

WESLEY MEMORIAL

A METHODIST CONGREGATION

Magnificat



TRADITIONAL WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY 11:00

Our purpose is to make and sustain spiritually healthy followers of Jesus Christ who live in ways that transform the world.

WESLEY MEMORIAL METHODIST CHURCH

Order of Worship

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 15th, 2024

Sanctuary

11:00 am

PRELUDE

The prelude is a time for people to become quiet, to meditate and pray, and to prepare their hearts individually for the worship of God.

- † CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER Congregation reads bold print
Blessed be God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in your sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen.

- † HYMN NO. 201
Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

- † THE LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE Edi and Bradley Gibson
Children: Porter and Parker

- † CHORAL RESPONSE
Come, Lord Jesus Anna Laura Page
Come, Lord Jesus, come and save us. Bring your light into our world of darkness. Come, Lord Jesus, come and save us. Amen.

- † SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST
(Children proceed to the pulpit side door for Children's Church)

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

arr. Arron Powell

- † ADVENT DOXOLOGY VENI EMMANUEL
Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Welcome!

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning! Please take a moment to sign the Friendship Notebooks during the announcements. If you are a guest, please leave your contact information and a pastor will contact you this week with more information about our church.

CARING CARDS

We share the names of some of our people who would be blessed to hear from you. There are cards in the Welcome Folders. Won't you take a moment to write to them? Please write your encouraging message on the caring card and drop in the offering plate for us to address and mail.

SYMPATHY TO Lee Tillery on the passing of his mother, Sharon Webb Tillery, on 12/7.

SYMPATHY TO Bee Rule on the passing of her son, Stephen Alan Rule, on 11/28.

HEALTH CONCERN:
Keith Peters

- I. Magnificat anima mea*
II. Shall I Rejoice
III. Et misericordia
IV. Deposuit
V. Gloria Patri

I. Magnificat anima mea Dominum.
Et exultavit spiritus meus
in Deo salutari meo.
Quia respexit humilitatem
ancillae suae:
ecce enim ex hoc
beatam me dicent omnes generationes.
Quia fecit mihi magna
qui potens est:
et sanctum nomen ejus.

My soul magnifies the Lord.
And my spirit has rejoiced
in God my savior.
For he has regarded the low estate
of his handmaiden:
for behold, henceforth all generations
shall call me blessed.
For he who is mighty
has done great things to me;
and holy is his name.

II. Shall I rejoice for Christ in me,
the first of such to say?
All that this child shall ever say or be
now lives and grows in me.

Shall I rejoice for Christ in me,
his name forever mine?
I yield to him my life's identity;
Christ lives and grows in me.

Shall I rejoice for Christ in me,
both glory and disgrace?
My song shall be both joy and agony;
Christ lives and grows in me

Shall I rejoice for Christ in me,
as clouds and shadows rise?
I ponder scenes that I don't want to see.
Christ lives and grows in me.

III. Et misericordia ejus
a progenie in progenies timentibus eum.
Fecit potentiam in brachio suo;
dispersit superbos
mente cordis sui.

And his mercy is on them
who fear him from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud,
even the arrogant of heart.

IV. Deposuit potentes de sede,
et exaltavit humiles.
Esurientes implevit bonis:
et divites dimisit inanes.
Suscepit Israel puerum suum,
recordatus misericordiae suae.
Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros,
Abraham et semini ejus in saecula.

He has deposed the mighty from their seats,
and exalted the humble.
The hungry he has filled with good things,
and the rich he has sent empty away.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy.
As it was spoken to our fathers,
to Abraham and his seed forever.

*V. Gloria Patri, et filio
et Spiritui Sancto.
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper,
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen!*

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen!*

† HYMN NO. 179
What Child is This

GREENSLEEVES

† BENEDICTION

† CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

† POSTLUDE

† Those who are able please stand.

WORSHIP LEADERS:

Reverend Dr. Jeff Patterson, Senior Pastor
Reverend Clark Chilton, Contemporary Worship/Evangelism
Reverend Susannah Pittman, Congregational Care/Adult Spiritual Formation
Reverend Dr. Ken Lyon, Generosity/Church Vitality/Missions
Reverend Dr. Glenn Myers, Pastor of Visitation
Chancel Choir
Ms. Charli Mills, Director of Traditional Music and Worship Arts
Mr. Lindsay Odom, Organist
Mr. James Robbins, Acolyte

Mr. David Robbins, Acolyte
Mr. Colton Maines, Crucifer
Miss Brielle Kuennen, Bible
Mr. Windley Dunbar, Usher
Mr. Scott Dunbar, Usher
Mr. Miles Gurley, Usher
Mr. Tom Smothers, Usher
Mrs. Vickie Grobes, Usher
Mr. Lane Adams, Usher
Mrs. Wendy Adams, Usher

ORCHESTRA MEMBERS

Vivian Mayers, violin 1
Kennedy Heath, violin 2
Yiming Zhao, viola
Sophie Lyman, cello

Ryan Bell, bass
Holly Gonzalez, flute
Anna Lampidis, oboe
Barbie Pilla, clarinet
Brianna Cantwell, bassoon

Garrett Strauss, percussion
Miah Kay Cardoza, percussion
Ricky Hinojosa, percussion
Kristen Young, Harp

The congregation is invited, and encouraged to take a moment and walk through the new Historical Museum. Two beautiful stained glass windows have been recently added. All of the stained glass on display in the museum was preserved by the Edgar Snider family after the Main Street church was torn down in 1961. The windows contain all original glass from 1914. The glass was presented to the church by Vicki Snider Shipman. Jim Holcomb coordinated the new windows construction with Ralph Mills and Pittsburgh Stained Glass Studios in Pittsburgh. We are truly blessed to have so many items from our past on display and the new windows just adds "final touch".

Reminder

The Wesley 100 men's group will be selling the chicken pies today! They will be in the dining hall from 9:00 am until 11:15 am and then in the Asbury Room from 11:15 am until approximately 1:00 pm. If possible, please try to pick up your chicken pie this today. We do not want to take up any room in the church freezer during the Christmas season. Our church chief Tammy Magee, can help with any orders on Monday that were not picked up on Sunday.

SERVICE NOTES: Texts of the Call to Worship, Old Testament, Epistle, and Gospel taken from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, The Book of Common Prayer, 2019, Anglican Liturgy Press, and The United Methodist Book of Worship, © 1992 The United Methodist Publishing House. Music: OneLicense.net A721606.

Program notes

The Magnificat text is rich and historic, and though it's an unwritten rule, it seems each composer gets one chance to declare what they believe the text means to them. Is it possible to capture the sound of Mary going from typical teenage child to God's chosen one? Is it feasible to spend five movements cycling through all of the emotions the story elicits? What helps narrate and what seems overly dramatic? As I approached the text, the following became my interpretation:

Magnificat anima mea

Joy, honor, and bewilderment. A child-like exclamation at the beginning yields to a warm melody by measure 28, where the men begin singing of God's regard for Mary's lowly status. A murky section afterward leans on the word *anima*, which is feminine and means "breath," "air," or "life force." Before returning to joy, we have incredibly stately chords as the choir sings about what mighty work God has done through Mary.

Shall I Rejoice

To add a modern voice, I asked Dr. Terry York to write a new text, and his words connected with me deeply. There is a musical simplicity to this movement, but the piece builds around Dr. York's text as he very uniquely channels Mary's intuition to foreshadow the trouble ahead for her son. That uncertainty peaks as the words "joy and agony" sound like they unravel. Still, every phrase ends with release and determination.

Deposuit

A solo violin becomes Mary's character, and you can hear the uncertainty in her voice. The violin is minor, it's questioning, it's fearful. And the text from the choir is about fearing God, who will show strength, and scatter the proud and arrogant. The movement ends with an unexpected peace, as the violin represents Mary's understanding of what this means.

Et misericordia

Movements three and four are very much linked. The sixteenth notes remain, but their hurried sound turns major as the choir sings about God exalting the humble and feeding the hungry, leaving behind the fearful nature of the previous movement.

Gloria Patri

The final movement begins with jubilation: *Gloria Patri* ("Glory be to the Father"), the choir sings, as the accompaniment swells. "As it was in the beginning" is the translation, as the choir then sings a gentle, simple melody. The Latin word *semper* seems to go in circles about halfway through, as it means "always." A slowed down version of the opening melody is sung by a soloist or small group in an ethereal way, before the choir energetically closes by singing about what this means for "generations of generations."

—Taylor Scott Davis

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Welcome guests! Scan the QR code on the left to receive a free welcome gift (to scan the code, use your phone's camera and follow the provided link)!

Attendance: please fill out and pass the friendship folders located in each row.

Large print hymnals are available in the Narthex.

Nursery childcare is available (infants - 2 years old) Sunday mornings for the 9:45 a.m. service and the 11 a.m. service. The nursery is in the Children's Ministry Hall. If you need assistance in locating the nursery, one of our ushers will be glad to assist you.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

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|---|---|--|
| MONDAY, December 16 5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m. | Student Ministry Ball & Bible Cub Scout Meeting Boy Scout Meeting AA Meeting | Fellowship Hall Student Ministry Wing Scout Room Adult Wing D208 |
| TUESDAY, December 17 8:00 a.m. | American Red Cross Community Blood Drive | Fellowship Hall |
| WEDNESDAY, December 18 7:20 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:45 p.m. | John Willett's Men's Bible Study Prayer Shawl Ministry Vespers Student Ministry School Midweek Motivation - Christmas Party Men's Bible Study Chancel Choir Rehearsal | Dining Hall Conference Room 3 Chapel Student Ministry Wing Conference Room 3 Choir Room |
| THURSDAY, December 19 7:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m. | AA Meeting AlAnon | Adult Wing D201 |
| SATURDAY, December 21 8:30 a.m. | Wesley 100 Men's Meeting | Dining Hall |
| SUNDAY, December 22 7:30 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m. 6:00 p.m. | Televised Worship Service Traditional Worship AA Meeting Children's Ministry Sunday Funday Adult Sunday School Contemporary Worship Small Groups/ All Welcome Traditional Worship Children's Church Young Adult Ministry | WGHP, FOX8 Chapel Adult D202 Children's Ministry Wing Adult Wing Fellowship Hall Dining Hall Sanctuary Children's Ministry Wing Student Ministry Wing |

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2024

4:00 PM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE **LIVE STREAM**

5:00 PM THE 51ST ANNUAL LOVEFEAST

11:00 PM TRADITIONAL SERVICE

Each service on Christmas Eve will include communion and candlelight.
Childcare will begin at 5 p.m. for ages 2 and under - families are encouraged to worship together

VISIT WESLEYMEMORIAL.ORG/ADVENT FOR MORE INFORMATION



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29TH

We will have one combined service at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. This will be our final service of the year. Bring your kids with you! Children will attend the beginning of the service and exit for Children's Church after the Children's Sermon. We look forward to worshipping together!

Christmas Memorials: Honor Your Loved Ones

This Christmas season, you can honor or remember a loved one by ordering wreaths or poinsettias to decorate the church. To place your order, contact Isabel Cruz via email at icruzvalencia@wesleyememorial.org or call 336-812-4808. The deadline for ordering and submitting payment is Monday, December 16th. Memorials will be listed in the December 22nd bulletin. Wreaths are available for \$30 each, and poinsettias for \$25 each.



December Senior Adult Outing

Senior adults (age 60+) are invited to a special Christmas outing to High Point University's Planetarium, featuring the programs "The Star of Bethlehem" and "Wonders of the Wintertime Sky." On Wednesday, December 18, senior adults will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the church's upper parking circle to board the church bus or caravan together in cars. The Planetarium experience includes a guided tour and star show from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., with no cost to attend. Following the program, those interested can head to Sammie G's for lunch (at their own expense). Please RSVP by Monday, December 16, by calling the church office at 336-884-2204. Indicate whether you plan to attend both the Planetarium program and lunch or if you will return to the church after the Planetarium visit. This is a wonderful opportunity for senior adults to enjoy the beauty of the season & the wonders of the winter sky!

Christmas Eve Offering

This Christmas Eve, we invite you to join Wesley Memorial in continuing our tradition of generosity and community outreach. This year, our offering will focus on hurricane relief efforts for our neighbors in the Western North Carolina mountains.

Our Missions Team has been actively gathering information and identifying the best ways to support these communities as they face the long road to recovery. While immediate needs have been addressed through organizations such as Samaritan's Purse, UMCOR, and Weaverville United Methodist Church, the rebuilding process presents significant challenges. Many families and churches in this region have experienced devastating losses, and we are committed to walking alongside them as they rebuild their lives and livelihoods.

The funds collected will be directed to long-term relief efforts, including potential partnerships with local Methodist churches or organizations deeply connected to the impacted communities. Your generosity will help provide hope, resources, and encouragement to those navigating this difficult journey.

Thank you for your compassion and for being the hands and feet of Christ during this season of giving. Together, we can make a lasting difference.

End-of-Year Giving

The end of the year is fast approaching. At Wesley Memorial, our staff is happy to work with you to help you achieve your 2024 giving goals and intentions. Over and above regular giving you can make additional financial gifts including gifts of stock and IRA distributions. Below are some options and timelines available to you. There are several ways to direct your generous year-end giving. All year-end giving to the church must be received by Tuesday, December 31st. Electronic giving must be received by Tuesday, December 31st. Call Beth Rose at 336-812-4801 for assistance with online giving, gifts of stock, or IRA distributions.

- Give at one of the remaining Sunday or Christmas Eve worship services
- Mail check to WMMC 1225 Chestnut Drive, High Point, NC 27262 postmarked by 12/31/24
- Contribute online by clicking [here](#) before 12/27
- Use your bank's bill pay system before 12/25
- To gift stock or make an IRA distribution, ask for transfer completion by 12/26
- Bring your gift to the church office by 12/31/24 at 12 noon

Tax-deductible gifts received by the above deadlines will appear on your 2024 giving statement. Thank you for making a difference in countless lives in this community and around the world.

STUDENT MINISTRY'S

*A Very Merry
Midweek Motivation
Christmas Party*

**DECEMBER 18
6:00 PM - 8:00PM**

Put on your favorite festive sweater, grab a friend, and bring a side dish or dessert to share! Join us for an evening of dinner, games, and a Christmas message as we celebrate the joy of the season together.

Christmas Staff Bonus

The Board of Directors invites you to help us celebrate and bless our incredible staff this Christmas. Their dedication, hard work, and love for our congregation make Wesley Memorial a place of true connection and ministry throughout the year.

If you would like to show your appreciation with a financial gift, you can participate in one of the following ways:

- Write a check to WMMC with "Staff Bonus" in the memo line and place it in the Sunday offering plate, mail it to the church, or drop it off at the Front Desk.
- Contribute online at wesleymemorial.org/give by selecting "Staff-Christmas Bonus" from the drop-down menu under "Fund."

Let's come together to show our gratitude for all they do. Please make your contribution by Tuesday, December 31, 2024. Thank you for helping us honor and bless our wonderful staff this holiday season!

Church Outing to HPU Basketball Game

Join us for a fun-filled church outing to cheer on the High Point University Panthers as they take on Norfolk State on Sunday, December 29, at 2:00 p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy time with your church family and experience the excitement of HPU basketball! Our group will receive special perks, including recognition on the jumbotron, a personal visit from Prowler, HPU's mascot, and a post-game autograph session with the players. Don't miss out on this memorable event! Please RSVP by Monday, December 23, by calling the church office at 336-884-2204.



FROM PRAISE TO PANTHERS BASKETBALL

HIGH POINT UNIVERSITY
INVITES YOUR CONGREGATION
TO ENJOY A FREE GAME
FOLLOWING SERVICE!



MBB | SUN. 12/29 | 2:00 PM
Norfolk State



POST-GAME
PLAYER AUTOGRAPH SESSION

Bring Your
Church Family

ANY REGISTERED GROUP OF 25 OR MORE
WILL GET A SHOUTOUT, VIDEO BOARD MESSAGE,
AND PHOTO OPPORTUNITY WITH PROWLER!

DID JESUS REALLY SAY THAT?

A STUDY OF THE HARD SAYINGS OF JESUS
with Dr. Jeff Patterson



This study will look at many of the difficult sayings of Jesus, particularly those that apply to the divisive issues of our day.

EVERY MONDAY
10:30 TO 11:30 AM
BEGINNING JANUARY 6TH AND
RUNNING THROUGH MAY 12TH



To register for this course, please contact the church office at 336-884-2204 or receptionist@wesleymemorial.org



WESLEY MEMORIAL

The Book of Revelation (Part 2)

Dr. Jeff Patterson will lead a verse-by-verse study of Revelation 10:1-22:21, exploring the messages in the last book of the Bible which is a book of last things. Even if you were not able to attend Part 1 in the fall, you are welcome to join Part 2, beginning January 8. Sessions are offered on Wednesdays at 9:30 AM in the Dining Hall and 6:45 PM in the Media Center, with the flexibility to alternate between morning and evening sessions to suit your schedule. To register, please contact the church office at 336-884-2204 or email receptionist@wesleymemorial.org.

Spirit and Truth Weekend - January 10-12, 2025

Sometimes, a single moment in God's presence or a new practice can transform a person's life in Christ. Led by the Spirit and Truth ministry from Dayton, OH (United Seminary), the weekend covers topics like:

- Building a Foundation of Prayer (Making prayer the starting place for life)
- Cooperating with the Holy Spirit (Hearing God's voice)
- Everyday Evangelism (Sharing faith where you live, work, and play)
- Becoming a Disciple-Maker (Mobilizing every member for the Great Commission)

Cost is \$25 and open to youth and adults. Sessions will be held at Wesley Memorial on Friday night and Saturday morning/afternoon (breakfast and lunch included). Register at wesleymemorial.org/spiritandtruth or contact Rev. Clark Chilton at cchilton@wesleymemorial.org.