



ORDER OF WORSHIP  
**First Sunday in Advent**

Shelby Presbyterian Church  
November 27, 2022  
10:00 a.m.

\*Please rise as you are able.

PRELUDE: *"Sleepers, Wake! A Voice Astounds Us"* (Martin) Emily Monroe

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Carol Ann Hoard,  
Minister of Christian Education & Families

\*HYMN OF PRAISE #97: *"Watchman Tell Us of the Night"*

LIGHTING THE FIRST CANDLE OF ADVENT: HOPE

The Warrick Family: Trey, Tara, Foster, Paxton & Kesson

Watch and wait for Christ's coming! Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

**We light this candle in HOPE.** (pause)

Hear God's promise of hope from Isaiah 2:3-4:

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 plowshares,  
and their spears into pruning hooks;

**nation shall not lift up sword against nation,  
neither shall they learn war any more.**

PRAYER

\*RESPONSE #89: *"For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits"*

(Foster will sing the 1<sup>st</sup> verse, Congregation will join in singing the Refrain at the end)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Carolyn Jackson

Surely God is our salvation. Have faith, and do not be afraid. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION: **God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgement. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.** *(silent confession)*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Carolyn Jackson

Sisters and brothers, believe the good news!

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

\*GLORIA PATRI (sung): ***Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.***

\*THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Carolyn Jackson

The Peace of the Lord be with you! **And also, with you!**

MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Carolyn Jackson

Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 2:1-5

ANTHEM: *"Lord, Before This Fleeting Season"* (Larsen)

Chancel Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE: Matthew 24:36-44

Carol Ann Hoard

SERMON: "Are We Ready?"

\*HYMN #88: *"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"*

verses 1,5,6,7

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Nicene Creed): **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 on 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 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

CALL TO PRESENT TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory: *"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"* (Martin)

\*DOXOLOGY (sung): ***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. Amen.***

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*CLOSING HYMN #82: *"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"*

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

\*POSTLUDE: "Savior of the Nations Come" (Bach) Emily Monroe

Music Licenses: 1575277 (CCLI)/ A-739540 (One License)

**Sound Board:** John Brotherton

**Ushers:** Claire McCullough, Jennifer Niblack, Tabatha Coker, Debbie Hart

**CHILDCARE** is available for infants through preschool in Room 102.

\*In order to protect your children, please be sure they are accompanied at all times by a parent or responsible adult caregiver.\*

**WE WELCOME** all who worship with us this morning. Please take a moment to fill out the friendship pad in the pews. If you are interested in more information or in becoming a member of our family of faith, please call the church office, 704-487-8503. If you have questions about our hearing loop system, please call the church office Monday-Thursday, 9:00-4:00, Friday 9:00-12:00. **After the service, all first-time visitors are invited to the back of the church where a church member will welcome you with a special gift.**

**THE FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Betsy Martin on her birthday November 25<sup>th</sup>, by Tom and Mimi Martin and Alex, Stephanie, and Brent Martin.

**THE ADVENT WREATH** is placed in the sanctuary to the glory of God and in memory of Ferry E. "Ace" Richards by family and friends.

**THIS FALL**, the preschool and elementary children of Shelby Presbyterian who participate on Wednesday evenings worked together to color four collaborative Advent posters from Illustrated Ministries. There is one for each Sunday in Advent displaying the words Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. Each poster will be displayed throughout the season. We are thankful for these beautiful works of art from our children!

**SPC IS HIRING** – Choir Director. With the retirement of our beloved Amy Allen at the end of the year, your church needs a new choir director.

Nursery Coordinator. Our beloved Tricia Butler is retiring at the end of the year as well. Your church needs a new coordinator and assistant.

If you, or someone you know, might be interested in joining SPC's staff, please have them call the office or email [miranda@shelbypres.org](mailto:miranda@shelbypres.org).

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD:** Because of your generosity, 37 filled shoeboxes were delivered to the Charlotte processing center for Operation Christmas Child. Thank you to all who participated in this ministry. – *Mission and Ministry Committee*

**UNLEASH YOUR CHRISTMAS BEAST:** The Friendly Beasts need a few more beasts! Please contact Laura Wheeler ([lauraew66@gmail.com](mailto:lauraew66@gmail.com) or text 704-438-0513) by **December 3<sup>rd</sup>** to be a part of this SPC tradition! If you haven't seen the Friendly Beasts, you can watch the 2017 show at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q9ft6Hk6yFc>.

**THIS WEEK (NOVEMBER 27 – DECEMBER 3, 2022):**

Today	3:00 pm	<b>Advent Around the World</b> in Ellis Hall
Monday	9:30 am	<b>Soup Kitchen</b> in Ellis Hall
	6:00 pm	<b>Handbell Rehearsal</b> in Bell Room
	7:00 pm	<b>Boy Scouts</b> in Scout House
	8:00 pm	<b>AA</b> in Ellis Hall
Tuesday	10:30 am	<b>Staff Meeting</b> in Pastor's Office
	6:30 pm	<b>Media</b> in Back Parlor
Wednesday	5:30 pm	<b>Growing in Grace</b> – Kids Mission & Music
	6:00 pm	<b>Hanging of the Greens</b> in Ellis Hall
	6:30 pm	<b>"City of Hope" Rehearsal</b> at CUMC
Thursday	7:30 am	<b>Men's Breakfast</b> at Ken and Mary's
	8:00 pm	<b>AA &amp; AI – Anon</b> in Ellis Hall & Back Parlor

**ADVENT AROUND THE WORLD TODAY** from 3:00 to 5:00 in Ellis Hall, featuring crafts and food to learn about Christmas around the world. This is an opportunity for all of us – young and old, families and individuals – to discover new ways to prepare for Jesus's coming and create things to share with others.

**HANGING OF THE GREENS** this Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 in Ellis Hall. At 6:30 we will have a special worship service after which we will decorate the outside tree! Ornaments will be available for the outdoor tree or you can bring one.

**THE CLEVELAND COUNTY CHORAL SOCIETY** will be performing a new Cantata "Tidings of Joy" on Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm and Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm at Central United Methodist Church. For tickets (\$5.00 each) see Sue Breen, Choral Society member.

**OUR TURNING POINT PARTNERSHIP TEAM** is planning for the Christmas season. Here's how you can help!

- Christmas Staff Party - we will be providing food/snacks for teachers and staff on December 21<sup>st</sup>.
- Adopt a Student - if your family, Sunday School class, workplace, organization, etc. is interested in "adopting" a student for Christmas, please consider choosing a student from Turning Point!
- Gift Card Offering - On Epiphany Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, we will have a Gift Card Offering for Turning Point students. These will be used for motivational events for the students, for good attendance and good work. Please bring \$10 gift cards to place in the offering plates. Some suggested locations for gift card purchasing are Chic-fil-A, Cook Out, Dominos, WalMart, and Sonic.

Contact Molly Brownlee (704-477-8947 or [brownleemolly@gmail.com](mailto:brownleemolly@gmail.com)) for more information

**PLEDGE UPDATE:** As of Wednesday, , 101 families pledged \$493,516.00. Thanks to all who have turned in your pledge. If you have not completed your pledge, please place it in the offering plate or turn it in to Miranda in the office so the Finance Committee can prepare a budget for next year. All pledges are held in confidence by Miranda. Last year 114 families pledged \$497,432.00. Thank you. Stewardship Task Force

**STEWARDSHIP SEASON:** Your pledge to pray for, serve in and give to your church will help us live into God's will in this exciting time.

**REMEMBER IN PRAYER** (also see ongoing prayer list in newsletter) . . .

Amy Brown, Janet Carpenter, Myra Carpenter, Karen Carpenter, Melissa DeVane, Debbie Ferrell, Ina Harrington, David Kelley, David LeGrand, Cheryl Lutz, Ryder Moore, Pauline Persing, Clay Pruett, Cheryl Sisk, Rick Steeves, Barbara Weller, Teresa Wingo, and the homeless of Cleveland and Gaston counties; all those battling COVID and the flu; the victims of Ukrainian conflict; victims of natural disasters and war; all those serving in the military and their families; Food Ministry; Turning Point Academy, Rainbow Connection, the students at Gardner Webb University and all our schools, colleges and universities; our brothers & sisters of Monte los Olivos; Tenwek Hospital; John McCall in Taiwan; Christians around the globe who are persecuted for their faith.