

# Myers Park United Methodist Church



*Hawaiian Mother and Child*, Charles W. Bartlett

## A Service of Christian Worship

November 27, 2022

8:30, 9:45 and 11:00 a.m.

## First Sunday of Advent

WE GATHER

### Opening Voluntary

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Joel Raney

### Welcome

### Chiming of the Holy Trinity

### † Advent Chorus No. 211 (verse 1)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

VENI EMMANUEL

† **Lighting of the Advent Candle**

God of peace, love, joy and light:

We wait for you.

Bring hope to your people.

**Shine your light on our world.**

† **Processional Hymn No.**

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

**Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;**

**all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.**

**God our Maker doth provide for our wants to be supplied;**

**come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.**

**All the world is God's own field, fruit as praise to God we yield;**

**wheat and tares together sown are to joy or sorrow grown;**

**first the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear;**

**Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.**

**For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home;**

**from the field shall in that day all offenses purge away,**

**giving angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast;**

**but the fruitful ears to store in the garner evermore.**

**Even so, Lord, quickly come, bring thy final harvest home;**

**gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,**

**there, forever purified, in thy presence to abide;**

**come, with all thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home.**

† **The Creed No. 881**

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,**

**maker of heaven and earth;**

**and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the Virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried.**

**The third day He rose from the dead;**

**He ascended into heaven,**

**and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;**

**from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

† **Gloria No. 238**

GLORIA

**Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

## **Sacrament of Holy Baptism (11:00)**

### **Congregational Response (11:00)**

Child of blessing, child of promise

STUTTGART

**Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the spirit's sign;  
with this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.**

**Child of God your loving parent, learn to know whose child you are.  
Grow to laugh and sing and worship, trust and love god more than all.**

### **The Old Testament Reading**

Isaiah 2:1-5

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Almighty God, we wish we knew how to be still.  
Instead we rush about, when we might rest in you.  
Forgive us for hiding in the shadows.  
We turn toward the light of your hope.  
Heal our weary, broken hearts.  
We ask that you become real in us.  
Come, Lord Jesus.**

### **Words of Assurance**

...In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!  
**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**  
**Glory to God. Amen.**

## **WE HEAR AND RESPOND TO THE WORD**

### **The Epistle Reading**

Romans 13:11-14

**Reader:** This is the Word of God for the people of God.  
**People:** Thanks be to God.

### **Sermon**

### **Prayers of the People**

*After each petition, we enter into the prayer together with these words:*

**Pastor:** Lord, in your mercy,  
**People:** Hear our prayer.

### **The Lord's Prayer No. 895**

## Offertory

Blest Be the God of Israel

Hal Hopson

Blest be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free;  
Who visits and redeems us, who grants us liberty.  
The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release;  
God shall fulfill that promise and bring the people peace.

God from the house of David a child of grace is given;  
a savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven.  
Before him goes the herald, forerunner in the way,  
the prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.

On those who sit in darkness the sun begins to rise,  
the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes.  
God guides the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace.  
O bless our God and savior with songs that never cease.

## † Doxology

VENI EMMANUEL

**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.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

## † Prayer of Dedication

## † Gift Blessing

## WE GO OUT TO SERVE

## † Closing Hymn No. 206

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light  
**I want to walk as a child of the light.  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world.  
The star of my life is Jesus.**

HOUSTON

### *Refrain*

**In him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.**

I want to see the brightness of God.  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,  
and show me the way to the Father. *Refrain*

I'm looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain*

## † Benediction

### † Benediction Response No. 230 (verse 4)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ST. LOUIS

O holy child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in,  
be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

## † Closing Voluntary

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† Stand as you are able

### WORSHIP LEADERS



#### PREACHER

Dr. James C. Howell, Senior Pastor



#### LITURGIST

Dr. Uiyeon Kim, Pastor of Discipleship

Rev. Nancy Watson, Executive Pastor



#### LAY READERS

Leslie Lowery (8:30), Linda Borders (9:45), Mark Murphy (11:00)



#### MUSICIANS

Dr. Hugh Ferguson Floyd, Director of Music

Evan Wesley Currie, Associate Director of Music and Organist

Sue Bayne, piano

Chancel Choir



#### AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER

Tori Raymond (9:45)



## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS

Suzy and Matt Ohl (8:30)

Webb, Greta, Blake, Liv, and Bo Bostic (9:45)

Scott, Beth, Kathryn, Austin, and Maren Haenni (11:00)



## GIFT BLESSING

Miller Givens and Holden Carroll (8:30)

Libby Albergotti and Jacksie Woodley (9:45)

Cole Gregory and Jay Tomascak (11:00)



## CRUCIFERS

Carson Clutter (8:30), Courtney Weintraub (9:45), Colin Murdock (11:00)



## ACOLYTES

Kennedy Clutter and Carrigan Michael (8:30)

Ryland Weintraub and Michael Roane (9:45)

James Murdock and Tucker Bryant (11:00)



## BIBLE CARRIERS

Lucy Herr (8:30), Mary Miller Roane (9:45), Sam Bryant (11:00)

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## *Welcome to Myers Park United Methodist Church*

**Welcome!** We are thankful you are here worshipping with us. We invite you to register your attendance with us today: <https://form.jotform.com/201695904497164>.

**The Sacrament of Holy Baptism:** Receiving the sacrament of Baptism at the 11:00 a.m. service is *Holden Clark Sellie*, son of *Meredith and Lance Sellie*.

**Blessing of the Gifts:** Today, on the first Sunday in Advent, we highlight our school partnerships: Hidden Valley Elementary, Sedgefield Middle, The Learning Collaborative, OurBRIDGE for Kids, Children of the World Learning Center at Central UMC, and CHAMP. Our fourth graders, led by their teachers *Lauren Fowler, Sarah Herndon, Pamela & Alan Jenkins, Robin Lipe, Courtney & John Ramey, Jennifer Smith, and Erin Stubbs*, will offer a prayer during each worship service.

**O Holy Night,** Children's Ministries' 11th annual devotional booklet featuring children's artwork and devotions from clergy, staff, and ministry friends, is available around the church. One per family, please. Click [here](#) to access the digital edition on our website.

**Last Call for Advent Wreath Kits:** Kits are \$15 and include everything you need for your wreath except greenery. Click [here](#) to order and then pick up in the Parish Life Building lobby. Email Betsy Scott at [bscott@mpumc.org](mailto:bscott@mpumc.org) with questions.

**Purchase Poinsettias and Wreaths to Decorate the Church** in honor or memory of a loved one. Poinsettias are \$20 each, and wreaths are \$30 each. Click [here](#) to order online or send a check to the church along with the name of the person you are honoring/remembering. Order by December 9. Dedications will be shared in the December 18 worship bulletin.

**Advent Study Group, beginning November 28, 29, and 30:** Prepare to receive Christ this Advent with the message of John the Baptist. We will read and study Adam Hamilton's *Prepare the Way for the Lord*. This four-week series will meet in person and online. Participants should purchase the book and read the first chapter before the first meeting. Click [here](#) for details.

**Advent Labyrinth Open, November 30-December 21, Francis Chapel:** During this season of waiting, come to the labyrinth for a uniquely prayerful experience. A special setting and printed materials will be available to guide you in a walk of preparation for Christmas. Please call 704-376-8584 before coming to the church to ensure Francis Chapel is available for your walk. Email Rev. Taylor Pryde Barefoot at [tbarefoot@mpumc.org](mailto:tbarefoot@mpumc.org) for more details.

**Missions Collecting Donations for The Merry Market, now-November 30:** The Merry Market provides an empowering opportunity for parents to select and buy gifts for their children at discounted prices. This year, we are providing gifts for 400 children who are served by our BRIDGE for Kids and Refugee Support Services. We cannot do it without your generous donations! Click [here](#) to shop from the Amazon Wishlist.

**Wednesday Night Supper, November 30, 5:30 p.m.-6:45 p.m., Jubilee Hall:** Chef Hannah will serve pot roast and mashed potatoes. For children: cheese quesadillas. \$15 for adults; \$8 for adults 65 and up and children 3-12. Children under 3 eat free. \$50 family max. Click [here](#) or call 704-376-5520 ext. 6 to RSVP by noon on Monday.

**Final Few Days of Youth Christmas Tree Sale Pre-Orders:** Pre-order your Christmas tree, wreath, or garland from our youth to help support their summer mission trips. Click [here](#) to order by midnight November 30. Orders will be available for pickup December 1-3. Please help us spread the word by sharing with friends.

**Music Ministry Christmas Concert, December 4, 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., First United Methodist Church:** Join us for our annual Christmas Concert featuring our Adult Choirs, Children's Choir, Youth Bells, and Orchestra. No reservations or tickets are required. A shuttle service will run between Myers Park UMC and First Methodist UMC. Child care is available at First UMC by reservation only. Email Lisa Ross-Smit at [lrsmit@mpumc.org](mailto:lrsmit@mpumc.org). The offering will benefit [Roof Above](#).

**Service of Hope and Consolation, December 5, 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary:** For those who have suffered loss, the holidays can be especially challenging. Join us for this service of remembrance and healing.

**Help Us Host Room in the Inn, beginning December 7:** On Wednesday nights in the Myers Park Presbyterian Church Outreach Center, we provide 12 guests a meal, a safe place to gather and sleep, showers, and fellowship. There are several ways to get involved: making beds, preparing dinner, hosting overnight, preparing breakfast, or driving our guests. Click [here](#) to learn more and sign up. Email Britt Yett at [byett@mpumc.org](mailto:byett@mpumc.org) with questions.

**Family Movie Night**, *December 9, 5:30 p.m.-6:45 p.m., Jubilee Hall*: Your family is invited to join us for a screening of *A Charlie Brown Christmas*. The Ben & Jerry's hot chocolate cart will be onsite for you to purchase a warm beverage. Please bring a blanket for your family to sit on, and you are welcome to bring a picnic supper as well. The movie is 25 minutes long and will be shown at 5:40 p.m. and again at 6:15 p.m. Click [here](#) to RSVP. Email Leslie at [llovery@mpumc.org](mailto:llovery@mpumc.org) with questions.

**Pack the Van!** You can make a tangible difference in the lives of children by donating items from this [Amazon Wishlist](#), which we will then pack in a 15-passenger van to send to Faith Ministry, our partner in Reynosa, Mexico. Between now and December 11, bring your family to pack the items you're gifting and to say a prayer for the van.

**Kneeling at the Manger**, *December 11, 4:00 p.m., Jubilee Hall*: Join us for this annual service of story and song. Children may dress as their favorite nativity character.

**Merry and Bright Movie Night Class Christmas Parties**, *December 11*: Youth are invited to dress up as their favorite Christmas movie character and join us at host homes to play games, have fun, and celebrate Christmas! Click your youth's grade below to RSVP and to sign up to bring an item to share. Bring a white elephant gift to exchange. Gifts should not exceed \$10.

[Sign Up for 6th Grade](#), 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m., Foose home

[Sign Up for 7th Grade](#), 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m., Jones home

[Sign Up for 8th Grade](#), 5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m., see link for locations

[Sign Up for 9th-12th Grades](#), 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Rogers home

**Love Feast**, *December 18, 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary*: Everyone is invited to this youth-led worship service featuring spiced tea and Moravian buns.

**Christmas Eve Services**: Please join our church family for one of our Christmas Eve services celebrating the joy of the season and the birth of our Lord!

12:00 p.m., Jubilee Hall: A service of music and carols with a Jazz twist.

2:00 p.m., Sanctuary: Carols, candlelight and children's Nativity tableau.

4:00 p.m., Jubilee Hall: Casual, contemporary, acoustic.

6:00 p.m., Sanctuary: Carols, candlelight and children's Nativity tableau.

8:00 p.m., Sanctuary: Choir, carols, candlelight, with Holy Communion.

11:00 p.m., Sanctuary: Choir, carols, candlelight, with Holy Communion.

**Congratulations to Our New Stephen Ministers**: Sherylle Diffey, Susan Hemphill, Hana Kim, Suzy Ohl, Katie Stoutenger, Joan Ward, Mary Ware, Jim Willoughby and Ginny Wright. These and other Stephen Ministers have been trained to provide compassionate listening and care for those going through illness, loss or other difficult situations. To learn more or to request a one-on-one Stephen Minister match, contact Rev. Bill Roth at [broth@mpumc.org](mailto:broth@mpumc.org) or 704-295-4835.

**Goodness Gracious**: Christmas has arrived in Goodness Gracious! Come shop our seasonal gifts and home décor. 100% of sales support outreach. We're open Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and Sunday 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**Good Questions, No Easy Answers**: Join us this week as Dr. Howell explores the answer to another good question! Click the Good Questions button at the top of our [website's homepage](#) to access links to this week's video, podcast, and emails and to subscribe to all three so you'll never miss a question!



**Maybe I'm Amazed - A Podcast with Dr. James Howell:** Throughout his career, Dr. Howell has developed meaningful relationships with a wide spectrum of people, and he's taken time to learn each of their stories. *Maybe I'm Amazed* is a collection of amazing conversations James has with amazing people experiencing everyday miracles. Click [here](#) to listen and subscribe.

**Rooted in Generosity:** [Check out information](#) about our 2023 Stewardship Campaign and click [here](#) for a commitment card. We invite you to prayerfully consider your commitment to our church Operating Fund and Mission and Outreach Fund for the upcoming year. Commitment cards can be returned via mail to 1501 Queens Road, Charlotte NC 28207 or [submitted online](#).

**Thank you for your ongoing offerings** to our church Operating Fund. Your generosity makes it possible for our church to provide meaningful fellowship and worship opportunities for our [children](#) and [youth](#) during this season of Advent. Make your offering today at [www.myersparkumc.org/give](http://www.myersparkumc.org/give) or by mail to 1501 Queens Road, Charlotte, NC 28207. Questions about giving opportunities? Contact Jamie Yearwood, Director of Development, at [jyearwood@mpumc.org](mailto:jyearwood@mpumc.org) or 704-295-4808.

**Pick up a copy of *This Week at Myers Park UMC* for a complete listing of events and opportunities.**



*Stephen Ministry congregations equip and empower lay caregivers to provide confidential, Christ-centered care to people who are hurting. To learn more about this powerful ministry, contact Rev. Bill Roth at 704-295-4835 or [broth@mpumc.org](mailto:broth@mpumc.org).*

**Dr. James C. Howell, Senior Pastor**  
james@mpumc.org 704-376-8584

**Rev. Nathan Arledge, Pastor of Missions & Community Engagement**  
nathan@mpumc.org 704-295-4816

**Rev. Taylor Pryde Barefoot, Pastor for Emerging Ministries**  
tbarefoot@mpumc.org 704-295-4803

**Rev. Jessica Dayson, Pastor of Lay Involvement**  
jdayson@mpumc.org 704-295-4813

**Dr. Uiyeon Kim, Pastor of Discipleship**  
ukim@mpumc.org 704-295-4840

**Rev. Bill Roth, Pastor of Congregational Care**  
broth@mpumc.org 704-295-4835

**Rev. Nancy Watson, Executive Pastor**  
nwatson@mpumc.org 704-295-4823

#### **TALK WITH A PASTOR**

A pastor on staff stands ready to respond to your question or concern.  
Those needing immediate pastoral help should call  
704-376-8584 and follow the prompts to the pastor on call.

***Myers Park United Methodist Church Mission Statement:**  
We are the body of Christ, growing in faith and serving others.*



**MYERS PARK**

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1501 QUEENS RD. | CHARLOTTE, NC 28207  
704-376-8584 | [WWW.MYERSPARKUMC.ORG](http://WWW.MYERSPARKUMC.ORG)