

WESLEY MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Order of Worship **First Sunday in Advent**

November 27, 2022

7:30 am

Welcome

The Reverend Dr. Jeff Patterson, Senior Pastor

Call to Worship and Prayer

The Reverend Dr. McKennon Shea

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, it is your will to restore all things to Christ, whom you have anointed priest forever and ruler of creation. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united under the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

**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.**

**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**

**O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times once gave the law in cloud and majesty and awe. Refrain**

**O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree, an ensign of thy people be;
before thee rulers silent fall; all peoples on thy mercy call. Refrain**

Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 2: 1-5

In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

This is the Word of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"The Life-Giving Power of Hope"

The Reverend Dr. Jeff Patterson

Hymn:

Blessed Be the God of Israel

MERLE'S TUNE

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

Now 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 prisoners of darkness the sun begins to rise,
the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes,
to guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace;
O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!

Dismissal and Blessing

The Reverend Dr. Jeff Patterson

Closing Voluntary

Grand Choeur Dialogué

Eugène Gigout

Participating Today

The Reverend Dr. Jeff Patterson, Senior Pastor

The Reverend Dr. McKennon Shea, Lector

Mr. Phillip Leach, Baritone Soloist

Mr. Chris Massey, Audio Video Technician

Mr. Frank Pifferetti, Director of Traditional Music Ministries and Organist

To Give:

www.wesleymemorial.org/give



Wesley Memorial UMC
1225 Chestnut Drive
High Point, NC 27262

Or you can scan the QR code with your camera phone or text the word DETAILS to 94000 to give online.

Call to Worship and Prayer are from *The Book of Common Prayer*, 2019, Anglican Liturgy Press. Scripture is taken from the New Revised Standard Version Bible. Musical texts are reproduced within this document by permission under OneLicense.net A721606.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



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

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.

Wesley Memorial School is open Monday– Thursday at 9 a.m.



Offering plates will be passed or you can scan the QR code with your camera phone or text the word DETAILS to 94000 to give online.

<p>MONDAY, November 28 10:30 a.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Interdenominational Bible Study Boy Scout Meeting AA Meeting</p>	<p>Adult D213 Media Center Boy Scout Room 1 Adult D208</p>
<p>TUESDAY, November 29 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Town Hall Meeting YAM (Young Adult Ministry)</p>	<p>Fellowship Hall Student Gathering</p>
<p>WEDNESDAY, November 30 7:00 a.m. 7:20 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:45 p.m. 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>High School Girls Bible Study Men's Bible Study with John Willett Bible Study with Pastor Jeff Prayer Shawl Ministry Wednesday Dinner Vespers Children's Ministry Wednesday Disciple I Divorce Care Grief Share Student Ministry Midweek Young Men's Bible Study w/Pastor Clark Bible Study with Pastor Jeff Chancel Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>The Biscuit Factory Dining Hall Dining Hall Media Center Dining Hall Chapel Children's Gathering Circle View Room (Admin Bldg) Adult Wing D201 Adult Wing D203 Student Gathering Conf. Rm. 3- Admin Building Media Center Choir Rm - Under the Sanctuary</p>
<p>THURSDAY, December 1 7:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m. * 7:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>High School Guys Bible Study Bible Study w/Pastor Clark Decorating the Chrismon Trees * AA Meeting AIAnon</p>	<p>The Biscuit Factory River Landing Sanctuary Adult Wing D208 Adult Wing D201</p>
<p>FRIDAY, December 2 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Lighting of the Tree Delivering Poinsettias</p>	<p>Circle Parking Lot Porte cochere - @ Sanctuary</p>

*Decorating the Chrismon Trees

We will be decorating the Chrismon Trees in the Sanctuary on **December 1 at 5:30 pm**. We need additional volunteers, as well as someone to volunteer to lead this ministry going forward.

SUNDAY, December 4 7:30 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 10:15 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	2nd Sunday in Advent Televised Traditional Worship Traditional Worship AA Meeting Children's Ministry Sunday Funday Adult Sunday School Contemporary Worship Student Ministry Sunday Morning Live Chancel Choir Rehearsal Small Groups/ All Welcome Traditional Worship	WGHP, FOX8 Chapel Adult D202 Children's Gathering Adult Wing Fellowship Hall Student Gathering Choir Room (under Sanctuary) Fellowship Hall Sanctuary
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TOWN HALL MEETING
Tuesday, Nov. 29, 6 pm, Dining Hall
Everyone is invited to this important meeting. There will be presentations both for and against disaffiliation from the UMC followed by Q & A. Nursery will be provided.

Wednesday Menu (11/30)
Pork Tenderloin with Gravy, Baked Sweet Potatoes, Cauliflower Au Gratin, Salad Bar, Bread, Dessert. Last Wednesday Night Dinner is Dec. 14 until the new year.

Lighting of the Tree
Friday, Dec. 2 at 6 pm in the Circle Parking Lot
Join us as we gather around the Christmas tree with family and friends, singing Christmas carols, and celebrating the joy of the season.

Gingerbread Bash in the Dining Hall
On **December 10th at 11:30am** we will build gingerbread nativities, play games, sing songs, hear the Christmas story from the Bible, eat lunch together, and discover that sometimes the best gift comes in the most ordinary box. It's a truly sweet way for your family to celebrate the birth of Jesus! All ages welcome. This is a fun and interactive experience designed for the whole family! Registration is required at wesleymemorial.org/gingerbread.



The Congregational Care Team would appreciate your help delivering poinsettias to REACH (Restricted or Reduced Mobility, Exceptional Circumstances, Advanced Aging, Convalescing, or Homebound) members of our congregation on Friday, December 2nd from 6:30 to 7:30 immediately following the tree lighting. Please drive through the porte cochere at the side entrance to the narthex where we will load your car. You may request the number of poinsettias you wish to deliver along with specific neighborhoods or specific recipients. Hope to see you!

Children's Nativity
Sunday, Dec. 11 at the 11 am Service
Children ages 4 through 5th grade can participate in this beautiful depiction of the birth of Christ. Roles are assigned according to age and grade. Participating children need to attend at least two music and worship sessions, either on Sunday morning or Wednesday night between November 6th and December 11th to be able participate. Rehearsal will be on Saturday, December 10th at 10am. For more details and to register, please visit wesleymemorial.org/nativity.

December 9th at 1:00 in the Dining Hall
Polar Express with Santa & Mrs. Claus
All Aboard the Polar Express! Delight in this Joyful experience as you pretend to travel on the Polar Express to the North Pole. Get a golden ticket as you climb aboard. But don't lose it. The Conductor will be along to punch it confirming your invitation. Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus while enjoying cocoa and cookies and have a photo made. You will get the first gift of Christmas!

Monday, Dec. 14, 2022 - 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Blood Drive in the Dining Hall.
The Red Cross is low on blood donations and they need for you to give the life-saving gift. Please mark your calendar to give at Wesley Memorial UMC.

Senior Adult Luncheon

Thursday, Dec. 15, 2022 at 12 p.m. - Dining Hall For Senior Adults ages 60+. This magical Christmas Luncheon is a gift to our Senior Adults. Come in your festive Christmas attire and enjoy. A very special program will follow our meal. Sponsored by the Senior Adult Council. Please RSVP to the church office at 336-884-2204.

December 16th at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary Wesley Memorial School Kindergarten Nativity Program

It has always been such a very special time to witness the birth of the Baby Jesus reenacted by children. Experience the joy of the season as the greatest story is retold through drama and song. The Inn Keeper points to, "A Stable Warm and Dry", welcoming Joseph and Mary. The star, animals, angels, and shepherds shout out in a joyful noise delighting in the birth of the baby. The kindergarten children will also share some fun Christmas secular songs and share a special surprise by playing the handbells. Join us afterwards for Christmas cookies and cider.

White Christmas will be celebrated on:

Sunday, December 18, 2022 at all three services

This year's White Christmas gift collection will go to West End Ministries and Leslie's House to provide essential clothing, food, and supplies to men and women using those facilities. Please consider the purchase of one or more items from the following list. Items should be wrapped in white paper and will be called forward to be deposited at the altar rail/platform during the services. Items specific to men should be marked for West End Ministries and those for women to Leslie's House. The requested items are: Coats or sweatshirts (L, XL, XXL), white socks, stocking caps, scarfs, gloves, flip flops, blankets, twin sheets, toiletries, and canned goods.

Thank you for your generosity!



Sunday, Dec. 18th, 2022

5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Drive-Thru at Wesley Memorial Church!

It will take lots of volunteers to make the December 18th Christmas Drive-Thru a success. The guiding narrative of the Drive-Thru is "What God Wants for Christmas". (The answer to "What God Wants" is YOU, and people will discover that answer at the final station.) Actors just act/pose. People will be listening to a recording in their cars, so actors don't have to say anything. The church will provide costumes as well. ANY AGE from 5-105 are WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE. Serve alongside your kids! It will be fun. From setup to acting as sheep. Give back this holiday season by committing to serve as a volunteer. Sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4daca92dabf8c43-sunday> For more information contact Pastor Clark at cchilton@wesleymemorial.org.

Surviving the Holidays

Wednesday, Dec. 21 - 2:00- 4:00 p.m. in D201

After separation or divorce, your Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays won't look the same as they used to. Traditions change. Some family members won't be there. Social gatherings can feel stressful. But DivorceCare Surviving the Holidays can help! This short event includes a video, sharing time, and a "Survival Guide" filled with tips and encouragement for managing the holidays after separation and divorce. We encourage you to register at divorcecare.org/holidays.

INTERESTED IN HELPING TO START A SINGLES MINISTRY FOR THE HIGH POINT COMMUNITY?

Did you know that nearly 50% of U.S. adults are single? That is 126.9 million unmarried Americans. Our congregation would like to create a singles group that would meet periodically for Christian friendship, fellowship and fun. **We will have an informational meeting on Monday, Nov. 28, 6:30 pm.** If interested in this ministry, please contact Pastor Jeff at jpatterson@wesleymemorial.org.

The Administrative Team invites the congregation to bless our staff with a financial gift at Christmas. To participate, please make a check out to WMUMC and mark "Staff Bonus" in the memo line. You may place your check in a Sunday offering plate, mail to the church, OR drop off at the Front Desk. You can also contribute online at wesleymemorial.org/gift and select "Staff Christmas Bonus" from the drop down options under "Fund." If you are unable to participate in a monetary gift, please consider a note of appreciation to let specific staff members know that they are truly appreciated and the impact they make. Thank you for helping us express gratitude to our wonderful staff. Please make your contribution on or before **Sunday, December 10**. If you have questions, please contact **Tom Smothers** at tdsmothers@me.com. You may also reach out to our 2020/21 Administrative Team which includes: Mary Sansing, Dan Smoak, Jim Holcomb, Henry McMullan, David Pruette, Harvey Lowd, Samantha Klemme, Don Shaw, Tom Smothers, Teresa Huffman, Iris Sunshine, Barbara Frye, Jerry Cornwell, Trip Dixon and David McCoy.

Fairview Backpacks

Wesley Memorial will feed 33 children from Fairview Elementary School for 6 days during the Christmas break. Currently, we need ALL food items for our food pantry and we would like to ask everyone in the congregation to bring single serving food items to place in backpacks for the students at Fairview for Christmas break. Ideas for items: individual juice boxes, individual milk boxes (non-perishable), individual cereal boxes/cups, pop tarts, granola bars, muffin packs, fruit packs/cans, individual containers of Chef Boyardee spaghetti, ravioli, beefaroni, small cans of pork and beans, mac and cheese cups, individual pudding cups, individual jello cups, cookies, chips, pretzels, rice krispy treats, goldfish.



Don't Forget Your Christmas Memorials for this year...

You may order wreaths and poinsettias in honor or memory of your loved one to decorate the church this

Christmas Season. Because we are bringing back our traditional Lovefeast Service on Christmas Eve, we will offer new this year, Moravian Buns to be used at the Lovefeast for you to purchase in memory or honor of your love ones in lots of \$25, \$50 or \$100. Place your order now by calling Sue Schoch at 336-812-4806. Deadline for ordering your memorial is Monday, Dec. 19. Your memorial will be listed in the December 25th bulletin.

Angel Trees

It's that time of year again! We will launch our Angel Tree Project on November 18. This program provides Christmas gifts for children who have an incarcerated parent. Each child will receive a clothing gift and a non-clothing gift. Angels will be on the Christmas trees in the Bridge Café, Sunday School area and the Narthex outside the sanctuary. Angels will provide the necessary information to purchase gifts. Wrap the two gifts in the same paper and stick the angel on the package. "A" for non-clothing and "B" for clothing. Please include the receipt for your items. Presents need to be turned into the church before December 4. You can place the gifts under the trees.



Looking Ahead...

- Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Services
 - 4 pm - Contemporary - Fellowship Hall (this service will be live-streamed)
 - 5 pm - Lovefeast - Sanctuary
 - 8 pm - Holy Communion Service - Sanctuary (this service will be live-streamed)
 - 11 pm - Holy Communion Service - Sanctuary
- Dec. 25 - Christmas Day
 - 10 am service only in the Sanctuary
- Jan. 1, 2023 - We will be back to the regular schedule for our worship services.