love of God.

No height nor depth in all creation shall separate us from the love that is in Jesus, our Lord.

I am persuaded that nothing on earth can separate us from the love of God,

The love that comes through Jesus, Christ Jesus, our Lord,

Who shall separate us from the love of our Lord?

We will live within the love of our Lord.



*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Affirmation of Faith: *From "A Brief Statement of Faith" of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)*

**In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

**With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

*Hymn #82

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

HYFRYDOL

*Benediction

*Postlude

**All who are able may stand.*

*He who testifies
to these
things says,
"Yes, I am
coming soon."
Amen. Come,
Lord Jesus. The
grace of the
Lord Jesus be
with God's
people. Amen.
Revelation
22:20-21*



**QUARTERLY P.A.T.H. OFFERING
Presbyterian Answer to Hunger
Sunday, December 5**



We will receive our quarterly (March, June, September, December) P.A.T.H. (Presbyterian Answer to Hunger) Offering during worship on Sunday, December 5. This offering supports the Hunger Program of the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina which provides funding for feeding programs for children in Haiti and Malawi. The Hunger Program also awards grants to congregational food ministries such as our Helping Hands Food Pantry. You may contribute in the offering plate, by mailing a contribution to the church (P.O. Box 717, Wallace, NC 28466), by putting a contribution in the mail slot of the church office door, or donating online at our church's website (www.wallacepresbyterian.com).



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, November 28	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
	9:30 am Alternative Sunday School Class, in Person (Room 304) & Zoom
	10:00 am Sunday School Classes
	11:00 am Worship in person & live stream Lighting the First Advent Candle
Monday, November 29	7:00-8:00 pm Zoom Bible Study
Tuesday, November 30	7:00 pm Session Meeting, Room 304
Wednesday, December 1	10:00 am Bible Study, Room 304 and via Zoom
	6:00 pm Handbells
	7:00 pm Choir Practice
Thursday, December 2	12:00 Noon Advent Worship Service in Sanctuary

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* **Today** is the First Sunday of Advent. "Advent" means "coming" or "arrival." During the season of Advent, we celebrate Christ's coming into the world and watch with expectant hope for his coming again. In its historical origins, the season of Advent was patterned after the season of Lent, a six-week period of penitence and preparation for Easter. Similarly, the four weeks of Advent present an opportunity for communal discernment and personal examination, as the church prepares to celebrate the Nativity of the Lord and looks with hope for Christ's return.

* **Today** we receive our monthly (during school year) Feed Our Hungry Children/Backpack Ministry offering. This offering provides weekend food for Duplin County students whose families are facing financial emergencies and insecurity.

* **We extend** our Christian love and sympathy to Dana Myrick and her family on the death of her husband, Gerald, on November 18.

* **Please join** the minister for Bible study on Monday, November 29 from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. via Zoom or Wednesday, December 1 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. in person (Room 304) or via Zoom. This week we will read and talk about Luke 3:1-18, the proclamation of John the Baptist who came to prepare the way of the Lord. Check your email on Monday for the Zoom links.

* **Our first Thursday Advent Worship Service** will be December 2 at 12 noon. The speaker this week will be Rev. Martha Highsmith, honorably retired Presbyterian minister. Music will be provided by Devan Riley. There will be no lunches served after services this year.

* **The Outreach Committee** is busy planning for the **St. Nicholas Project** for Christmas this year. Family and gift information will be available soon. Info will be posted in the December Newsletter and on bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Thank you for supporting this wonderful ministry of our church.



*The floral arrangement in the sanctuary today is given
To the Glory of God and in loving memory of
Harry "Toots" Carlton (1934-2003)
and William "Bill" Saunders (1943-2014)*

Advent Wreaths

If you would like to purchase an Advent Wreath in honor of, or in memory of a friend or loved one, fill out the envelope provided in the pew and put it in the offering plate on your way out of church on Sunday, December 5. Those watching online can call the church office and give Cheryl the information. A list with the names of those honored will be in the Bulletin on December 12 and December 19. Thank you!

FIRST SUNDAY in Advent -- WAIT for the Light

Advent is a time to wait.

We wait in hope for the dawning light.

Advent is a time to wait for freedom from captivity.

We wait in hope for the dawning light.

Advent is a time to wait for comfort in our sorrow.

We wait in hope for the dawning light.

Advent is a time to wait for power in our weakness.

We wait for hope for the dawning light.

Advent is a time to wait for the end of darkness.

We wait for Jesus, the Light of the World

Candle Lighting

Hymn

Closing Prayer

Jesus, the Light of the World

Congregational Part

ELDERKIN
GEORGE D. ELDERKIN

(Sing twice)

The musical notation is written on a single treble clef staff with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a common time signature. The melody consists of four lines of music. The lyrics are: "We'll walk in the light, beau-ti - ful light, come, where the dew-drops of mer-cy shine bright, O, shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je - sus, the light of the world." The lyrics are placed below the corresponding notes on the staff.

We'll walk in the light, beau-ti - ful
light, come, where the dew-drops of mer-cy shine
bright, O, shine all a-round us by day and by
night, Je - sus, the light of the world.

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