



ORDER OF WORSHIP  
**Third Sunday in Advent**

Shelby Presbyterian Church  
December 11, 2022  
10:00 a.m.

\*Please rise as you are able.

PRELUDE: *"O Come, Little Children"* with *"Rocking Carol"* (Hayes)

Sherry Thomas

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Drew Mangione, Pastor

LIGHTING THE FIRST CANDLE OF ADVENT: LOVE

Mabel Lacey, Chuck and Laura Lampley, and Barbara Dixon

Watch and wait for Christ's coming!

Light candles of hope, peace, love, and joy

remembering the promises of God with prayer.

We light this candle in HOPE. (pause)

We light this candle for PEACE. (pause)

**We light this candle with LOVE.** (pause)

Rejoice! For our Lord is coming into the darkness of oppression's exile  
to lead us home, as we hear in Isaiah 35:

Wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, and the desert shall rejoice.

**It will blossom like the crocus and burst into bloom and rejoice,  
Even with gladness and singing.**

The glory of Lebanon will be given, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon.

**They shall see the glory of the Lord, the splendor of our God.**

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear!

**Behold, your God in vengeance will come to deal what is deserved –  
God will come to save you."**

Then the eyes of those who are blind will be opened, and the ears of  
those who are deaf will be unstopped.

**Those who cannot walk will leap like a deer, and the tongue of the  
silent will sing with joy! The waters shall burst forth!**

PRAYER

\*RESPONSE #89: *“For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits”* Will Hoard  
(Will Hoard will sing 3rd verse of *“For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits”*  
with congregation joining on the beginning and ending Refrain)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Ben Brooks

Let the wilderness rejoice, and let the dry land be glad, for God has come  
to save us. Let us open our hearts and confess our sin.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION: **Lord Jesus, you are our anointed King,  
but too often we pay our allegiance to things of this world and give you  
only lip service. Our actions do not reveal your wisdom. Forgive us,  
Lord. Help us to see you at work in our walk with you and guide our  
actions to reveal your kingdom. Amen.** (*silent confession*)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

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

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Ben Brooks

Lord God, in this dry and dusty place, pour out the power of your Spirit  
so that your Word may blossom in our lives. We ask this through Jesus  
Christ, our way in the wilderness. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE: Psalm 146:5-10

SPECIAL MUSIC:

***“A Global Christmas”*** (DeLong) Children’s Choir  
***“Let Us Welcome One Another”*** (Russell)  
***“Gloria”*** (Charles)  
***“Ring, O Ring the Bells”*** (Russell)  
***“Alleluia, Emmanuel”*** (LeDoux)  
***“Noel, Sing Noel!”*** (Williams)  
***“God Loves the World”*** (Dickerson)

SECOND SCRIPTURE: Matthew 11:1-19

Drew Mangione

SERMON:

*“Seeing is Believing”*

\*HYMN #129: *“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”*

\*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: *“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”* (Wolz)

\*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 #105: "People, Look East" verses 1, 2, 5

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

\*POSTLUDE: "Noel" (Daquin) Emily Monroe

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

**Ushers:** Jennifer Niblack, Mary Ann LaSelva, Caja Ormand,  
Elizabeth Schweppe

**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.**

**THANK YOU** to our wonderful Wednesday night leaders: Emily Monroe, Carol Ann Hoard, Mallory Brown, Margie Trivett, and Tabatha Coker for working with our children and youth every week.

**THANK YOU** to our narrators: River Harrill, Madison Ormand, Benjamin Pruitt, Foster Warrick, Sawyer Harrill, Lily McCullough, Savannah Raudez, and Paxton Warrick.

**THANK YOU** to our gifted children's choir members: Steele Bryant, Seren Bryant, Elizabeth Couch, Victoria Couch, Lena Kate Dow, Lindsey Glenn, William Glenn, Sawyer Harrill, Harrison Mangione, Josephine Mangione, Lily McCullough, Anna Grace McCullough, Grace Melton, Millie Melton, Annie Moser, Avery Moser, Tristan Ormand, Thomas Pruitt, Savannah Raudez, Ruby Raudez, Corban Stern, Oliver Stern, Paxton Warrick, and Kesson Warrick.

**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, Love, and Joy. Each poster will be displayed throughout the season. We are thankful for these beautiful works of art from our children!

**2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are now available for you to pick up in the hallway behind the sanctuary (across from the conference room). Be sure to get your box - they will be arranged in alphabetical order. If you use offering envelopes and cannot find your box, please let the church office know.

**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).

**SOUP LUNCH** is serving approximately 30 guests each week with food distribution serving perhaps more. Your help is needed to continue this important mission service to the community!

Please consider joining us any Monday from 9:00 to 12:30 to open cans, cook, serve (either with food distribution or on the serving line) and of course washing pots, pans, and trays. You do not have to commit to come weekly or for the entire time. Please give what you are able.

We also request that you not bring household items and clothing for distribution at this time, as we are not set up for this or storing any items leftover. We can however offer winter items such as winter coats, gloves, scarves, and hats (please no socks).

Thank you, Mission and Ministry Committee

**HAPPY RETIREMENT AMY & TRICIA** Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> after the worship service in Ellis Hall. There will be light refreshments along with an opportunity for the congregation to bring cards and give each of them a love gift. A basket will be available for cards and gifts at the reception. Any monetary gifts to these individuals must be in cash or a check made out to the person to whom you wish the gift to go. **DO NOT MAKE THE CHECK OUT TO THE CHURCH.** If no name is on an envelope, the money will be divided evenly between the two retirees.

**THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING** will be next Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. This offering supports both the Board of Pensions assistance program and several Presbyterian schools and colleges, which serve under-represented students to cultivate their gifts.

**OUR NEXT BLOOD DRIVE** will be Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 - 5:30 p.m. in Ellis Hall. If you would like to make an appointment to donate blood or would like to help with check-in, hospitality, or in some other way, please call Elizabeth Schweppe, 704-477-5686, or use one of the following links:

To make an appointment: [www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive](http://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive)

To sign up to volunteer: <https://bit.ly/SPCblood22>

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

- **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!
- **Turning Point Staff Christmas Party** - we will be providing food/snacks for teachers and staff on December 21<sup>st</sup>.
- **Gift Card Offering** - On Epiphany Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>, we will collect 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 gift cards in the amount of \$10 only, to place in the offering plates. Some suggested gift cards include Chic-fil-A, Cook Out, Dominos, Wal-Mart, and Sonic. Contact Molly Brownlee (704-477-8947 or [brownleemolly@gmail.com](mailto:brownleemolly@gmail.com)) for more information

**THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE:** While the holidays are filled with much joy and delight, there is often an unacknowledged side of it that is difficult and sad for many. Some may be grieving or experiencing grief all over again as the holidays bring a reminder of loved ones no longer here. Some are overwhelmed by the stresses of life while being expected to have it all together. With much emphasis on family and being together, many find themselves alone and experiencing deep loneliness. Other kinds of losses leave one feeling frustrated and maybe desperate. The widespread expectation that all should be happy and joyful may leave some feeling left out and inadequate.

The **Longest Night Service**, on **Wednesday evening, December 21, 2022, at 7:00 pm** will be an opportunity to acknowledge these experiences and feelings with others who are going through similar emotions and circumstances. In prayer and reflection, with music and Scripture, participants will find a relaxed, friendly environment in Ellis Hall to pause and take a break; to ask God's help and presence in coping with these often unanticipated and unintended results of the holiday season.

Coffee and hot chocolate (and water) will be served at 6:45 p.m. The Service will start around 7:15 and should conclude around 8:00 p.m. All are invited to participate. Invite others you may know who might find this service helpful to them.

**THE CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE** is Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Join us to celebrate the birth of Jesus with worship and The Friendly Beasts.

**CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES** on Sunday, December 25, will be at 10 am as usual. Please do not feel pressure to dress up, though you may if you like. We know many of you may be putting a pause on Christmas morning fun and then returning to it. So come as you are – just as the shepherds did. Remember, the wise men had more time to get ready with gifts.

**HOLIDAY HOURS:** Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup> the Church Office will be closed. Office Hours for Wednesday, December 28<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, December 29<sup>th</sup> are 9:00 am to 3:00 pm and Friday, December 30<sup>th</sup> 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

**THIS WEEK (DECEMBER 11 - 17, 2022):**

Today	5:00 pm	<b>Youth Christmas Party</b> in Youth Room
Monday		<b><i>JANUARY NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE</i></b>
	9:30 am	<b>Soup Kitchen</b> in Ellis Hall
	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
	11:30 am	<b>Rainbow Christmas Program</b> in Sanctuary
	5:15 pm	<b>Personnel</b> in Back Parlor
	6:00 pm	<b>Fellowship</b> in Conference Room
	6:30 pm	<b>Joint Session &amp; Diaconate</b> in Ellis Hall
Wednesday	11:30 am	<b>Rainbow Christmas Program</b> in Sanctuary
	6:00 pm	<b>Christmas Caroling</b> meet in Ellis Hall
	7:00 pm	<b>Chancel Choir Rehearsal</b> in Choir Room
Thursday	8:00 pm	<b>AA &amp; AI – Anon</b> in Ellis Hall & Back Parlor

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

Amy Brown, Ann Brown, 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.



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

**THE CHRISTMAS TREE** in the narthex is given to the glory of God by Robert and Cathy Burns in memory of their granddaughter Harper Banks Burns and in honor of their grandchildren Riley, Carter, and Tyler Burns.



**THE CHRISTMAS TREE** in Ellis Hall is given to the glory of God by Joyce Boyette in memory of Doug Boyette.

**THE CHRISTMAS TREE** on the lawn is given to the glory of God by Mary and Holly Conner in memory of A. M. "Sandy" McGeachy and in honor of Camille McGeachy.



**THE SANCTUARY WINDOW WREATHS** are given to the glory of God and to the beautification of His Church by Debbie and Brent Ferrell, Ellen and Richard Fletcher, Peggy and Ali Paksoy, Stuart and John Schwappe, Martha and Bee Strain.

**THE LARGE SANCTUARY WREATH** is given to the glory of God by Richard and Jan Dedmon in in honor of the wonderful and dedicated SPC Church Staff.

**THE OUTSIDE DOOR WREATHS** are given to the glory of God by:

Gilbert and Nancy Bowman in memory of Wes Bowman.

Carolyn Brooks in memory of Bill Brooks.

Carolyn Brooks in memory of Bill Brooks.

Bert and Joy Cushman in memory of Ed Cushman.

Drew and Claire Mangione in honor of all the children and youth of SPC.

Tom and Mimi Martin, Alex, Stephanie, and Brent Martin in memory of Betsy Martin.

Tom and Mimi Martin in memory of T. W. "Casey" and Elene Conner Martin.

Tom and Mimi Martin in memory of George Alexander and Betty Stackhouse Stanley.

Tom and Mimi Martin in honor of Alex, Stephanie and Brent Martin.

Mary Walker in honor of Richard Morgan Bowles.

Rachel Pharr White in memory of Pat and Joe Pharr, Joe B. and Paula Pharr.

Rachel Pharr White in memory of Rachel A. and C. Howard White Sr., and Howard White Jr.

**THE POINSETTIAS** are given to the glory of God by:

John and Margie Auten in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Claude D. English.

John and Margie Auten in memory of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Auten, Sr.

John and Margie Auten in memory of Mr. Richard English.

John and Margie Auten memory of Mr. Robert V. Auten.

John and Margie Auten in memory of Mr. C. D. English, Jr.

John and Margie Auten in memory of Mrs. Anne B. Goss

John and Margie Auten in honor of Mr. and Mrs. John A. Auten, III, Alex, Tomas, and Natalie.

John and Margie Auten in honor of Mr. and Mrs. R. Nathaniel Auten, and Saylor Brynn.

John and Margie Auten in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Mayes.



John and Margie Auten in honor of Mr. Mike Goss.

John and Margie Auten in honor of Major and Mrs. Troy D. Goss, Troy Jr., Ty and Tinley.

John and Margie Auten in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew (Elizabeth) Phelps.

The SPC Bell Choir in honor of Emily Monroe.

Don and Kathryn Bridges in memory of Lillian Bridges and Clara Sue Bridges.

Don and Kathryn Bridges in memory of Carolyn Lutz.

Don and Kathryn Bridges in honor of their children and grandchildren, Jonathan and Farrah Bridges, Kate and Ashley Willis Bridges, Forrest Bridges, Layla and James Bridges.

Jonathan, Farah, Layla and James Bridges in memory of Doris Shaw Bridges, Clay Shaw and Anna Shaw.

Jonathan, Kate and Forrest Bridges in honor of Dick and Betty Bowling, and in memory of Walter Bridges and Lillian Bridges.

Allen and Jo Ann Callahan in memory of Ace Richards.

Allen and Jo Ann Callahan in memory of Scott Richards.

Rich Coiner in memory of Susan Coiner.

Rich Coiner in memory of Seth Donaldson.

Barbara Dixon and Family in memory of Sid Dixon.

Scot and Myra Dixon in honor of Kate and Will Wolking.

Scot and Myra Dixon in honor of Cam and Kenan Dixon.

Richard and Ellen Fletcher in memory of Helen and Tatum Fletcher.

Richard and Ellen Fletcher in memory of Florrie and Walter Lewis.

Richard and Ellen Fletcher in honor of Shields, Ellie, Kate, Daniel and Hampton.

D, Amy, Emma and Trey Goforth in memory of Wes Bowman.

Emma and Trey Goforth in honor of Gilbert and Nancy Bowman.

Emma and Trey Goforth in honor of Dennis and Peggy Goforth.

Ray and Darlene Gravett in memory of Jessi Ogburn.

Ray and Darlene Gravett in memory of Morris Lacey.

The Greer Family in memory of Mr. & Mrs. R. E. Steadman, Mr. & Mrs. Tom Greer, and Larry Greer.

Roger and Robin Holland in memory of Lawrence Barry, "Pig" & Mildred Holland.

Roger and Robin Holland in honor of Kate and Ashley Willis Bridges.

Roger and Robin Holland in honor of Susan Barry and Loreen Barry.

Roger and Robin Holland in honor of Grace and Millie Melton.

Libby Jackson in memory of Watt Jackson.

Mike and Marie Jackson in memory of Steve Jackson.

Mike and Marie Jackson in memory of Gary Borders.

Charles and Anne Langley in memory of Charlie and Eva Langley, and Richard and Margaret Smevog.

Charles and Anne Langley in honor of Thomas, Catherine, Elizabeth, and Victoria Couch, and Jeff and Anna Yerger.

The David LeGrand Family in memory of Bill and Carolyn LeGrand.

The David LeGrand Family in memory of Ned and Jo Freeman

The David and Ted LeGrand in honor of Lisa Freeman LeGrand.

Marlene Lovelace in memory of Hoyt Lovelace.

Drew, Claire, Harrison, and Josephine Mangione in memory of SPC's friends and family who have died this year.

Drew, Claire, Harrison and Josephine Mangione in honor of John and Dianne Sproul.

Drew, Claire, Harrison, and Josephine Mangione in memory of Frank and Dorothy Mangione.

Thomas and Emily Monroe in memory of Rip and Lillian Collins.

Thomas and Emily Monroe in memory of Ellis Monroe.

Thomas and Emily Monroe in honor of Billy and Carolyn Cooper.

Bruce, Michelle, Annie, and Avery Moser in memory of Bob and Margaret McMurry.

Bruce, Michelle, Annie, and Avery Moser in memory of Ted and Evelyn Huntley.

Joe Ogburn in memory of Jessi Ogburn.

Joe Ogburn in honor of Carolyn Ogburn.

Joe Ogburn in honor of Katherine Ogburn.

Joe Ogburn in honor of John Ogburn.

Dot Roark and Family in memory of Les Roark.

Ben, Margaret, and Charlie Schweppe in honor of James and Margaret Herring.

Daniel, Anna, Ben, Margaret, and Charlie Schweppe in honor of John and Stuart Schweppe.

Daniel and Anna Schweppe in honor of Susan Bell.

John and Stuart Schweppe in memory of Frances and Perry Macomson.

John and Stuart Schweppe in memory of Ruth, Jack, and David Schweppe.

John and Stuart Schweppe in memory of Anne Gilbert Potts.

John and Stuart Schweppe in memory of Carolyn and Bill LeGrand.

John and Stuart Schweppe in memory of Martha Rankin Schweppe.

Steve and Cheryl Sisk in honor of SPC Youth.

The Strain Family in memory of Sam and Sarah Strain.

The Strain Family in memory of Mike Strain.

Grace Teddy and Family in memory of Jim Teddy Sr.

Grace Teddy and Family in memory of Jim Teddy Jr.

Scott and Sherry Thomas in memory of Claude and Pearl Lieurance and Bob and Jessie Thomas.

Scott and Sherry Thomas in honor of Amy Allen.

**We thank all those who placed poinsettias in the church.  
You may pick them up following the Christmas Eve Service.**