

WESLEY MEMORIAL

A METHODIST CONGREGATION



TRADITIONAL WORSHIP IN THE CHAPEL 8:30

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 **First Sunday of Advent** **Holy Communion**

December 1st, 2024

Chapel

8:30 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.

WELCOME

Rev. Jeff Patterson

† 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:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

† HYMN NO. 163

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

THE LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Dr. Mary Sansing
Dr. Les Hurrelbrink

SOLO

Mary, Did You Know?

Arranged by: Jack Schrader

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jeremiah 33:14-16 (Pg. 662)

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

SERMON

“Living the Promise”

Rev. Jeff Patterson

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 Bonnie Wallace in the death of her sister, Margaret Gould, on 11/24/2024.

RECENT

HOSPITALIZATION:
Kara Nifong

ON COMMUNION
SUNDAYS WE PROFESS
THE NICENE CREED, 325
AD, THAT PROFFESSES
THE FAITH OF THE
UNIVERSAL CHURCH.

† NICENE CREED

We face the cross and profess in unison

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in the one holy catholic* and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

* universal

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

† ADVENT DOXOLOGY

VENI EMMANUEL

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

GIVING

Offering plates will be passed down each row during the service. To give online use your camera on your phone to scan the QR code to the right or text the word DETAILS to 94000 to give online.



† THE PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and good to give him thanks and praise.

It is right and our joy to give thanks to you in all places and at all times, Almighty Father. You are the source of all truth, life, and love. You made us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When in our sinfulness we turned away from you and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore, we praise you with the angels, and archangels, and all the company of heaven, forever singing this hymn to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

All praise and glory is yours, O God our Father, for in your tender mercy you gave your only Son, Jesus Christ, to the world. Your Spirit anointed him to bring good news to the poor, to bind up the brokenhearted, to comfort those who mourn, to proclaim freedom for captives, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce the year of the Lord's favor. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace. On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me." Likewise, after supper, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the forgiveness of sins: Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me." Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Please be seated

We celebrate this memorial of our redemption, O Father, receiving these gifts of bread and wine with thanksgiving for the death and resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ. Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for us the body and blood of Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy sacrament and partake of his most blessed body and blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ and one as your church, that Christ may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ and gather us together with all your saints in the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face. We ask this through your Son, who with you and the Holy Spirit in your holy church be all honor and glory, now and forever, **Amen.**

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 who 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, forever. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs from under your table, but you are the same Lord whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us, Amen.

SHARING THE EUCHARIST

Please come to the serving table and receive the bread or gluten-free wafer. After receiving, you may kneel at the prayer rail. (If you are unable to come forward and would like to be served at your seat, please let an usher know.)

MUSIC DURING HOLY COMMUNION

HYMN No. 162 Choir and Congregation Singing in Unison
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel VENI EMMANUEL

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

† HYMN No. 167 Choir and Congregation Singing in Unison
Who Is This Whose Silent Advent BEACH SPRING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

† BENEDICTION

† CLOSING VOLUNTARY

† 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
Mr. Phillip Leach, Baritone Soloist
Ms. Charli Mills, Director of Traditional Music and Worship Arts
Mr. Lindsay Odom, Organist

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.

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

MONDAY, December 2 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 3 5:30 p.m.	Decorating of the Chrismon Trees	Sanctuary
WEDNESDAY, December 4 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. 6:15 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:45 p.m. 6:45 p.m.	John Willett's Men's Bible Study Revelation Bible Study with Pastor Jeff Prayer Shawl Ministry Wednesday Dinner (served until 6:30 p.m.) Vespers GriefShare Wesley Memorial Kids Games & Gospel (Ages 0-11) Student Ministry School Midweek Motivation Confirmation Informational Meeting W.O.W. (Women of Wesley) Bible Study Disciple II Men's Bible Study Revelation Bible Study with Pastor Jeff Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Dining Hall Dining Hall Conference Room 3 Dining Hall Chapel Adult Wing D203 Children's Ministry Wing Student Ministry Wing Student Ministry Wing Student Wing - C111 Circle View Room Conference Room 3 Media Center Choir Room
THURSDAY, December 5 7:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	AA Meeting ALAnon	Adult Wing D202 Adult Wing D201
FRIDAY, December 6 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	Christmas Tree Lighting Poinsettia Delivery for REACH Members	Front Circle Porte Cochere
SATURDAY, December 7 10:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Nativity Rehearsal Gingerbread Bash	Sanctuary Dining Hall
SUNDAY, December 8 7:30 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	ANGEL TREE GIFTS DUE 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 Nativity Sunday Student Ministry Young Adult Ministry Night	WGHP, FOX8 Chapel Adult D202 Children's Ministry Wing Adult Wing Fellowship Hall Dining Hall Sanctuary Off-site

To view the full church calendar visit our website, wesleymemorial.org/calendar
 Visit wesleymemorial.org/announcements for our announcement board

Dec. Food Collection: Fairview Backpack Program

Help Feed Children Over Christmas Break

In December, our monthly food collection will go to the Fairview Elementary School Backpack Ministry. This ministry helps ensure that 80 children have food during their Christmas break when school meals are unavailable. We encourage everyone to focus their efforts on supporting this important initiative.

We need your help! Please bring single-serving food items to place in backpacks for the students. Ideas include:

-Drinks: Juice boxes, non-perishable milk boxes
-Breakfast: Cereal boxes/cups, Pop-Tarts, granola bars, muffin packs

-Meals: Chef Boyardee cups, ravioli, beefaroni, pork and beans, mac and cheese cups

-Snacks: Fruit cups/cans, pudding cups, Jello cups, cookies, chips, pretzels, Rice Krispy Treats, Goldfish

Donations will be collected on **Sunday, December 1st** and **Sunday, December 8th**. You can also drop off items anytime before these dates in the designated bins located in the Administrative Area. Thank you for helping us share love and support with the children at Fairview Elementary this holiday season!

Poinsettia Delivery for REACH Members

Please help Congregational Care share Christmas love with our REACH members. We will be distributing poinsettias for delivery on Friday, December 6th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. after the tree lighting. 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. There are a few minor changes to delivery instructions in compliance with our Safe Church policies. These changes will be shared during pickup in the narthex. Share the joy of giving this Christmas season!



Don't Miss the Gingerbread Bash

Christmas time is right around the corner, and Gingerbread Bash is the perfect way to kick off the season! This fun and interactive experience is designed for the whole family. Join us to build a gingerbread nativity while celebrating the birth of Jesus. Enjoy hearing the Christmas story from the Bible, singing songs, playing games, and discovering the good news of Jesus.

The Gingerbread Bash will be held on Saturday, December 7th, at 11:30 a.m. in the Wesley Memorial Methodist Church Dining Hall. Lunch will be served, featuring grilled cheese and soup! You won't want to miss this sweet opportunity to celebrate with friends, neighbors, grandparents, and more! Register today at <https://wesley memorial.org/gingerbread>.

We want to Honor the birth of your Baby!

As we approach the celebration of the birth of our savior, we want to honor all the births within our congregation since November 2023. If you have received a new baby into your family (child or grandchild) since last November of 2023, please send your baby's full name, date of birth, parent/grandparent information, and a high-quality picture to Isabel Cruz at icruzvalencia@wesley memorial.org or by visiting wesley memorial.org/babyblessings by Monday, Dec. 2nd. We invite you to join our 9:45 or 11 o'clock service as we will invite your family to stand before the congregation and present your little one!

Wednesdays @ Wesley

On Wednesday evenings we serve a warm, home-cooked meal from 5:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in our Dining Hall. The menu for December 4th is ham with green bean casserole and sweet potatoes.

Lighting of the Christmas Tree

The lighting of the tree will be held on Friday, December 6th at 6 p.m. 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.

Children's Nativity

Sunday, December 8th, is almost here! Children ages 4 years old through 5th grade will share the most beautiful story ever told during the 11:00 a.m. traditional worship service in the Sanctuary. Kids will dress and prepare during the 9:45 Sunday School hour and will conclude the service by singing "Each Little Lamb." The final Nativity rehearsal will take place on Saturday, December 7th, at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Sign up at wesley memorial.org/nativity now to be part of this special tradition.



Angel Tree Gift Reminders

To all who claimed an angel from our Angel Trees, please be reminded that all gifts are due back by Sunday, December 8th.

SENIOR ADULT CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON!
An Invitation to Wesley Memorial Members ages 60+ years

"SILVER BELLS ARE RINGING"

DEC | 12 | 12 PM
CHURCH DINING HALL

This Christmas Luncheon is a gift to you! A Musical Program of Holiday Favorites will delight our guests - presented by a very special local musician, Rachelle Brand Denny. Rachelle is familiar to many from her years of service as a Principal for HP City Schools and at Wesleyan Christian Academy. She also served as Professor of Christian Elem Education for John Wesley College for 15 years. She is the widow of Rev. James. L. Denny.

Come in your festive Christmas attire to enjoy the food, fellowship and spirit of the season

MENU
Beef Tips and Noodles with Gravy | Garden Salad
Asparagus Seasoned with Onion and Bacon Bits
Rolls with Butter | Coffee, Tea, and Water
Old-Fashioned Christmas Sugar Cookies | Ice Cream

Sponsored by the Senior Adult Council
Kindly RSVP by Monday, December 9
with a call to the church office: 336-884-2204

WESLEY MEMORIAL'S ANNUAL
WHITE CHRISTMAS
GIFT COLLECTION

December 15th, 2024
Gifts will go to West End Ministries and Leslie's House

REQUESTED ITEMS:
COATS (L,XL,XXL), SWEATSHIRTS (L,XL,XXL), WHITE SOCKS, STOCKING CAPS, SCARFS, GLOVES, FLIP FLOPS, BLANKETS, TWIN SHEETS, TOILETRIES, CANNED GOODS

Volunteer at Christmas Drive-Thru Experience

The Christmas Drive Thru Experience on Dec. 15th from 5pm-6:30pm is an audio narrated journey through the Christmas story. Every year 150+ vehicles visit our campus to drive through the experience, and it takes 30+ volunteers to accomplish this powerful evangelistic outreach to our community. Help set up or tear down! Be an angel, Mary, or Joseph! In addition to live animals with the nativity, this year we will also be adding a "Christmas Village" in the front circle so guests can connect with our church afterwards. This is a great service opportunity for entire Sunday school classes, small groups, families, children and youth. To sign up for your spot, visit wesleymemorial.org/drive (click the big red button to sign up) or call 336-884-2204. Let's make this our best year yet!

Get Your Wesley 100 Chicken Pies for Christmas!

The Wesley 100 will be selling their delicious chicken pies just in time for Christmas on Sunday, December 15th. Pies will be available for purchase in the Dining Hall from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. and in the Asbury Room following the 11:00 a.m. service. Each pie costs \$15. Pre-orders are encouraged and can be placed by emailing Edwin Bass at edwinbass@triad.rr.com or by contacting the church office. Don't miss this chance to enjoy a holiday favorite while supporting a great cause!

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@wesleymemorial.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 will be a wonderful opportunity for senior adults to enjoy the beauty of the season and the wonders of the winter sky!