

**First Sunday in Advent & Communion**  
**December 3, 2023 - 8:30 & 11:00 AM**

*"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I  
is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals.  
He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."*

**Prelude**                                      Ricercar Pro Tempore Adventus                                      Johann Fischer

**Introit**    Call To Advent    J. Jerome Williams

**Lighting of the Advent Candle** (*responsive*)    Priscilla Karvonen, Jim Kisner

The Word became flesh and lived among us,  
and we have seen his glory.

**Alleluia!**

**\*Hymn 82**    Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

**Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

**Lord, have mercy on us. We are not ready for your coming. We live in sin,  
as though there were no justice. We live in fear, as though there were no  
grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us your mercy and steadfast love. Lead us in  
your truth, and teach us your paths, For you are the God of our salvation.  
Amen.**

**Silent Meditation and Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Congregational Response 582**                                      Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

**Passing of the Peace**

**Announcements and Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

**Invitation to Giving**

**Old Testament Lesson**

Isaiah 64: 1-9

**Anthem**

Dona Nobis Pacem

W.A. Mozart

**A Prayer for Children**

## New Testament Lesson

Matthew 3: 1-12

## Sermon

Already; But Not Yet!

Mark Stanley

## \*Affirmation of Faith (from the Book of Common Worship)

**We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

## \*Hymn 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vv. 1 & 2)

## The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

- Invitation to the Table
- The Prayer of Thanksgiving
- The Words of Institution
- Communion of the People

Offertoire, Louis Raffy

## \*Hymn 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vv. 6 & 7)

## \*Charge and Blessing

## Postlude

Toccata

Jan Pieters Sweelinck

*\*Please stand in body or spirit*

**Worship Notes:** *Our Liturgy today is used with permission from Presbyterian Outlook and from Feasting on the Word, Advent Companion.*

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**LITURGIST(S):** Jim Kisner, Carole Ball  
**PROJECTIONS:** Russ Russell, Bud Weeks  
**LIVESTREAM:** Duane Johnson, Jim Kisner,  
Conrad Shannon, Jim Smelker, Paul Soltesz

**FLOWERS:** Given by Diocles Wells and Eric  
McAnallen in honor and memory of Captain Alfred  
Diocles Well, Sr.  
**LAST SUNDAY ATTENDANCE:** 105

## ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS (We're full!)

**WED NIGHT LIVE, DEC 6:** Dinner 5:30, Concert 6:30. Join us for the LAST WNL of the year, featuring Christmas and Renaissance/medieval music with Musicke Antiqua, with special guest dancers performing a traditional "pavane" in costume. Menu: chicken & dumplings, green beans, salad, & dessert.

**THESE DAYS DEVOTIONALS ARE HERE!** Jan/  
Feb/Mar - Get 'em while they're hot. ;-)

**2024 FLOWER RESERVATIONS ARE HERE:** Head to "Sign-Ups" on our website to reserve Sunday sanctuary flowers in honor or memory of your special events or loved ones.

**SPECIAL EVENTS AT AGUDAS:** We welcome new cantor Ted Lebow to our community with several events at Agudas Israel. **Dec 8, 5:30pm:** Installation service w/ dinner, **Dec 9, 10:00am** Service w/ luncheon, **7:00pm** Concert w/ dessert reception. *Baruch Haba*, Ted!

***This congregation welcomes you without regard to race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical or mental ability, education, economic circumstance, your place of origin or any other issue that divides God's family. We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's place with its doors wide open. If you are passing through, Godspeed. If you are looking for a worship home, stay with us. We invite visitors to join us, but most of all, to return often.***



PC(USA)  
June 10, 1983



Presbytery of Western  
North Carolina



More Light  
Presbyterians



a Matthew 25  
Church



Fuente de Vida  
Guatemala



an Earth Care  
Congregation

## **SUNDAY - FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT & COMMUNION**

### **8:30 SUNDAY WORSHIP**

9:45 Learning Hour:

- *Lectionary Class (Trinity Room)*
- *Issues & Concerns Class (Classroom 207)*
- *Hashing It Out (Lounge)*

10:30 Choir Rehearsal

### **11:00 SUNDAY WORSHIP**

5:00 ManKind Project Open Men's Circle

## **MONDAY**

9:00 Finance Team

10:00 New Member Subcommittee

2:00 PW Coordinating Team

3:30 Tai chi - Beginners

4:00 Tai chi - Intermediate

7:00 Zoom: Building & Grounds Ministry Mtg.

## **TUESDAY - HABITAT SET-UP**

9:00 Staff Meeting

10:00 Coffee Group

3:00 Deacons' Christmas Party

## **WEDNESDAY**

9:00 Christmas Decorating Day

10:30 Friends in Christ

1:00 Spanish Class

5:30 WNL Dinner

6:30 WNL Concert: Musicke Antiqua

7:00 National Vigil for All Victims of Gun

Violence (Unitarian Universalist Fellowship)

7:30 Choir Rehearsal

## **THURSDAY**

11:00 Zoom: Between the Lines Book Group

1:00 Technology Committee

1:30 Book Group

3:30 Tai chi - Beginners

4:00 Tai chi - Intermediate

4:00 Zoom: Finance/Stewardship Ministry Mtg

6:30 Cub Scouts

## **FRIDAY - HABITAT SET-UP**

5:30 Shabbat Installation Service (Agudas)

## **SATURDAY**

10:00 Shabbat/Installation with Lunch &

Guest Speaker (Agudas)

Music Academy Concert

7:00 Dessert Reception & Concert (Agudas)

## **SUNDAY - SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

### **8:30 SUNDAY WORSHIP**

9:45 Learning Hour:

- *Lectionary Class (Trinity Room)*
- *Issues & Concerns Class (Classroom 207)*
- *Hashing It Out (Lounge)*

• *Youth Learning Hour*

10:30 Choir Rehearsal

### **11:00 SUNDAY WORSHIP**

5:00 ManKind Project Open Men's Circle

## **Contacts (office/pastoral business) during the week**

- Mark Stanley: 828-553-6425, jmstanley1@msn.com
- Dwight Christenbury: 828-545-2590, dc.trinity@mac.com
- Sally Beghtol: 828-280-2045, rsbeghtol@bellsouth.net
- Katie Cilluffo: 828-692-6114, trinitypresbyterianpcusa@gmail.com

**Weekly Calendar:  
Dec 3 - 10**

**PRAYER CONCERNS Hospital:** Bill Payne; Robert Walker; Don Steele (Carole Steele's father)

**Rehab/Nursing:** Neena Haskins (Carolina Reserve); Jane Sugawara (Tore's Home); Jack Caylor (HHR); Marian Lowry, Ruth Mills (CV Care Center); Kaye Papazian (Arbor Terrace); Nell Payne (Brookdale); Nancy Underwood (Florida); Julia Sellers (Durham); Jerry Miller (Indiana); **Home:** Betty Sloop; Brian Dillon; Evans Thibodeau; Steven Lockwood (Betty's son); Paul Hugger; Bob McLean (Judy Groff's brother); Diane Purnell; Kim Henderson (Kisner's daughter); Ken Sugawara; Jeremy King's daughter; Bruce Crossman; Jay, Lorrie, & Robert Pelc (Carole Ball's family); Carolyn Erickson; Fitz Sthreshley; Paul Soltesz; Nancy Twitchen; Dan Green; Katie Hankla; Gillian Vaughan (Edie Clark's granddaughter); Sandra Dwork; Helen Dearborn; Anne Wright; Kim & Jason Ball; Julee Gray (Kuykendoll's friend); Lauren McBride (Kuykendoll's daughter); Barbara Nichols; Bud Weeks; Jim Emme; Jim Luzadder; Irene Lunsford, T.K. Owens (family of Dolly Owens & Nancy Twitchen); Barbara Pickwood; Alice McCullough; Dave Morrison; **Others:** our mission coworkers and the people of Madagascar and Guatemala, our sister church Fuente de Vida, the people of Israel and Palestine, Sudan, Ukraine and Russia, and those harmed by new anti-LGBTQIA+ legislation and by gun violence.

**ADVENT DEVOTIONAL GUIDES AVAILABLE.** Pick up your copy on the purple narthex table (one copy per household, please). Many thanks to all authors and artists who contributed!

**DECORATING DAY: WED, DEC 6, 9am-12pm.** Come join the fun as a volunteer and help bring seasonal light and color to the church building. No experience necessary!

**THE MITTEN TREE** is ready to receive your warm gifts for those in need this Christmas Season! All donations taken to IAM. Thanks for sharing the wonder of the season!

**CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR BLACK MOUNTAIN HOME.** With many thanks for your enthusiastic participation, this is a reminder - **gifts are due in the church office by Wednesday, Dec. 6.**

**ADVENT IS ALMOST HERE.** Mark your calendar for these seasonal events:

- **First Sunday of Advent:**  
December 3
- **Christmas Decorating Day:**  
Wed., Dec. 6, 9:00 a.m.–noon
- **Musicke Antiqua Christmas Concert:**  
Wed., Dec. 6, 6:30 p.m.
- **Prayer Service for the Longest Night:**  
Wed., Dec. 13, 4:00 p.m.
- **Christmas Eve Morning Worship:**  
Sun., Dec. 24, 10:00 a.m. (single service)
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service:**  
Sun., Dec. 24, 7:00 p.m.

More details to come in the December issue of the Tidings.

**POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS!** To support the poinsettia fund this season in honor or memory of loved ones, visit the "Sign-ups" page on our website or fill out a form (on the ushers' table) and bring into the office.

**HABITAT FOR HUMANITY: DRIVE-THRU DINNER Dec 12, 4:30 - 6:30 PM.** Photos with Santa, festive decorations, and Christmas "carol-e-oke"! Meal pre-orders accepted online or in person in the Narthex **until Dec 7th.** <https://www.habitat-hvl.org/drive-thru-dinner/> Please make out checks to Habitat for Humanity. Bon appetit!

**LEAD WORSHIP DURING ADVENT.** You're invited to light a candle on the Advent wreath and share a reading with the congregation on the Sundays of Advent. If interested, please signup on the bulletin board in the narthex; see Dwight Christenbury if you have questions. Thank you!

**GUATEMALA: PAST & PRESENT.** If you missed Carole Ball's Nov 15 presentation re: current situation in Guatemala, or would like to see it again, find the video and other resources on our website under Ministries > Global Missions.

**CREATION CARE ALLIANCE SYMPOSIUM:** Feb 2-3 at Montreat. "*Sacred Symbiosis: Relationships for Eco-Justice.*" **Early registration discounts deadline: Dec. 5th.** Trinity scholarships available. <https://creationcarealliance.org/announcing-the-2024-winter-symposium/>