



WALLACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

205 West Main Street • Wallace, North Carolina 28466
(910) 285-2808

Visit our Website: www.wallacepresbyterian.com

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

Please silence your cell phones.

**All who are able may stand.*

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

First Sunday of Advent: HOPE

November 29, 2020

11:00 A.M.

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude "Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending" HEMSLEY

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the First Advent Candle: HOPE

The Ludlum Family and the Farris Family

Opening Sentences Elder Clay Blue

Leader: Gracious God, shake us awake, for we await you.

All: We wait for signs of hope.

Leader: Shaping God, awaken the earth and come, for we await you.

All: We wait for signs of peace.

Leader: Surprising God, tear open the heavens and come, for we await you.

All: We wait for signs of joy.

Leader: Mysterious God, enliven our hearts as we worship you in wonder and trust.

All: We wait for signs of love, on this day and in this season.

Hymn #354 (verses 1 & 3) "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory" BATTLE HYMN

Unison Prayer of Confession

O Holy God of Promise, we so often place our trust in the things we can see, and touch, and easily believe. But you did not ask us to believe what is easy, you have asked us to believe what is true! Forgive us, Holy One, when we doubt the ways you work. Forgive us when we find it hard to believe an ancient story. Forgive us we question how you chose to enter the world, born as one of us. Forgive our lack of faith and belief in ways which seem so impossible to believe. Help us to look in faith, open our belief, and set aside our doubts that you sent your Son, born of a virgin – the one who has come to set us all free. We offer these prayers in the name of your Son, Emmanuel, God with us. Lord, hear our prayers . . .

(A time for silent prayers of confession . . .)

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

*"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."
Romans 15:13*

Today's Prayer of Confession was written by Rev. Jan Brooks, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Cottonwood Falls, Nebraska.

"Faith has to do with things that are not seen and hope with things that are not at hand."

*Thomas Aquinas,
13th century A.D.
Catholic priest and
theologian*

Responsive Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news of the psalmist's proclamation: If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me, and the light around me will be night," even the darkness is not dark to God, and the night is as bright as the day.

All: The God who promised never to leave us or forsake us has come to us in Jesus Christ who binds up the brokenhearted, heals all our infirmities, and relieves our burden of sin. 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.

PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Children's Sermon

Advent 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.

*"For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience."
Romans 8:24-25*

Epistle Lesson

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Elder Clay Blue

Gospel Lesson

Mark 13:24-37

Sermon

"Hurry Up and Wait"

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

"Hope means expectancy when things are otherwise hopeless."

G.K. Chesterton
(1874-1936),
English writer
and lay
theologian

Offertory

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" *setting* by John Purifoy
*Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.
King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood;
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heav'nly food.
At His feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry:
"Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High!"*

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.*

The Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Hymn #352 (verses 1 & 3)

MY LORD, WHAT A MORNING

"My Lord! What a Morning"

Benediction

Postlude

Affirmation
of Faith

"God is the only one who can make the valley of trouble a door of hope."

Catherine Marshall
LeSourd (1914 - 1983), American author of non-fiction, inspirational, and fiction works

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, November 29

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:00 am Zoom Sunday School Classes

11:00 am In Person and Live Stream

Worship/5th Sunday Building
Offering

Monday, November 30

7:00-8:00 pm Bible Study via Zoom

Wednesday, December 2

10:00-11:00 am Bible Study via Zoom

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

* **Today is the First Sunday of Advent** when we light the candle of HOPE. The Ludlum family will light the candle in the live stream broadcast and the Farrison family will light the candle in the sanctuary.

* **Please join** the minister for a Bible study via Zoom (invitation/link to be emailed on Monday, November 30) on either Monday night, November 30, from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. or Wednesday morning, December 2, from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. We will enjoy good fellowship and talk about Mark 1:1-8. As we anticipate the second Advent of our Lord Jesus Christ, what difference does repentance for forgiveness of sins play in our everyday lives? Join us!

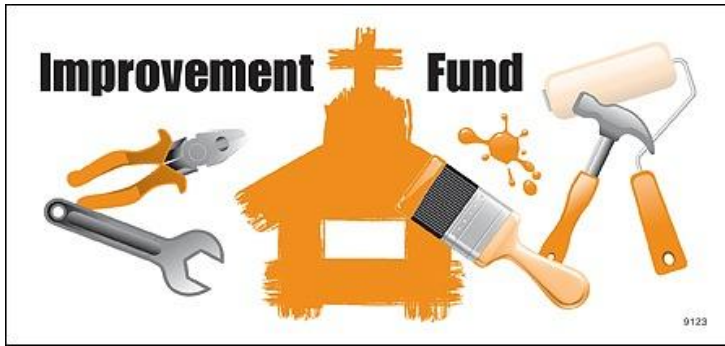
* **Ruling Elder Jim Sills** will be the speaker at our first Advent worship service this week. This year the Advent services will be broadcast via our church website (www.wallacepresbyterian.com), on YouTube, and our church Facebook page. You can access the service when you choose.

* **We extend** our Christian love and sympathy to Gloria Wells and her family on the death of her father, Donald Buckner of Rose Hill, on Saturday, November 22.



The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Harry "Toots" Carlton (1934 ~ 2003) and William "Bill" Saunders (1943 ~ 2014)





5th Sunday Building Offering

Today we receive our 5th Sunday Building Offering. This offering is used to maintain our church physical plant so we can provide mission and ministry programs for our congregation and community.

You can contribute by making a check payable to Wallace Presbyterian Church, marking it for "Building Offering," and putting it in the offering plate in worship, mailing it to the church at P.O. Box 717, Wallace, NC 28466, or dropping it in the mail slot in the front door of the church office building. You can also contribute online at our church website www.wallacepresbyterian.com.



Congregational Meeting
In person and via Zoom
Sunday, December 6
11:55 a.m.



The purpose of the meeting is to hear a report from the 2020 Nominating Committee, elect three ruling elders to the session's Class of 2023, present the 2021 budget as information, and hold the annual meeting of the corporation.

The meeting will be held in person (for those who are worshipping in the sanctuary) and via Zoom teleconference (for those worshipping at home).

Check your email and U.S. mail during the week of November 30 - December 6 for more information and instructions about how to participate in the December 6 congregational meeting.



P.A.T.H. OFFERING Presbyterian Answer to Hunger Sunday, December 6



We will receive our quarterly P.A.T.H. (Presbyterian Answer to Hunger) offering during worship on Sunday, December 6. This offering supports the Hunger Program of the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina. The Hunger Program supplies funding for feeding programs for children in Haiti and Malawi and grants for congregational food ministries within our presbytery, including our own Helping Hands Food Pantry. Thank you for your generous contributions!

St. Nicholas Project



For many years the St. Nicholas Project has been a mission of Wallace Presbyterian Church. The Outreach Ministry Team has received families from our community for this year. St. Nicholas Project family and gift information will be emailed to church members. Information on how to sign up to purchase a gift for the families will be in the email. Due to Covid-19 "Sign-up Genius" will be used for church members to sign up online to purchase a gift this year. If you would like to purchase a gift and need assistance with the sign-up, please call the church office (285-2808). Thank you for participating in this wonderful ministry and sharing the love of Christ with others.

To participate by buying a gift:

- *Follow the instructions in the email from the church and sign up to purchase a specific gift.*
- *Wrap the gift.*
- *Label the wrapped gift with the **family # and person it is for.***
- *Bring the wrapped and labeled gift to the church office during church office hours (Monday - Thursday, 8:00 a.m. - 12 noon and 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.; Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 12 noon)*
- ***Deadline to bring gifts to the church- Thursday, December 17.***

If you would like to make a donation to the St. Nicholas Fund:

- Make check payable to Wallace Presbyterian Church and designate for "St. Nicholas Fund".
- Mail to P.O. Box 717, Wallace, NC 28466, place in offering plate during worship on Sunday, put in the mail slot in the front door of the church office building, or contribute online at www.wallacepresbyterian.com.

Please bring gifts to the church or make donations by **Thursday, December 17.**