



# WALLACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

205 West Main Street • Wallace, North Carolina 28466

## THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

December 24, 2023

11:00 A.M.

### GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

**“See, Amid the Winter’s Snow”  
with “O Come, Let Us Adore Him”**

*arr. Lloyd Larson*

*See amid the winter’s snow born for us on earth below  
See the tender Lamb appears promised from eternal years.  
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

Welcome and Announcements

Elder Curt Simpson

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

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

Michael, Ellie, Jack Taylor, and Daniel Wells Newton

Opening Sentences

*Leader: Advent is a time to praise.*

**People: Praise the Lord, and rejoice in his goodness.**

*Leader: Advent is a time to remember God’s faithfulness.*

**People: Praise the Lord, and rejoice in his goodness.**

*Leader: Advent is a time to remember God’s blessings.*

**People: Praise the Lord, and rejoice in his goodness.**

*Leader: Advent is a time to remember God’s promises.*

**People: Praise the Lord, and rejoice in his goodness.**

*Leader: Advent is a time to celebrate the end of darkness.*

**People: Praise to Jesus, the Light of the World.**

Candle Lighting

Congregational Response (see insert)

Advent Prayer

\*Hymn #133

**“O Come, All Ye Faithful”**

ADESTE FIDELES

\*Prayer of Confession

**God of grace and God of glory, with hope and expectancy we long for your coming into the world. While we wait, open our eyes to the promise of your salvation. Prepare our hearts for a world where your name is magnified, the lowly are lifted up, and the hungry are filled with good things. Live in and through us this Christmas season, O God, so that we, like Mary, may bear Christ to the world and be instruments of your peace. Amen.**

\*Responsive Assurance of Pardon

*Leader: The message of salvation has been revealed in a manger through the birth of Jesus.*

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

*Leader: Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.*

**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*

Elder Curt Simpson

*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

**“O Little Town of Bethlehem”**  
*While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wondering love.*

*arr.* Mark Hayes

\*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: *(John 1:1-5)*

**In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.**

\*Hymn #121

**“O Little Town of Bethlehem”**

ST. LOUIS

\*Benediction

\*Choral Benediction

**“Gloria”**  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

French Carol

\*Postlude

*\*All who are able may stand.*



## WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, December 24

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:45 am Adult Sunday School Class, Curt Simpson & Glenn Price

10:00 am Sunday School Classes

11:00 am Worship-in person & livestream

7:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service

Monday, December 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS! Church Office Closed

Tuesday, December 26-Monday, January 1 Church Office Closed

## NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **There will be no Wednesday Morning Bible Study this week.**
- **Tonight, 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. Please contact Clerk of Session Hope Turnbull (910) 284-2813) in an emergency.
- **Our guest preacher** on December 31 will be Rev. Cynthia Williams. Cynthia is honorably retired and is a good friend of WPC.



*The flowers in the sanctuary today are given in loving memory and in honor of the families of Susie Gaus and Chuck Slemenda. Susie's family were growers and florists who grew over 50,000 poinsettias a year for Christmas.*

## NURSERY

December



12/24: Emily & Hayes Ludlum

12/31: Harriet & Windsor Farrior

Charley Farrior, Leader

Joyce Ange

David Long

Hayes Ludlum

Curt Simpson

## OPENING CHURCH BUILDING

December 16-31: David Long

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

12/24: No Children's Church

12/31: Emily & Miller Ludlum



**This Evening at 7:00 pm**

# 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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