



Welcome to WESLEY MEMORIAL

A UNITED METHODIST CONGREGATION

Our purpose is to make and sustain spiritually healthy followers
of Jesus Christ who live in ways that transform the world.



SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 29, 2015

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Traditional Worship in the Chapel
8:30 am

Contemporary Worship in the Fellowship Hall
8:30 am & 9:45 am

Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
11:00 am



1225 Chestnut Drive • High Point, North Carolina 27262
336.884.2204 • www.wesley memorial.org

The Worship of God

Chapel

November 29, 2015

8:30 am

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Christe Redemptor Omnium..... Richard Purvis

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

O God, during this time of worship, help us to know your ways, and see clearly the coming of the Promised One. Lead us in your truth and teach us. For we wait with hopeful expectation. To you we lift our souls in trust and love, knowing you will hold then in your loving hands. Amen.

† HYMN No. 196

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus..... HYFRYDOL

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 1:67-79

SERMON

Al Ward

LIGHTING OF FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Bryant & Lee Aldridge

We wait for the coming of Christ, the light of the world

Come Lord Jesus!

This morning we light the **first candle** which reminds us that throughout history, God's people have spent time waiting, wandering, and wondering about the timing of God's eternal plan. Like the people of old, we long for God's presence to illuminate the areas of life where we are called to wait. This morning we echo the words of the Psalmist in Psalm 27, "*Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!*"

Lighting of the first Advent Candle

The true light, which enlightens everyone is coming into the world.

Come Lord Jesus!

The light shines in the darkness and the darkness will not overcome it.

Christ, shine in your church today.

The congregation and choir will sing:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

What Songs Were Sung..... John Jacob Niles

Emily Frye, soprano

We cannot tell, we do not know What stars shone down so long ago, When Mary birthed her own sweet Son and peace and love became as one. The Son of God, as scriptures said, Was Virgin born in a tiny shed Where simple shepherds stood hard by While heav'nly sound filled up the sky. Now let us stand, uncovered all, Before this crèche in lowly stall, Where kings and angels dignify God's gift, His Son, in humility. We do not know, we cannot tell What songs were sung, what starlight fell, Or why the holy mystery stands For so many years in so many lands.

Welcome!

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning! Please take a moment to sign the attendance notebooks during the announcements. If you are a guest, please leave your contact information and a pastor will contact you this week with more information about our church.

Service Notes:

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The Opening Prayer is adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2015 Edition, edited by Mary J. Scifres and B. J. Beu. Copyright ©2014 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

† **DOXOLOGY No. 95**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings FlowOLD 100TH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

† **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

† **HYMN (SEE INSERT)**

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness arr. Bernadette Farrell

† **BENEDICTION**

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Toccata in E MinorJohann Pachelbel

† Please stand as you are able.

Worship Leaders: Al Ward, Senior Pastor; **Thomas Lyons**, Ministry Intern; **Bryant & Lee Aldridge**, Advent Readers; **Emily Frye**, soprano; **Frank Pifferetti**, Organist.

Horizon Worship

The Gathering 8:30 am

November 29, 2015

The Beginning 9:45

Gathering Music

Joyful, Joyful Casting Crowns
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Paul Baloche

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Christ, Be Our Light Bernadette Farrell

Prayer Concerns and Prayer

Offering

Word of God Speak Mercy Me

Scripture

Luke 1:67-79

Message

"?????" Al Ward

Time of Reflection

Reprise

Closing

Worship Leaders: Al Ward, Senior Pastor; Erin Beall, Associate Pastor for Adult Spiritual Formation and Contemporary Worship; Keith Byrd, Director of Contemporary Music; The Horizon Praise Team.

Welcome!

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning! Please sign the attendance notebooks that the ushers pass out during the announcements. If you are a guest, we ask that you please leave your contact information and a pastor will contact you this week with more information about our church.

Horizon

Horizon Worship Services include The Gathering at 8:30 am and The Beginning at 9:45 am on Sunday mornings. Both services meet in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is welcome!

The Worship of God

Sanctuary

November 29, 2015

11 am

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Christe Redemptor Omnium..... Richard Purvis

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

An Advent Processional..... Donald Pearson

Kindra Ingram, Carolyn Shaw, Cindy Webb, percussion

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel. Rejoice! Rejoice Emmanuel, shall come to thee, O Israel. Come thou Redeemer of the earth, and manifest thy virgin birth: Let ev'ry age adoring fall such birth befits the God of all.

Please stand as you are able.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 211 (VERSES 1, 2, 3, 4, 7)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel..... VENI EMMANUEL

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Rob and Christina Squires

We wait for the coming of Christ, the light of the world

Come Lord Jesus!

This morning we light the **first candle** which reminds us that throughout history, God's people have spent time waiting, wandering, and wondering about the timing of God's eternal plan. Like the people of old, we long for God's presence to illuminate the areas of life where we are called to wait. This morning we echo the words of the Psalmist in Psalm 27, "*Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!*"

Lighting of the first Advent Candle

The true light, which enlightens everyone is coming into the world.

Come Lord Jesus!

The light shines in the darkness and the darkness will not overcome it.

Christ, shine in your church today.

The congregation and choir will sing:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Please be seated.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

After the parents' profession of faith, the pastor asks the congregation:

Do you, as Christ's body, the church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include *Avonlea* in your care?

We will.

After the baptism, the pastor asks the congregation:

Will you welcome our new sister in Christ?

Through baptism we are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood. We are all one in Christ Jesus.

With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you as a member of the family of Christ.

HYMN No. 611

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise (vv. 1 & 4).....STUTTGART

**Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit's sign;
With this water God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.**

Welcome!

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning! Please take a moment to sign the attendance notebooks during the announcements. If you are a guest, please leave your contact information and a pastor will contact you this week with more information about our church.

We rejoice in the baptisms of **Avonlea Blythe Hicks**, daughter of Robert and Alison Hicks and welcome her into the family of Christ. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lloyd Hicks II of West Palm Beach, FL; Mrs. Sheri Hicks of High Point, NC and Mr. and Mrs. Bruce and Vickie White of High Point, NC. Great Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth and Bettye Brisentine of Prospect, VA.

**Child of God your loving Parent, learn to know whose child you are.
Grow to laugh and sing and worship, trust and love God more than all.**

ANTHEM

What Songs Were Sung..... John Jacob Niles
Emily Frye, soprano

We cannot tell, we do not know What stars shone down so long ago, When Mary birthed her own sweet Son and peace and love became as one. The Son of God, as scriptures said, Was Virgin born in a tiny shed Where simple shepherds stood hard by While heav'nly sound filled up the sky. Now let us stand, uncovered all, Before this crèche in lowly stall, Where kings and angels dignify God's gift, His Son, in humility. We do not know, we cannot tell What songs were sung, what starlight fell, Or why the holy mystery stands For so many years in so many lands.

PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

O How Shall We Receive You Philip M. Young
Chancel Choir

O how shall we receive you, How greet you on your way, blessed hope of ev'ry nation, Our soul's delight and stay? O, holy Jesus, give us Now by your own pure light, To know whate'er is pleasing And welcome in your sight. Love caused your incarnation, Love for humanity; Your thirst for our salvation Procured our liberty. O love beyond all telling, That led you to embrace In love, all loves excelling, Our lost and fallen race! Rejoice, you broken-hearted, Who walk in darkness drear, Who mourn o'er joys departed, And tremble in your fear. He who alone can save you Is standing at the door; He brings to you salvation, And bids you weep no more.

Please stand as you are able.

DOXOLOGY No. 95

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow OLD 100TH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host, praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Please be seated.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 1:67-79

SERMON

Al Ward

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN (SEE INSERT)

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkenss Bernadette Farrell

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen Dale Grotenhuis
Chancel Choir

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Toccata in E Minor Johann Pachelbel

Service Notes:

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Worship Leaders: Al

Ward, Senior Pastor; **Erin Beall**, Associate Pastor for Adult Spiritual Formation and Contemporary Worship; **Rob & Christina Squires**, Advent Readers; **Debbie Foust**, Director of Children's Ministries; **Anne Carroll**, Director of Music; **Kindra Ingram, Carolyn Shaw, Cindy Webb**, percussion; **Emily Frye**, soprano; **Chancel Choir**; **Frank Pifferetti**, Organist; **Elizabeth Boger and Tory Kitley**, Acolytes; **Neil Brown**, Crucifer; **Gary Yates**, Sound Engineer.

Ushers for the month of November:

Brett Barbour, Edwin Bass, Daniel Dale, Bart Lasser, Bob Niebauer, and Bill Russell.

Greeters for November:

Jim Adams, Linda Dale, Jerry Tucker, Kay Tucker

New Arrival~

Congratulations to Chris and Sherman Covington on the birth of their son Jackson Bond Covington on Nov. 23, 2015.

Have you turned in your 2016 Pledge Card?

As of November 23, we have received \$1.3M in pledged financial support of our 2016 operating budget. Our goal is to receive \$1.8M by December 1. Currently 150 pledges remain outstanding. If you have already submitted a 2016 pledge card, thank you. If you have not yet submitted pledge card, please do so today. You may submit your pledge card by:

- Mailing your completed pledge card to the church; or
- Returning your pledge card to the Front Desk; or
- Submitting a pledge card on-line at <http://www.wesleymemorial.org/gifts>

Thank you, in advance, for your generous support!

Ways to CONNECT

Christmas TREE LIGHTING

Bring the whole family and enjoy warm cider, hot chocolate & cookies as we sing carols & light our Christmas tree on the front circle.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4 at 6:30 pm

DON'T MISS THE SPECIAL CHANCEL CHOIR PERFORMANCE

Next Sunday, December 6 at the 11 am worship service, the Chancel Choir will sing "On Christmas Night" by Bob Chilcott with harp, flute, oboe, organ and percussion. The Chancel Choir purchased On Christmas Night in honor of Howard Coble and Wanna McAnally for their service to the Music Ministries of Wesley Memorial. Join us in the Assembly Room after worship for a reception following worship to greet Howard and Wanna.

JOIN US FOR THE HANGING OF THE GREENS ON SUNDAY, DEC. 6

We have an evening of fun and fellowship planned for all ages, with activities for children K - 5th grade beginning at 4:30 pm in the Preschool and Elementary Sunday school classrooms. Infant care will be available in the Crib Room. Volunteers are needed to assist with the activities in each classroom. Please sign up to help with these outside each Sunday school classroom. Everyone is invited to enjoy dinner together at 6 pm in the Dining Hall. Following dinner we will have a "Carol Sing" and light the decorated Children's Tree. Advance reservations are needed for the Soup and Sandwich dinner. **Please RSVP by this Tuesday, December 1 by contacting dfoust@wesleymemorial.org or 812-4804.**

Ways to GROW

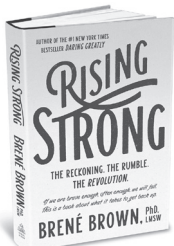
DON'T MISS OUT ON DAILY ADVENT EMAIL DEVOTIONALS THAT BEGIN TOMORROW!

Each weekday during Advent (Nov. 29 - Dec. 24), a Wesley Memorial member or staff person has written a devotional. Our theme this year is "The Songs of Christmas." You may sign up to receive these devotions by email — one per weekday during the season leading up to Christmas! Simply sign up on our website at www.wesleymemorial.org/advent2015 and adding your email address. (Note: A limited run of paper devotional books will be available for members without access to email. If you are able, we ask you to please consider choosing the email option, as we strive to reduce our environmental footprint!)



MAKE PLANS TO JOIN OUR NEW JANUARY BOOK STUDY ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

The New Year brings with it renewed enthusiasm, resolutions and big plans! Make joining a book study one of those plans! Join Rev. Erin Beall as she leads a discussion-based study on a new book, *Rising Strong* by Brené Brown. Brené Brown is a magnificent teacher, speaker, and writer, whom you may have heard on NPR or seen on ted.com. *Rising Strong* is her second book, following her first, number-one bestseller *Daring Greatly*. Brené specializes in studying shame and fear, and how they can be overcome so that we can be our best selves. Books will be \$20 from the church, or you can order your own on your Kindle. Classes will be Wednesday nights, 6:30-7:45 pm in the Circle View Room, from January 13 - February 24.



Ways to SERVE

WILL YOU HELP US DECORATE THE CHRISMON TREES IN THE SANCTUARY THIS THURSDAY AT 6:30 PM?

No experience or reservation required. Just come to the Sanctuary at 6:30 pm on Thursday, December 3 to help. If you have any questions, please contact Beth Blake at 889-7235.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP DURING HANGING OF THE GREENS ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

Volunteers are needed to help with the children's activities. If you can help at 4:30 pm, please let Debbie Foust know. In addition, every year the Adult Sunday School classes tackle a large portion of the decorating. Below is the assignment list: Aldersgate-Miller Memorial/Adult Fellowship (Asbury Room and garland in Chapel); Brand X (Narthex Tree); Covenant Class along with the Contemporary Worship Praise Team (Fellowship Hall); Genesis (Wreaths on the outside doors); New Vision- (help serve dinner); One Word (bring refreshments); Perspectives (help with Dining Hall tree, stringing lights, helping kids with ornaments and preparing the meal); Susanna Wesley (decorate Dining Hall tables and help serve dinner). Additional volunteers are need to decorate the Pre-School Lobby Tree and other areas. If you can help, please let Erin Beall know (ebeall@wesleymemorial.org).

Ways to GIVE

ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS TODAY FROM SUE SCHOCH

You can order wreaths (inside and out), trees and poinsettias in honor or in memory of a loved one to decorate the church for Christmas. Don't wait, place your order today! Call Sue Schoch at 812-4824.

ANGEL TREE ARE DECORATED & READY: BRIGHTEN A CHILD'S CHRISTMAS

Each angel on the Angel Tree represents a child identified by our ministry partners at Henderson Settlement and the High Point Jail Ministry. Angel Trees are located in the Narthex, Fellowship Hall Lobby, & Adult Education building. All gifts should be delivered back to the Angel Trees no later than next Sunday, December 6.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE AN ANTHEM ANGEL THIS HOLIDAY SEASON?

Anthem Angels purchase music from a list compiled by the Director of Music Ministries in honor of or in memory of a loved one. When your anthem is played or sung, a note will be placed in the bulletin to honor or memorialize your loved one. If you would like to be an Anthem Angel contact Anne Carroll at 812-4816.

GET YOUR CHRISTMAS TREES FROM THE WESLEY 100 MEN'S GROUP

The Wesley 100 / United Methodist Men are selling fresh cut Christmas Trees from the NC mountains. Orders will be taken by the Wesley 100 at the Wednesday evening dinners and Sunday mornings. Orders forms are also available at the Front Desk. The trees will be available for pick up next Saturday, December 5.



GIFTS THAT TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

SHOPPING LOCATIONS & PLACES:

Sundays December 6, 13, 20

Fellowship Hall: 8:30 - 9:00 & 9:30 - 10:00 am

Media Center: 9:15 - 9:45 am

Narthex: 10:45 - 11:00 am & Noon - 12:15 pm

Wednesdays December 2, 9, 16

Administration Building Lobby: 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Fellowship Hall Foyer: 5:15 pm - 6:15 pm

Your gifts will support:

WM Prayer Shawl Ministry
Hospice Pillow Ministry
Wesley Memorial School
Community Clinic of High Point
Macedonia Family Resource Center
Fairview Elementary School Students
Open Door Ministries
Mobile Meals of High Point
Ward Street Mission
West End Ministries
High Point Jail Ministry
Second Harvest Food Bank
YWCA of High Point
Henderson Settlement
Nakuru, Kenya



Advent 2015

November 29:

1st Sunday of Advent
Blessing of the Advent Wreath
(all services)

December 4

Tree Lighting on the Circle
6:30 pm

December 6

2nd Sunday of Advent
Blessing of the Greens
(all services)
Chancel Choir sings
"On Christmas Night" at 11 am
Angel Tree gifts are due
Hanging of the Greens
4:30-6:30 pm

December 13

3rd Sunday of Advent
White Christmas (all services)
Children's Nativity at 11 am

December 20

4th Sunday of Advent
Children's Nativity at 8:30 am
(Contemporary Service)

December 24

Christmas Eve Worship
Lovefeast at 5 pm
Contemporary Service at 8 pm
Candlelight Communion
at 11 pm

CALENDAR: November 29 - December 6, 2015

Sunday, November 29, 2015 (1st Sunday of Advent)

- Children, Student & Adult Sunday School, 9:45 am
- Confirmation Class, 4:00 pm, Circle View Room
- Missional Network Gathering, 4:00 pm, Fellowship Hall

Monday, November 30, 2015

- Women's Bible Study, 10:30 am, Circle View Room

Tuesday, December 1, 2015

- Evangelism & Hospitality Team, 5:30 pm, Conf. Rm. #3
- Facilities Team, 5:30 pm, Circle View Room
- WMS Board Meeting, 5:30 pm, Conf. Rm. #2
- Leadership & Nominations Team, 7:00 pm, Conf. Rm. #3
- Mission & Community Impact Team, 7:00 pm, Circle View Room

Wednesday, December 2, 2015

- Mid-Week Communion, 11:00 am, Chapel
- GTTOW, 11:30 am - 1:00 pm, Administration Lobby
- Bible Study Lunch, 12:00 pm, Dining Hall
(Cost is \$5 for the soup-and-sandwich combo. Call the church office by 4:30 pm on Monday to make a reservation.)
- Prayer Shawl Ministry, 1:30 pm, Arts & Crafts Room
- Handbell Quartet, 4:30 pm, Bell Room
- GTTOW, 5:15 - 6:15 pm, Fellowship Hall Foyer
- Wednesday Dinner, 5:30 pm, Dining Hall (Menu: Fish, Smashed Potatoes w/Bacon, Slaw, Hush Puppies and Dessert. Children's menu is sloppy jo's, smashed potatoes w/bacon, slaw and dessert. Call the church office at 884-2204 to make a reservation. Cost is \$6-adults, \$3 ages 14-18, and free for those under 14.)
- "Soul Food", 6:30 pm, Soul Cafe
- Chancel Choir, 6:45 pm, Sanctuary

Thursday, December 3, 2015

- Student Ministry Breakfast Club, 7:00 am, Chick-fil-A
- Chrismon Tree Decorating, 6:30 pm, Sanctuary
- Adult Handbell Choir, 7:00 pm, E204

Friday, December 4, 2015

- Christmas Tree Lighting, 6:30 pm, Front Circle

Saturday, December 5, 2015

- Contemporary Rehearsal, 9:00 am, Fellowship Hall
- Chancel Choir Rehearsal with Orchestra, 9:00 am, Sanctuary
- Wesley 100 Tree Distribution, 9:00 am, Front Circle

Sunday, December 6, 2015 (2nd Sunday of Advent)

- Traditional Worship, 8:30 am, Chapel
- GTTOW, 8:30 am - 12:15 pm
- Contemporary Worship 8:30 am and 9:45 am, Fellowship Hall
- Children, Student & Adult Sunday School, 9:45 am
- Wesley 101, 9:45 am, Circle View Room
- Traditional Worship Service, 11:00 am, Sanctuary
- Howard Coble & Wanna McAnnally Reception, 12 noon, Asbury Rm
- Hanging of the Greens, 4:30 pm
- Youth Handbells, 4:30 pm, Bell Room

WELCOME VISITORS!

Thank you so much for joining us today in worship. If this is your first time worshipping with us, **please help yourself to a blue Wesley Memorial reusable tote bag as our gift to you.** Inside you will find information about our church. We also invite you to take our First Time Visitor Survey found on the homepage of our website. We hope you will return to worship with us again!

Our faithfulness in attendance
November 22, 2015
All Worship Services: 404
(Goal 505)

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE

OUR CLERGY & MINISTRY STAFF:

Rev. Dr. Al Ward, Senior Pastor
812-4808; award@wesleymemorial.org

Rev. Erin Beall, Associate Pastor for
Adult Spiritual Formation
& Contemporary Worship
812-4815; ebeall@wesleymemorial.org

Rev. Jared Stine, Associate Pastor
for Congregational Care
812-4813; jstine@wesleymemorial.org

Scott Howell, Director of Administration & Finance
812-4800; showell@wesleymemorial.org

Jay Butler, Director of Student Ministries
812-4812; jbutler@wesleymemorial.org

Anne Carroll, Director of Music Ministries
812-4816; acarroll@wesleymemorial.org

Debbie Foust, Director of Children's Ministries
812-4804; dfoust@wesleymemorial.org

In the event of an emergency, you simply need to call the main number, 884-2204. You will then **choose option 1.** It is available 24/7 and will connect you with a pastor.