

The Chapel in the Pines

December 10, 2023

*Serving our Community by Preaching, Teaching,
and Living the Gospel of Jesus Christ*

Heaven and Earth; Advent and the Incarnation

The Advent Sunday of Love



The flowers on the Communion table this week are given to the Glory of God by Fred and Phyllis Young in celebration of David and Jane Young Tabor's birthdays

The Prelude

The Preparation. "I Believe in Being Ready" Traditional Southern Gospel

***Hymn** #123 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

**1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.**

**Refrain
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**2 O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. [Refrain]**

**3 O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
And order all things, far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show
And cause us in her ways to go. [Refrain]**

**4 O come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease,
Fill all the world with heaven's peace. [Refrain]**

***The Call to Worship**

Long ago, a voice cried out in the wilderness.
"Prepare the way for the Lord; make straight the pathways."

Something new was about to happen.
God would visit God's people in a new way!
Lord, open our hearts to receive this good news!
**Prepare us to be people of great faith and compassion
as we look forward to this wondrous event
you have proclaimed to us.**

The hope, love, joy, and peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, be with you all...
and also with you!

The Passing of the Welcome Pads

A Prayer on the Second Sunday of Advent

Love; An Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy

A voice cries out in the wilderness. "Prepare the way of the Lord!"
We are ready to be surprised. We long for something new.

Every valley will be lifted up, and every mountain will be leveled.
**We long for you, God.
We turn to you because you first turned toward us.**

We light the candle of love, preparing our hearts and lives for God's advent.
**A voice cries out in the wilderness,
"Comfort my people. Prepare the way of the Lord!"**

(Sung to the tune of "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen")

Congregation sings...

**Now let your song be un-con-fined,
you peo-ple of God's choice;
God will pro-tect and ga-ther you,
so lis-ten to God's voice:
"The Lord, your God, is in your midst"
with all your heart, re-joyce!
Light a can-dle for God who sets us free.
Love's de-cree!
Light a c-an-dle for God who sets us free.**

The Prayer of Illumination

A Reading from the Old Testament
Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

Isaiah 40:1-5

Special Music

Candles of Advent

Price/Besig

Chapel Choir

Light one candle in the night.
Light one candle of hope;
Hope for the world to calm its fear,
Hope for the news we long to hear,
Hope in a child who will soon appear.
Light one candle of hope.

Light one candle in the night.
Light one candle of faith;
Faith that can heal a world in need,
Faith that can conquer hate and greed,
Faith in a child who will come to lead.
Light one candle of faith.

Advent candles warm and bright
Fill the world with radiant light.
Help us find the Promised One;
Guide us to the child who will come.

Light one candle in the night,
Light one candle of love;
Love that will teach the world to care
Love that surrounds us everywhere,
Love in a child who will help us share
Light on e candle of love.

Light one candle in the night.
Light one candle of peace;
Peace that will free the world from war,
Peace that will last for evermore,
Peace through the child we are waiting for.
Light one candle of peace.

Advent candles warm and bight
Fill the world with radiant light.
Help us find the Promised One;
Guide us to the child who will come.
Advent candles spread your light of hope,
And love, and peace.

The Call to Confession

The Prayer of Confession

**Loving God, we confess that we have not led lives of holiness.
We suffer from impatience, apathy, and greed.
We have not always been loving
to ourselves, our neighbors, or to you.
We repent of these offenses and turn to you in love.
Forgive our iniquity and pardon our sins,
that we may walk in righteousness to the glory of your name...**

The Declaration of Forgiveness

Adapted from Psalm 85

Lord, you forgave the iniquity of your people; you pardoned all their sin.

**Let us hear what the Lord will speak,
for the Lord will speak forgiveness and peace to God's people,
to God's faithful, to those who turn to the Lord in their hearts.**

Surely God's forgiveness is at hand for those who fear the Lord.

**Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.**

Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.

**Forgiveness and peace will go before the Lord
and will make a path for God's steps.**

Brothers and sisters, by the mercy of Christ, our sins are forgiven,
for salvation is at hand for all who turn to God in love.

Now let us turn around and start over. Amen.

A Reading from the Gospels Mark 1:1-8

...John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness,
proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

***Hymn** Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice

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|---|---|
| <p>1. Wild and lone the prophet's voice
echoes through the desert still,
Calling us to make a choice,
bidding us to do God's will;
"Turn from sin and be baptized;
cleansing your heart and mind an soul.
Quitting all the sin you prized,
yield your life to God's control.</p> | <p>2. Bear the fruit repentance sows:
lives of justice, truth, and love.
Trust no other claim than those;
set your heart on things above.
Soon the Lord will come in power,
Burning clean the threshing floor:
then will flames the chaff devour;
Wheat alone shall fill God's store."</p> |
| <p>3. With such preaching stark and bold
John proclaimed salvation near,
and his timeless warnings hold
words of hope to all who hear.
So we dare to journey on,
led by faith through ways untrod,
til we come at last like John
to behold the Lamb of God.</p> | |

Homily Surprised

The Prayers of the People and 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those that trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Call to the Offering

The Offertory

***The Doxology**

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

***The Prayer of Thanksgiving**

***The Affirmation of Faith**

Adapted from 2 Peter 3:9-15

**The Lord is not slow about God's promise,
as some think of slowness,
but is patient with us, not wanting any to perish
but all to come to repentance.
In that the day of the Lord will come like a thief,
what sort of persons ought we to be
in leading lives of holiness and godliness,
waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God?
In accordance with God's promise,
we are to wait for new heavens and a new earth,
where righteousness is at home.
Therefore, while we are waiting for these things,
let us strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish,
and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.**

***Hymn** #284 They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

**We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored:**

Refrain

**And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

**We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand,
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land: [Refrain]**

**We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
We will work with each other, we will work side by side,
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride: [Refrain]**

**All praise to the Father, from whom all things come,
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one: [Refrain]**

***The Charge and Benediction**

***Hymn** #242 While We Are Waiting, Come (verses 1 & 3)

**While we are wait-ing, come.
While we are wait-ing, come.
Je-sus, our Lord, E-man-u-el, while we are wait-ing, come.**

**Come, Sav-ior, quick-ly come.
Come, Sav-ior, quick-ly come.
Je-sus, our Lord, E-man-u-el, while we are wait-ing, come.**

***The Postlude**



Prayers for Chapel Friends:

Patty and Jackie Madden, Jack Sealey, Phyllis Mahin, Anthony Tuliano, Janet Hegeman, Evangeline Caliandro, Laurie Stevens, Little Daniel Auman, Koran Sanders, Olivia Macdonald, Leric Racine, Kevin Carter, Neida Crow, Kerra Paduano, Kathy Steele, Harry Wahlquist, Walter Hundley, Esther Robinson's sister Judy, Cindy Hess, Lynn Garbarino, Bob Macdonald, Elaine Bertino, Mary Farley, Kitty Price, Kerri Klein, Jean Schmidt, Ed Barry, Bill Bohl, Cynthia Fetty, Bob Lovin, Dwight and Faye Jessup, D.J. Kirit, Steve Hall, Phil Westerman, Lucy Dunn Martin, Jerry Hyatt, Chandler Stewart, Drew Carr and family, Mary Faas, Robert Allen, Ann Rorie, Sharon Hacker, Agustina Barry, Ron and Sara (Cissy) Ellis, Michael Taylor, Gerry Crow, Rev. Bill and Marty Bruner, Mabs Wahlquist, Mary Steensen, Debbie Franklin, Mary Herold, Dee and the family of Dennis Lombard, Dorene and the family of Barbara Sass, Enola and the family of Dr. Tom Lineberger, and the family and friends of River Carter.



Prayers for Chapel Family:

Bud Holzerland, Nancee Letter, Dave Westerman, Meta Evans, Charles Hinson, Tamara Lee, Butch and Mary Kay Allen, George Hoffman, Glenda Clendenin, Jean Lawrence, Mary Tuft, Phillip Thingstad, Sue Van Horne, Jimmy McCaskill, Carol Caggiano, Sue Barry and Kathy Hilton.

Announcements



Tuesday, December 12 Stacey Golzio
Sunday, December 17 John Moses



Friday, December 15
 Leslie & James While

Looking Ahead!

Sunday-December 10	9:00 am
Tuesday-December 12	6:30 pm
Wednesday-December 13	3:00 pm
	4:30 pm
Thursday-December 14	3:00 pm
Saturday-December 16	4:00 pm
Sunday-December 17	9:00 am
Sunday-December 17	6:00 pm
Wednesday-December 20	3:00 pm
	4:30 pm
Sunday-December 24	9:00 am
Sunday-December 24	4:00 pm

Coffee Fellowship



December

12-10 Kathy & Stacey Golzio
12-17 *Volunteer Needed*
12-24 *Merry Christmas*
12-31 Jim & Chris Beck

Altar Flowers

December

12-17 Alice McPheeters
12-24 Amie Collins
 Joan Anton
12-31 *Volunteer Needed*



The Second Sunday of Advent
 Bunco4Missions

Advent Bible Study

Chapel Choir Practice
 Fran's Friends

The Chapel Christmas Cantata - Chapel

The Third Sunday of Advent

The Chapel Christmas Cantata - Bensalem

Advent Bible Study

Chapel Choir Practice
 The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Carols, Candles, and Communion

Contact Us:

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Sound/Audio Technician—Dillon Corral

To sign up for Coffee Fellowship: **Call** 910-944-5100
Email citp10@7lakeschapel.com
OR Sign up on the Podium outside the fellowship hall.



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