



WALLACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

205 West Main Street • Wallace, North Carolina 28466

THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY *Third Sunday of Advent*

December 17, 2023

11:00 A.M.

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

“The First Noel”

arr. Lloyd Larson

Noel! Noel!

Born is the King of Israel!

Welcome and Announcements

Elder Joyce Ange

(During this time the friendship pads are passed to be signed.)

Jesus, the Light of the World- PREPARE for the Light

Stanley, Lindsay, Hayes, and Hollis Skidmore

Opening Sentences

Leader: Advent is a time to prepare.

People: Prepare the way of the Lord.

Leader: Advent is a time to prepare our eyes to see the light of Christ.

People: Prepare the way of the Lord.

Leader: Advent is a time to prepare our hearts to receive the Word of Christ.

People: Prepare the way of the Lord.

Leader: Advent is a time to prepare the share the joy of Christ.

People: Prepare the way of the Lord.

Leader: Advent is a time to embrace the promise of Christ.

People: Prepare for Jesus, the Light of the World.

Candle Lighting

Congregational Response (see insert)

Advent Prayer

*Hymn #106

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

BEREDEN VAG FOR HERRAN

*Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you sent Jesus to bring good news to the poor, to bind up the brokenhearted, and to proclaim liberty to the captives. Forgive us when we do not share your good news with our neighbors and instead focus on our own wants and desires. Inspire us this season to be messengers of peace and goodwill to all the world and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

*Responsive Assurance of Pardon (*Isaiah 9*)

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

People: those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

Leader: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders,

People: and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Leader: It is this name, the name of Jesus, that we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!

*Gloria Patri

***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

Prayer for Illumination (*Unison*)

Elder Joyce Ange

Gracious God, for generations, your Word has brought light and love to your people. Speak to us today through sacred story. May we hear, and in our hearing, may we be transformed. Amen.

*Hymn #108 (verses 1,2,5,6) **"Of the Father's Love Begotten"**

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Gospel Reading:

John 1:1-14

John 1:19-28

Sermon

"The Word With Us"

Rev. Robert Lapp

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

Offertory

“Joy to the World!”
*Let every heart, prepare him room
And heaven and nature sing!*

arr. Lloyd Larson

*Doxology

***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.***

*Prayer of Dedication

*The Affirmation of Faith: *(from the PC(USA) Declaration of Faith)*

Jesus Christ stands at the center of the biblical record. The Bible is the account of God’s word and action in history, together with his people’s response in faith.

**It tells how the Lord has moved with Israel and the church towards the kingdom of God,
his just and loving rule over all.**

**It is the story of the one God,
who is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.**

That story is still unfolding, and in faith, we make it our own.

It forms our memory and our hope.

It tells us who we are and what we are to do.

To retell it is to declare what we believe.

*Hymn #123

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

CAROL

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction

“Gloria”
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

French Carol

*Postlude

**All who are able may stand.*

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, December 17	<p style="text-align: center;">THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</p> <p>9:45 am Adult Sunday School Class, Curt Simpson & Glenn Price</p> <p>10:00 am Sunday School Classes</p> <p>11:00 am Worship-in person & livestream-Choir Cantata: "Heaven's Child" Unto Us a Son Is Given</p>
Tuesday, December 19	6:00 pm Session meeting at Rose Hill Restaurant
Wednesday, December 20	<p>No Bible Study</p> <p>6:00 pm Handbells</p> <p>7:00 pm Choir Practice</p>
Thursday, December 21	12:05 pm Community Advent Service & Luncheon
Sunday, December 24	<p style="text-align: center;">CHRISTMAS EVE</p> <p>11:00 am Worship-in person & livestream</p> <p>7:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service</p>
Monday, December 25	<p style="text-align: center;">MERRY CHRISTMAS!</p>

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **The Session** will meet Tuesday evening at 6:00 pm, at the Rose Hill Restaurant.
- **St. Nicholas Project:** Today, December 17 is the deadline to bring gifts to the church or make donations. Thank you for all your donations and gifts to this wonderful ministry of the church.
- **There will be no Wednesday Morning Bible Study this week.**
- **Our Third and final Advent worship** service and luncheon will be Thursday, December 21 at 12:05 pm. Karla and Vera will provide a program of four-hand piano music as our Advent meditation. Lunch will be provided by the Presbyterian Women in the Fellowship Hall following worship.
- **Sunday, December 24, at 7:00 pm** is our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service.
- **Church Treasurer** Wayne Casteen will make the final 2023 deposit on Friday, December 29. Contributions must be deposited by that date to be credited to your 2023 giving statement. Thank you for your faithful and generous giving!
- **The church office** will be closed, December 25-January 1 while Robb Lapp and Cheryl Brinkley are on vacation. Church office will be open Tuesday, January 2.



The beautiful flowers in the sanctuary today are given in loving memory of Andrea Lyn Bentley Casteen by Zach, Amanda, Adlyn, Clara, Wayne and Karla Casteen.

NURSERY

December



12/17: Mary Laine & Jason Rouse
12/24: Emily & Hayes Ludlum

Charley Farrisior, Leader
Joyce Ange Hayes Ludlum
David Long Curt Simpson

OPENING CHURCH BUILDING

December 16-31: David Long

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

12/17: Geneva Maready
12/24: Bailey Riley



COMMUNITY ADVENT SERVICES

Wallace Presbyterian Church
Worship Service: 12:05 P.M.
Luncheon: 12:30 P.M.

Thursday, 12-21-23.....Special Program of Christmas Music
Karla Casteen & Vera Simpson, Organ & Piano



Christmas Music 2023

December 24, 2023, Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Services

- 5:00 pm - Wallace First Baptist Church**
- 6:00 pm - Wallace United Methodist Church**
- 7:00 pm - Wallace Presbyterian Church**

Merry Christmas!

Jesus, the Light of the World

Congregational Part

ELDERKIN
GEORGE D. ELDERKIN

(Sing twice)



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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