



ORDER OF WORSHIP
Third Sunday in Advent

Shelby Presbyterian Church
December 15, 2024
10:00 a.m.

*Please rise as you are able.

PRELUDE: *"Once in Royal David's City"* (arr. Behnke) Emily Monroe

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Drew Mangione

LIGHTING THE THIRD CANDLE OF ADVENT: JOY

Carolyn Billings, June Hobbs, & Carolyn Jackson

Prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight the path of our God!

We proclaim the Lord who was, and is, and is yet to come!

We light this candle for the joy we have in Emmanuel – God with us.

Our joy is the Lord Jesus in whom heaven and earth are one.

Open our eyes to your action in this world! Let us rejoice in your work!

May we be your faithful presence until you come again!

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: *"Lift Up Your Eyes"*

***Lift up your eyes and see the light surround you;
with grace-filled joy, illuminate the night.***

***Lift up your voice and sing, let earth and heaven ring,
lift up your eyes and see the everlasting light.***

CALL TO CONFESSION

Tabatha Coker

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION: **Lord Jesus, you were born one of us, and you have promised to restore all good things by making all things new. In our anxiety, we worry about losing what we love, and we have sinned by putting our hope and faith in what you have given us, rather than trusting you who provided them. Calm our fears and help us to have faith and hope in the truth of your promise of a new creation when we will find complete joy in you. 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!**

MOMENT FOR CHILDREN:

Carol Ann Hoard

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Tabatha Coker

FIRST SCRIPTURE:

Luke 3:15-20

ANTHEM: *"Make My Life a Bethlehem"* (Courtney) Alex Rowe, Solo

*Make my life a Bethlehem, a manger of my heart,
Let me hear the angels sing and let the music start,
May I fall in simple faith and wonder to my knees,
In the manger of my heart let Christ be born in me.
In my life there is a place that scattered with the straw of every
disappointment, each regret and every flaw.
In this dark and dismal place my beasts of burden lie.
Weary from the heavy load they long to lay aside.
Come and sweep this stable clean and swaddle it with light,
And let the Child be born in me upon a starlit night.
For though He's born a thousand times in far off Bethlehem,
Until the Savior's born in me I cannot worship Him.*

SECOND SCRIPTURE:

Philippians 4:4-9

Drew Mangione

SERMON:

"Joy Amid Anxiety"

*HYMN #100 *"Canticle of the Turning"* verses 1, 2, 4

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from "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: *"Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming"* (arr. Payne) 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 #93 *"Lift Up Your Heads"*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION: *"O Come Benediction"* (Moser)

*CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

*POSTLUDE: *"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"* (arr. W. Held) Emily Monroe

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

Sound Board: David Grose & Mike Jackson

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 the Nursery (Rm 102)

staffed by Lilly Hamilton, Maggie Hoene and Heather Johnson

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 CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING will be collected today. 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.

THIS WEEK (December 15 - 21, 2024):

Sunday 11:00-1:00 pm **Dot Roark's 100th Birthday** Celebration in Ellis Hall
5:00 pm **Youth Christmas Party** in Youth Room

Monday **NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE**
9:30 am **Food Ministry** in Ellis Hall
7:00 pm **Boy Scouts** in Scout House
8:00 pm **AA** in Ellis Hall

Tuesday 10:30 am **Staff Meeting** in Ellis Hall
1:00 pm **Blood Drive** in Ellis Hall
5:30 pm **Personnel Committee** in Back Parlor
6:30 pm **Joint Session & Diaconate** in Back Parlor

Wednesday 7:00 pm **Choir Rehearsal** in Sanctuary

Thursday 11:30 am **Rainbow Christmas Program** in Sanctuary
8:00 pm **AA & AI – Anon** in Ellis Hall & Back Parlor

Saturday 7:00 pm **Longest Night Service** in Ellis Hall

2025 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.

BLOOD DRIVE DECEMBER 17TH: Are you scheduled to donate? If you would like to volunteer in a different capacity than a blood donation, you can sign up here: <https://bit.ly/SPCblood22>

THE LIGHTBALL DASH to benefit Feeding Kids Cleveland County will be held next Sunday, Dec. 22nd 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.

GIFT CARD OFFERING FOR TURNING POINT ACADEMY: On Epiphany Sunday (Jan. 5) we will have a Gift Card Offering. Please bring \$10 gift cards to place in the offering plates. These cards will be used for motivational events for the students, for good attendance, good behavior, and good work. The students love this, and it is a great reward for them. Some suggested locations for gift card purchasing are Chic-fil-A, Cook Out, Dominos, Wal-Mart, and Sonic.

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, December 12th, 92 families have pledged \$454,086.00. 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 David Wilkison and family in the passing of his wife, Pat Wilkison on December 2, 2024. Pat had been a member of SPC for 22 years.

John Auten, Ed Blake, Sue Breen, Sid Bridges, Allen Callahan, JoAnn Callahan, Hannah Carpenter, Karen Carpenter, Myra Carpenter, Sandy Carpenter, Conway Carter, Rylan Carter, Betty Clark, Randy Derwin Clark, Kay Clark-James, Al Eatmon, Debbie Ferrell, Tim Hamrick, Ina Harrington, August Hohne, Scot Horton, Andi Houser, Joan Hunt, Kevin Jones, Chuck Laughlin, Cheryl Lutz, Claire Mangione, Brooke McCurry, Nancy Minor, Lisa Perkins-Dodrill, Pauline Persing, Tommy Price, Clay Pruett, Susan Reed, Dot Roark, Larry Stern, Bill & Patty Thorne, Linda Ware, Jackie Weathers, Jack Weller, Stephanie Williams, Teresa Wingo, and our homeless neighbors; the victims of natural disaster and war, including in Ukraine and Gaza; 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.

Christmas SERVICES & FELLOWSHIP

LONGEST NIGHT - SATURDAY, DEC. 21

On the longest night of the year, this 7 pm worship service is meant to acknowledge the grief, loss, stress, and pain that can make it hard to celebrate in this season. In prayer and reflection, with music and Scripture, participants will find a relaxed, friendly environment in Ellis Hall to pause and ask God's help and presence through the often unanticipated and unintended results of the holiday season.

CANTATA - SUNDAY, DEC. 22

Worship at 10 am will feature the SPC Choir singing a Cantata for Christmas which was composed by Choir Director Bruce Moser.

FRIENDLY BEASTS W/ CANDLELIGHT TUESDAY, DEC. 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

Celebrate the birth of Jesus at 5 pm in the Sanctuary with the Friendly Beasts and a candlelight service.

CANDLELIGHT AT MIDNIGHT TUESDAY, DEC. 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE

Celebrate the birth of Jesus at 11 pm in the Sanctuary in a solemn service that will conclude close to midnight with candlelight caroling.



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



THE CHRISTMAS TREE on the lawn is given to the glory of God by Joyce Boyette in memory of Doug Boyette.

THE CHRISTMAS TREE in Ellis Hall is given to the glory of God by Richard and Jan Dedmon in memory of Bitsy and Clyde Fesperman and Carl Dedmon and in honor of Doris Dedmon.



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 Schweppe, Martha and Bee Strain.

THE LARGE SANCTUARY WREATH is given to the glory of God and in memory of A.M. (Sandy) McGeachy by Mary and Holly Conner.

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

Bert and Joy Cushman in memory of Ed Cushman.

Bert and Joy Cushman in honor of Rob, Alena, Lia and Caden Cushman.

David and Susan Grose in honor of Bruce, Michelle, Annie and Avery Moser.

David and Susan Grose in honor of David, Heidi, and Dylan Steeves.

Bruce, Michelle, Annie and Avery Moser in honor of McMurry, Huntley, Moser, and Grose families.

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

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

Scott and Sherry Thomas to the glory of God and in memory of Bob, Jessie, and Phil Thomas and Claude, Pearl, and Cindy Lieurance.

Scott and Sherry Thomas in honor of Brooke, Ashlynn, Caleigh, and Emory Barrick, Robbie, Margaret, and Evelyn Thomas, Hunter and Molly Young, and Chandler, Avery, and Jentzen Young

Mike and Lori Wehmueller family in honor of Gerald and Sally Wehmueller.

Mike and Lori Wehmueller family in honor of Donald and Sharon Sundquist.

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. and Dot Matsik.

THE POINSETTIAS are given to the glory of God by:

Judy Black in memory of Wayne Black.

Betty Bowling in memory of R. F. Bowling, MD.

Sue Breen in memory of Jack Breen.

Sue Breen in honor of her children Steve, Donna, and Mark.



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

Don and Kathryn Bridges in memory of Dick Bowling.

Don and Kathryn Bridges in honor of their children and grandchildren, Jonathan and Farah Bridges, Kate Bridges and Ashley Willis, 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 Betty Bowling, and in memory of Dick Bowling, Walter Bridges and Lillian Bridges.

Robert and Cathy Bridger Burns in memory of Catherine M. Burns.

Robert and Cathy Bridger Burns in memory of Betty F. Bridger.

Russ and Sandy Cheaney and Family in honor of Rose Cheaney and Betty Early.

Russ and Sandy Cheaney and Family in memory of Paul Cheaney, Martin Early, Betsy Martin, and Rhett Chamberlain.

Kyle and Raven Childers in memory of Sally Childers.

Lena Kate and Vivi Dow in honor of Richard and Debbie Hart.

Doug and Janet Eury in honor of the Ryan Sharp family.

Doug and Janet Eury in honor of the Scott Sharp family.

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

Joel and Carol Ann Hoard in memory of Don and Willie Lavery and Barbara Hoard.

Joel and Carol Ann Hoard in honor of Wayne Hoard and Nell Canipe.

Carolyn Jackson in memory of Jerry Jackson.

Bill and Gloria Jobe in memory of Bonnie Sanford.

Bill and Gloria Jobe in memory of Gretchen Campbell.

Chuck and Laura Lampley in memory of Morris Lacey & in honor of Mabel Lacey.

Chuck and Laura Lampley in memory of Sid and Barbara Dixon.

Charles and Anne Langley in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Langley.

Charles and Anne Langley in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Smevog.

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

Charles and Anne Langley in honor of Jeff, Anna, and James 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 LeGrand Family in honor of Lisa Freeman LeGrand.

Marlene Lovelace in memory of Hoyt Lovelace.

Marlene Lovelace in honor of Dot Roark's 100th birthday.

Marlene Lovelace in honor of Betty Bowling & in memory of Dick Bowling.

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.

Brent and Eliza Martin in honor of Stephanie Ellis-Martin.

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.

Joe Ogburn in memory of Jessi Ogburn.

Joe Ogburn in honor of Carolyn, John, and Katherine Ogburn.

Dot Roark and Family in memory of Les Roark.

Ben, Margaret, Charlie, Daniel, Anna, Jack, Ann, Lucas, and Sam Schweppe in honor of John and Stuart Schweppe.

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

Daniel and Anna Schweppe in honor of Susan Bell.

David and Heidi Steeves in memory of Sheila Gardner and Kathleen Isenhour.

David and Heidi Steeves in memory of Dr. Helmy and Charen El-Sherif.

David and Heidi Steeves in memory of Floyd and Ethel Gardner.

Grace Teddy and Family in memory of Jim Teddy Sr.

Grace Teddy and Family in memory of Jim Teddy Jr.

Zelma Whitney in memory of Justin Whitney.

Zelma Whitney in honor of Doug Bryan.

Zelma Whitney in honor of Julie Bryan.

Sherry Yocum in memory of Gilbert Leroy Yocum.

Sherry Yocum in memory of Donna Williams.

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