



ORDER OF WORSHIP  
**First Sunday in Advent**

Shelby Presbyterian Church  
December 3, 2023  
10:00 a.m.

\*Please rise as you are able.

PRELUDE: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (arr. M. Ryan) Emily Monroe

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Drew Mangione

LIGHTING THE FIRST CANDLE OF ADVENT: HOPE

Ben Brooks and Topher, Carol, Lena Kate, and Vivi Dow  
From generation to generation, the Lord has come down to humanity.  
**Come young and old, and in between, to worship in God's presence.**  
Listen generations, let us come together as disciples to praise the Lord.  
**We call out his name, Emmanuel, God is with us, who is hope for all.**  
Into a hopeless world, Emmanuel is born, God with us, hope for all.  
**Hope does not disappoint us, because the Lord's love is poured into  
our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.**  
Today we light the candle of hope, we find hope in God's presence.

PRAYER

\*RESPONSE #92 "While We Are Waiting, Come" verse 1  
The choir will sing first, then the congregation will join to repeat

CALL TO CONFESSION Tara Warrick

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION: **Emmanuel, you are God-with-us, and  
in every generation, we have known your faithfulness. In the chaos of  
life, we lose sight of you. We lose hope. We sin and destroy your order.  
We fail to love you. We fail to love our neighbors. Yet, you are faithful  
and call us back by your love. Forgive us, Lord, for we have sinned.  
Restore us in your presence. 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!**

GROWING IN GRACE Preschool & Elementary Choirs Ringing & Singing

*"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"* (Traditional)

*"Go, Tell It On the Mountain"* (Traditional)

*"Asleep on the Hay"* (Murray/Eernisse)

*"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"* (arr. A. Danyew)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Tara Warrick

FIRST SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 64:1-9

ANTHEM: *"Lord, Before This Fleeting Season"* (Larsen) Chancel Choir  
*Lord, before this fleeting season is upon us, let me remember to walk slowly. Lord, bless my heart with love and with quiet. Give my heart a leaning to hear carols. Grace our family with contentment, and the peace that comes only from You. Lord, help us to do less this busy season; go less; stay closer to home; kneel more. May our hearts be Your heart. May we simply, peacefully, celebrate You.*

SECOND SCRIPTURE: Mark 13:24-37

Drew Mangione

SERMON: "Through Chaos"

\*HYMN #88: *"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"* verses 1,2,3

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (A Brief Statement of Faith): **In life and death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

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: *"Creator of the Stars of Night"*(arr. K. Hildebrand) Emily Monroe

\*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

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION: *"O Come, Let Us Adore Him!"* (Moser)

\*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

Annie Moser

\*POSTLUDE: *"Lift Up Your Heads"* (arr. J. Burson)

Emily Monroe

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

**Sound Board:** John Brotherton & Joe Petrilli

**Ushers:** Thomas Monroe, Holly Petrilli, Kyle Aldinger, Mary Ann LaSelva

**Scriptures read in service** are original translations, unless otherwise noted.

Feel free to read a familiar translation and listen for different word choices.

**CHILDCARE** is available for infants through preschool in Room 102, staffed by

Lindsay Carter, Lilly Hamilton, and Holly Conner

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

**FIVE CENTS-A-MEAL** baskets are located in the narthex and by the courtyard-side hallway door in the sanctuary. Please place your offerings in one of these baskets before or after the service today.

**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 **TODAY** 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>.

**COMMUNITY OF LOVE** Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm at the Bobby Bell Pavilion. This is a free event for our homeless neighbors, with a warm meal, music, games, etc. Donations of new toys, non-perishable food, gift cards, new clothes and shoes are being collected in the church office. If you would like to volunteer, contact Phyllis Williams with Restored of Carolinas (704-981-1494 or [restoredofthecarolinas@gmail.com](mailto:restoredofthecarolinas@gmail.com))

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER AND CAROLING** Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Join us for pizza, salad, and ice cream sandwiches. After dinner we will load up the trailers and go caroling. Donations will go to the SPC Emergency Assistance Fund.

**"LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS"** is a Christmas cantata written by Rutherford County native Joseph Martin which will be presented on Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm at Central United Methodist Church. The choir is made up of members from Shelby Presbyterian, Central and Aldersgate United Methodist Churches, and First Baptist Church. All are invited to attend this gift of music for the community to celebrate the season!

**TURNING POINT ACADEMY ANGEL TREE:** Many thanks to everyone who has chosen an ornament from the Angel Tree this year! Please remember all items - unwrapped and marked with your student's ornament/number - are due back to the church office by **December 10th**. Thank you!

**CALLING ALL BAKERS AND HOLIDAY TREAT MAKERS!** It's not too late to bake up something tasty to donate to our Christmas Cookie Exchange for Turning Point teachers and staff! Bring **FOUR** dozen of your favorite holiday goodies to the church kitchen **TODAY** (Dec 3) by 5 pm. Any questions - call or text Molly Brownlee (704-477-8947)

**ADVENT VIDEO REFLECTIONS:** Videos will be posted Monday through Friday at 12:15 pm December 4<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> on Facebook and YouTube. Each video reflection is about 10 to 15 minutes long and includes a poem, scripture, art, and prayer, for you to encounter the season in a new way. A limited number of physical copies will be available in the narthex.

**THIS WEEK (December 3 - 9, 2023):**

Today	11:15 am	<b>Handbells</b> in Bell Room
	3:30 pm	<b>Catechism &amp; Confirmation</b> F3 & Upper Room
	5:00 pm	<b>Youth Night</b> in Youth Room
Monday	9:30 am	<b>Food Ministry</b> in Ellis Hall
	6:00 pm	<b>Discipleship Ministry</b> in Back Parlor
	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 Ellis Hall
	2:00 pm	<b>Clerk's Council</b> in Pastor's Study
	7:00 pm	<b>Worship &amp; Music</b> in Back Parlor
Wednesday	11:00 am	<b>Member Life</b> in Back Parlor
	5:00 pm	<b>Property Committee</b> in Back Parlor
	5:15 pm	<b>Handbells Rehearsal</b> in Sanctuary
	6:00 pm	<b>Wednesday Night Supper &amp; Caroling</b>
	6:00 pm	<b>Community Cantata Rehearsal</b> at CUMC
Thursday	7:30 am	<b>Men's Breakfast</b> at Ken and Mary's
	12:00 pm	<b>Finance</b> in Back Parlor
	8:00 pm	<b>AA &amp; AI – Anon</b> in Ellis Hall & Back Parlor
Saturday	3:00 pm	<b>Community of Love</b> at Bobby Bell Pavilion

**KEYBOARDS AT CHRISTMAS** will be held on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 and 6:00 at First Baptist Church, Kings Mountain. This performance includes five grand pianos played by Traci Aderholdt, Heather and Jonathan Bundon, Bethany Keller, Mike Sisk, and SPC's Sherry Thomas.

**THE LIGHTBALL DASH** to benefit Feeding Kids Cleveland County will be held Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm gathering at the former Marion School parking lot. The 1-mile walk/run will begin at 6 pm and conclude with a party on Peach Street. SPC is a sponsor of this event.

**COMMUNITY REFRIGERATOR:** If you would be willing to wipe down and restock (suggested items: 1/2 gallon of milk, 1/2 dozen eggs, individual yogurts, tuna packets, apples, clementines, veggies, string cheese, bottles of water, bread, nuts, etc.) our Community Fridge in the weeks to come please sign up for a date: <https://bit.ly/fridgesteward>  
Contact Anna with questions: [annaschweppe29@gmail.com](mailto:annaschweppe29@gmail.com)

**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. As of Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, 97 families have pledged \$492,750.00. Thank you. If you have not submitted your pledge, please place it in the offering plate or turn it in to Miranda who holds them in confidence and provides aggregate totals to help prepare next year's budget. Last year 112 families pledged \$527,016.00. Thank you. – Stewardship Task Force

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

Our prayers and sympathies go out to the family of Lucy Bolick, she passed away Sunday, October 29, 2023. Lucy had been a member of SPC for 35 years.

Our prayers and sympathies go out to Marie Jackson and family in the passing of her grandmother Thelma Hughes, November 9, 2023.

Our prayers and sympathies go out to Rich Kelly and family in the passing of his mother, Annelle Kelly on November 21, 2023. Annelle had been a member of SPC for 52 years.

Our prayers and sympathies go out to Jane Szymborski and family in the passing of her husband Paul, November 28, 2023.

John Auten, JoAnn and George Beattie, Pam Birmingham, Debra Blanton, Dick Bowling, J.W. & Pat Brotherton, Karen Carpenter, Myra Carpenter, Chris Denning, Debbie Ferrell, Susan Grose, Ina Harrington, August Hohne, Cheryl Lutz, Brooke McCurry, Marie Patterson, Pauline Persing, the family of Finley Price, Ellen Poston, Clay Pruett, Larry Stern, Linda Ware, Doreen Wacaster, Jackie Weathers, Stephanie Williams, Teresa Wingo, and the local homeless; all with respiratory illnesses; the victims of natural disaster and war, including in Ukraine, Israel-Gaza, and Guatemala; all in military service and their families; Food Ministry; Turning Point Academy, Rainbow Connection, our brothers & sisters of Monte los Olivos; Tenwek Hospital; John McCall in Taiwan; Christians around the globe who are persecuted for their faith.