

ORDER OF WORSHIP
MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 13, 2020 11:00 a.m.

Morning Worship Broadcast over WGOS-AM 1070 and on Facebook Live

GATHERING AND GREETING

Prelude Hark! The Herald Angels Sing MENDELSSOHN
The First Noel NOEL
Joy to the World ANTIOCH

Chiming of the Trinity

Welcome and Parish Notes Reverend Rodney Denton

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle The Moores – Benjamin, Heather,
Anabelle, Alison, & Sam

“And Mary said, ‘My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.’” (Luke 1:46-49)

Today we remember Mary, innocent and powerful, sacred and scared, worried and waiting as the Savior of all grows in her womb. She sings boldly when she might be meek; she bears her role in history with the confidence of a warrior; she is the beginning of a mighty revolution as the proud are brought down and the lowly lifted up.

Today we give thanks for the Marys among us, who step out of the roles society has planned; unintended pioneers determined to do as God asks; fearless and fearfully stepping out in faith, and beckoning us to do the same.

On this third Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of Mary, mother of God, bearer of the Way.

Advent Wreath Response Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence PICARDY
Melanie Byerly, soprano

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way.
As the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Song of Praise Angels We Have Heard on High GLORIA
Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains.,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,**

*the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Moment with the Children Reverend Lynda Hepler

Prayers of the People

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.**

Meditation Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming ES IST EIN ROS

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung.
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,
When half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,
When half spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
Dispel in glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
True man yet very God, from sin and death now save us,
And share our every load.

Solo All Is Well Michael W. Smith

Melanie Byerly, soprano

All is well, all is well. Angels and men rejoice!
For tonight darkness fell into the dawn of love's light.
Sing ale, sing alleluia!

All is well, all is well. Let there be peace on earth.
Christ's come go and tell that He is in the manger.
Sing ale, sing alleluia!

All is well all is well. Lift up your voices and sing.
Born is now Emmanuel.
Born is our Lord and Savior
Sing Alleluia! Sing Alleluia! All is well.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Sermon The Colors of Christmas Reverend Danny Leonard
“Purple”
Mark 1:1-8

SENDING FORTH

Response “And the Glory of the Lord” (from Messiah) G.F. Handel
And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together:
for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.
(Isaiah 40:5)

Benediction Rev. Leonard

Postlude Toccata on VENI EMMANUEL Andrew Carter

O come, Desire of nations bind all peoples in one heart and mind.
From dust Thou brought us forth to life; deliver us from earthly strife.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Guest Musicians: String Quartet

Charles Shafer & Monika Wilmot, violins

Matthew Troy, viola

J. Alexandra Johnston, cello

What to Expect at Indoor Worship

- Some pews are blocked to maintain social distancing.
- Face masks are required for everyone.
- Out of respect for others, please refrain from shaking hands or hugging.
- Offering plates are available at the entrance and exit of the sanctuary.
- At the end of the service, the congregation will be dismissed by section.
- No nursery staff are present, but the nursery space is available.

Today's Scripture: Mark 1:1-8

The Proclamation of John the Baptist

¹ The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

² As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

³ the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

⁴ John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸ I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”



Today's featured Chrismon:

CROSS TRIUMPHANT or CROSS OF VICTORY

A cross supreme over the world, which is represented by the ball, symbolizes the triumph of the Savior over the sin of the world. The divisions suggest continents which are united into one by the circular extension of the cross. Thus – the world united in Christ Who has dominion over all.



Announcements



CAROLS AND CANDLE LIGHTING
Sunday December 20, 7 p.m.

Join us on the front lawn of the church on Sunday evening, Dec. 20 at 7 p.m. The atmosphere will be festive as the sidewalk will be lined with luminarias. We will be led in the singing of your favorite carols by a brass

ensemble and share in the reading of scriptures. Our service will conclude with the lighting of candles. The service will be held outdoors, so please dress accordingly. For the safety of all gathered, please wear a facemask and practice social distancing. You are invited to bring a lawn chair. We anticipate the service will last 30 minutes.



NO ALTERNATIVE GIFTS, BUT...

To our wonderfully generous MUMC family:

Given the COVID-19 dynamics of this particular season, the Missions Committee is not able to host our Annual Alternative Gifts Campaign. Given the in-person nature of our in-house ordering, printing, and distribution system, we feel it best to suspend the effort during Advent. The needs of our neighbors these agencies serve, however, have NOT diminished. In fact, for many organizations their outreach has expanded.

As you pray and ponder how to best come alongside those who struggle, please consider donating to ministries/agencies/organizations that have been on our lists of previous years. There are no forms or cards, but WE can still make a difference. As you make out and mail your checks to the selected places, please confirm the proper mailing addresses. Our gratitude for you abounds and we look forward to a better 2021!

Some options include:

- Cooperative Community Ministry
 - Davidson Medical Ministries
 - Salvation Army Boys & Girls Club
 - Salvation Army Davidson County
 - Dragonfly House
 - UMCOR (The church office may can help with Advance Numbers.)
 - Crossnore School & Children's Home
 - Project Divine Interruption (PDI) (Please make the check out to MUMC with "PDI" on memo line.)
 - Lexington Housing Community Development Corporation
 - Meals on Wheels - Thomasville
 - ZOE Ministry
 - Project AGAPE
 - Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event
- Again, thank you for continuing to be our neighbor's keeper. In doing so we, too, are kept.

ARTS ALIVE OPEN HOUSE January 3, 2-5 p.m.

We welcome students and staff from Praise 2 Life Music Academy, who are joining Arts Alive! Our open house will feature a concert by the 3 Heath Brothers at 3 p.m.



CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION Dec. 24, 5-6 p.m. Sign up for a time.

Come receive Holy Communion in the Chapel or Sanctuary on Christmas Eve. In light of COVID-19 protocols, we ask that you sign up for a time. We will limit each time slot to 6 people per location. Larger groups may sign up for back-to-back slots in the same location. Reserve your time at the signup link on the website or call the office.



FAT TUESDAY PANCAKES *CANCELLED*

Once again COVID-19

has forced a decision, and that is to cancel our Fat Tuesday Pancake Day this coming February 16, 2021. It is just not safe enough to have such a large gathering. We are disappointed not to be able to do this fundraising mission but look forward to next year when we will resume this annual event.



ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

The Advent Devotional is now available on our homepage. Printed copies are also available at the church. Check your email for the devotion sent each

morning of Advent. If you are not receiving these, please let Susan know at sfrye@mumctville.org.



Calendar

SUNDAY DECEMBER 13

Third Sunday of Advent

10 R.L. Pope Class Online: Allen Brown
11 Live Worship In-Person & Online
4-5:30 Youth: Among Us ... IRL!

MONDAY DECEMBER 14

10 10@10 Devotion

TUESDAY DECEMBER 15

9-10 Men's Prayer Group (Contact: Tim Lyons, tlyons00@gmail.com)
10 10@10 Devotion
5:30 Yoga (Jarrett Hall)

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 16

The Weekly Update (Facebook Live)
6 Youth Small Groups Online

THURSDAY DECEMBER 17

10 10@10 Devotion
1:30-6 *At First Presbyterian Church* Red Cross Blood Drive
3-7 CCM's Holiday Toy Store

FRIDAY DECEMBER 18

10 10@10 Devotion

SUNDAY DECEMBER 20

Fourth Sunday of Advent

10 R.L. Pope Class Online: Tracy Brinkley
11 Live Worship In-Person & Online
4 Youth (In-Person)
7 Carols and Candle Lighting

Prayer List

If you or a loved one would like to be added to the prayer list, please contact Lorna McCullough at 336-259-5814. If you put a name on the list, please keep in touch to let us know how that person is doing, as names are removed after three weeks. During the coming week, please pray for:

Britt Martin Williams
Peggy Graham
Cyril Harrington
Brad Hulin
Jessie Collett
Jaime Worsham
Barbara Westmoreland
Roy Flanagan
Conlin O'Shea
Our country and healing for all
Jennifer Ruff
James Carmichael
Margie Collins
Carol Kaiser
Josef Walker
Dean Sharpe-Austin
Finley Price family
Andrea Cain and family
Robert Miller
Dave Ogren
Tim Priska
Chris Eddinger
Peace and justice in our nation, state, and city
Our first responders, medical community, and essential workers
All those affected by COVID-19
All military personnel
Our United Methodist missionaries
The United Methodist Church

UPCOMING

DEC. 24 CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION
(See announcement for information about reserving a time.)
JAN. 3 ARTS ALIVE OPEN HOUSE

Church Staff

Danny B. Leonard, dleonard@mumctville.org	Senior Minister
Rodney W. Denton, rdenton@mumctville.org	Minister of Youth & Young Adults
Lynda C. Hepler, lhepler@mumctville.org	Minister of Children & Families
Norris Norwood, nnorwood@mumctville.org	Director of Music Ministries
Peggy May, pmay@mumctville.org	Financial Secretary/Treasurer
Susan Frye, sfrye@mumctville.org	Executive Secretary
Jarry Oldaker, joldaker@mumctville.org	Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds



MEMORIAL™

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Grow Build Serve

Sunday December 13, 2020 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

101 Randolph Street Thomasville, NC
336.472.7718 mumctville.org



Ministers

DANNY B. LEONARD
Senior Minister

RODNEY W. DENTON
Minister of Youth & Young Adults

LYNDA C. HEPLER
Minister of Children & Families

**We are called by Christ to Grow in Faith,
Build Relationships, and Serve All People.**