

# WALLACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Visit our Website: [www.wallacepresbyterian.com](http://www.wallacepresbyterian.com)

## THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

December 18, 2022

11:00 a.m.

### GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

**"To the World, Joy!"** *arranged by* Joel Raney  
Attie Carlton Handbell Choir

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King.  
Let every heart prepare Him room.*

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

Welcome and Announcements

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

Congregational Call to Worship

**"While We Are Waiting, Come"** Don Cason, 1986

*While we are waiting, come. While we are waiting, come.  
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.*

Opening Sentences

Elder Greg Maready

*Leader: The impossible is about to happen in a stable. The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.*

**All: Those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them has the light shined.**

*Leader: Creation stood still and held its breath, for God was doing the most unbelievable, dangerous thing.*

**All: God embraced humanity from the inside, as one of us, from birth to death.**

*Leader: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

**All: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. Amen.**

\*Unison Prayer of Confession

**God, you loved this world so much that you sent your own Son, Jesus Christ to live and die among us, in order that we might have life. Forgive us for keeping that abundant life to ourselves, for jealously hoarding your generous gifts, and for choosing self-interest over compassion and justice. Teach us what it means to live as children of the light, generously sharing your abundance with our brothers and sisters in need. In the name of Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.**

*"Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord."  
Luke 2:10*

*"There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."The name of Jesus,  
Acts 4:12*

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.”  
John 3:16*

**\*Responsive Assurance of Pardon**

*Leader: God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that through him the world might be saved.*

**All: Though we were dead through our sins, in great mercy, God has spoken a word of healing and made us alive together with Christ.**

*Leaders: Sisters and brothers, believe the good news of great joy for all the people: a Savior, who is the Messiah, is born.*

**All: In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. Glory to God in the highest!**

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**

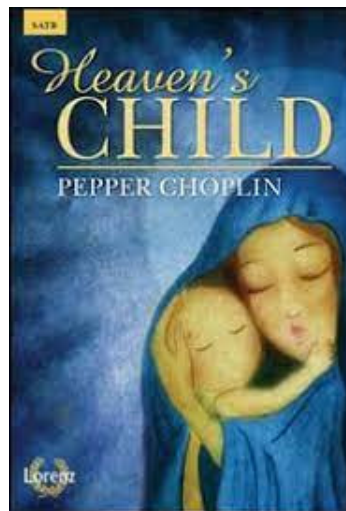
Children’s Sermon

Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle: LOVE



**Christmas Cantata  
“Heaven’s Child”  
by Pepper Choplin  
(see insert for words and music)**

*“Good news from heaven the angels bring,  
Glad tidings to earth they sing;  
To us this day a child is given,  
To crown us with the joy of heaven.”  
Martin Luther,  
16th century  
German professor of theology,  
composer, and  
Protestant Reformer*



**GIVING THANKS TO GOD**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Christmas JOY Offering

“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulders, and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”  
Isaiah 9:6



“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



Offertory Anthem

“**Joy to the World**” arranged by Lloyd Larson  
*Let heaven and nature sing!*

\*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 Confession of 1967” of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

**Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus. His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God. He was the fulfillment of God’s promise to Israel, the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity. He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world. “Now to him who by the power within us is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”**

\*Hymn #134

“**Joy to the World**”

ANTIOCH

\*Benediction

\*Congregational Choral Benediction

“**Angels We Have Heard on High**”  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*Refrain*

\*Postlude

*\*All who are able may stand.*



**Today**  
**December 18**



**12/18: Joyce**  
**Ange & Hope**  
**Turnbull**



**Joyce Ange**  
**Charley Farris**  
**Hayes Ludlum**

**Opening**  
**Church**  
**Building**  
**December**  
**16-31:**  
**Dave Long**  
**Children's**  
**Church**  
**12/18:**  
**Tonya**  
**Patram**

**ST. NICHOLAS PROJECT**



**Today is the**  
**deadline to**  
**have gifts to**  
**the church.**



## WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, December 18		FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
	9:30 am	Alternative Sunday School Class, Room 304 & via Zoom
	10:00 am	Sunday School Classes
	11:00 am	Worship in person & livestream Choir Cantata-"Heaven's Child" Christmas JOY Offering
Monday, December 19	7:00-8:00 pm	Monday Night Bible Study
Tuesday, December 20	7:00 pm	Session Meeting, Room 304
Wednesday, December 21	10:00 am	Wednesday Morning Bible Study
Saturday, December 24		CHRISTMAS EVE
	7:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Worship Service
Sunday, December 25		CHRISTMAS DAY
	10:00 am	Informal Worship with Carols & Scriptures

## NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\* **Please join** the minister for our weekly Bible Study on Monday night, December 19 from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. via Zoom or Wednesday morning, December 21 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. in Room 304 or via Zoom. This week we will read and talk about Luke's Christmas story in Luke 2:1-20 as we prepare for our Christmas Eve worship service. Check your email on Monday for the Zoom links.

\* **The session** will meet on Tuesday night, December 20 at 7:00 p.m. Please keep Fred, Patsy, Darleen, Hayes, Greg, Kelli, Joyce, Danielle, Curt, Hope, and Phil in your prayers.

\* **Church Treasurer** Wayne Casteen will make the final 2022 deposit on Friday, December 30. Contributions must be deposited by that date to be credited to your 2022 giving statement. Thank you for your faithful and generous giving!

\* **Sanctuary Flower Sign-up:** Each Sunday beautiful flowers are provided in the sanctuary by congregational members. Once again, we are in need of sign-ups to help with the 2023 year. A Flower Chart is available in the Currie Building beside the kitchen door to review and sign-up for a specific date. If preferred, an electronic link is available on the church's website. Should you have questions or need assistance, please contact Harriet Farris (910-289-1199) or Debbie Price (757-408-0-964).

**Christmas Day Worship: 10:00 a.m. Come as you are to sing Christmas carols, to hear the Christmas story, and to celebrate the birth of our Savior.**

*Merry Christmas!*

# Heaven's Child

Pepper Choplin

## Prologue

### Come, Prepare the Way

Come and listen to the prophet's call: "Ready to receive the Lord of all." Lift your heads and look above, He will come with light and love. Join in the celebration as we say: "Come, prepare the way." Come and listen to the prophet's call: "Ready to receive the Lord of all. Come rise and make the highway straight. Make the roughest places plain." Join in the celebration as we say: "Come, prepare the way." As the men of old have long foretold, the holy One will come to earth. Since the ancient days, people hoped and prayed, and soon will come the long-awaited day. Prepare the way! Rise and see, the Lord is drawing nigh. Worship Him, the mighty King on high. We're ready for His coming, we're ready to receive Him, we're ready to adore Him, Christ the Lord. Lift your heads and look above, He will come with light and love. Join in the celebration as we say, "Come, prepare the way." Come prepare the way of the Lord.

### Angels Coming Down to Earth

Angels coming down to earth, bringing words from heaven: "There shall come a holy Child, and you shall call Him, Jesus." Angels coming down to earth, bringing words from heaven: "Glory to God and peace on earth, for He is Christ, the Lord." "Fear not, I come to you, for you have found favor with God. You shall conceive a holy Child and you shall call Him, Jesus." "Joseph, take Mary to be your wife, she carries a holy Child. She will bring forth a firstborn Son and He is the Son of God, the Son of God." Angels coming down to earth, pointing the way to heaven. Glory to God and peace on earth, for He is Christ, the Lord. Rise up my soul and rejoice in the word of the Lord. Rise up my soul, and magnify the Lord with my heart, with my voice rise up, magnify the Lord. Rise up, magnify the Lord. Angels coming down to earth, bringing words from heaven.

### Heaven's Child

Heaven's Child was there from the beginning, one with God in perfect unity. Then heaven's Child was sent to live among humanity. Heaven's Child, begotten by the Father, there conceived in sinless purity. The seed of love was planted into human frailty in heaven's Child. From holy love, the Child was sent as the only Son, God's only Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall never die, but will have everlasting life. Heaven breathed this life into existence in a world of lost humanity. So, heaven's Child was placed into the human family for a while. He was heaven's Child. Stay with us for a while, heaven's Child.

### Newborn Cry

The silent moon in shining, but suddenly silence breaks. Now, there's work to be done 'til the morning sun for a Child is on the way, a Child is on the way. The mother is strong, and the baby is born, He draws His very first breath. And He sings it strong, the newborn song of life and joyfulness. Sing it strong, the newborn song, cry the newborn cry. Raise your voice and say to the world, "I am here, I am safe, I am alive!" The Child cries out in a musical voice, beginning a brand new life. And all those around hear the beautiful sound and rejoice in the newborn cry, rejoice in the newborn cry! Now hear the silence as He sleeps upon the mother's breast. And feel the tiny heartbeat and the breathing in His chest. So treasured is the silence, so coveted is the prize, but remember the great celebration and joy when you heard the newborn cry, "I am alive!"

## **We Welcome You, Emmanuel**

When the sound of Your tiny cry pierces the silent night, we welcome You, Emmanuel. From heaven, You come to us, christened by holiness, we welcome You, Emmanuel. We rejoice in Your holy presence now, full of grace, full of love and power, we welcome You, Emmanuel. For so long we have waited for You, now we worship and adore You, we welcome You, Emmanuel. Child of divinity, brother to humanity, we welcome You, Emmanuel. Now every heart is full, touched by the miracle, we welcome You, Emmanuel. Come among us, make our spirits new, we welcome You, Emmanuel. We welcome You, O Lord. Come, Emmanuel.

## **Shepherds' Gloria**

Come, now and let us go to see this mighty wonder. Come, let us go and see this wonderful Child. "Glory to God," hear the angels, "Glory to God in the highest." For we have seen the angels of heaven. Let's go and see this wonderful, glorious Child. Gloria, Gloria, Glory to God on high!

## **Heavenly Star**

Rising, shining, soaring overhead as the world goes on below. But very few will lift their eyes to see the star, heavenly star. Searching, praying, staying on the path the star leads on before. So, come and join as we seek the holy Child. We will follow the star, heavenly star. Star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright, westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy light, thy perfect light! Searching, yearning, learning, all who seek will surely one day find. And all who will search with open eyes, who will pray with open hearts, they will see the light and find the Lord.

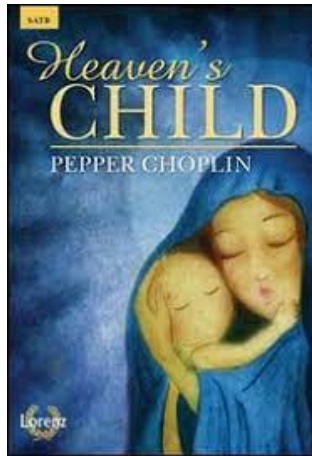
## **My Eyes Have Seen the Child**

My eyes have seen the Child; I've seen the Lord's salvation. The Lord has shown to me the promised holy One. My eyes have seen the Child, the revelation light. May God forever be praised, for now I may go in peace. He is veiled in flesh the Godhead see; Hail, the incarnate Deity! Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! Come and join this song we sing, "Glory to the newborn King." Behold, the Child of God; Behold, the Lord's salvation. My eyes have seen the Child; I've seen the salvation. Behold the great salvation of the Lord!

## **Join the Music of the Angels**

Join the music of the angels, raise your voice to offer praise. Our hearts are full of adoration for the Lord has come into this place. Now we have seen the Lord's salvation, we have worshiped heaven's Child. So, we join the song of jubilation to give glory to God on high! Come with joy and sing with mirth, now the Lord has come to earth. Come celebrate His wonderful birth: Gloria! Shout for joy unto the Lord! Sound the harp and play the horn. Raise the song and make it soar: Glory be to God on high. Gloria, sing Gloria and join the song of angels in the skies: "Glory to God on high!"

Susie Gaus, Joyce Rau, Marisol Snell, and Louis DiDimenico, soloists



**WPC Chancel Choir  
Heaven's Child**

Pepper Choplin, composer  
Vera Simpson, accompanist  
Karla Casteen, director  
Philip Gladden, narrator

Clint Ayres  
Lou Brinkley  
Linda Burroughs  
Wayne Casteen  
Zach Casteen  
Sandy Cobb  
Madelyn Coombs

Louis DiDomenico  
Ginny Fountain  
Susan Gaus  
Bryant Henderson  
Donna Pigford  
Glenn Price  
Joyce Rau

David Sanderson  
Chuck Slemenda  
Marisol Snell  
Earleene Southerland  
Carol Steen  
Emily Wells  
Jan Zoesch

**Attie Carr Carlton Handbell Choir**  
*established 1994*

Emily Saunders  
Geneva Maready  
Sharon Robison  
Linda Burroughs  
Ann Carter  
Luann Rivenbark  
Windsor Farrior  
Phil Gladden  
Mary Ayres  
Debbie Price  
Wayne Casteen



**CHRISTMAS JOY  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS**

LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

**2022 CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING  
Today, December 18**

**By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor God's gift of Jesus Christ by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.**



*Christmas Eve  
Communion*

**We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's  
Supper on Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24  
at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome at the table.**



*The flowers are given in loving memory of  
Andrea Lyn Bentley Casteen by Zach, Adlyn,  
Clara, Wayne and Karla Casteen.*