

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 - DECEMBER 18, 2016
FOURTH 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.wesleymemorial.org



The Worship of God

Chapel

December 18, 2016

8:30 am

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.

OPENING VOLUNTARY

To Shepherds as They Watched by Night Nicolas Lebegue

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

† CALL TO WORSHIP

We are always looking for evidence that God is with us.

That sign is in the One to come--the One that God is sending.

We want to know for sure that everything is in God's care.

And so we cry to the heavens in our distress. Our cries are heard! God is responding in love and hope.

Let us come before God with expectant hearts and spirits!

Let us be ready to receive the blessed gift of the Savior. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord of all life and all seasons, help us open our hearts to hear the words of promise and love that you send to us. Like Joseph, may we trust in your abiding love and power. Prepare us to receive your gift of grace and peace. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

† HYMN No. 238

Angels We Have Heard on High GLORIA

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

UM Hymnal No. 881

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

Heather and Sophia Singer

We long for the presence of Christ, Emmanuel, God with us.

Come Bearer of Hope.

Love coming to earth to live among us, full of grace and truth.

Come Bearer of Hope.

Do not be afraid: See I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people.

Christ, shine in our hearts today.

The Congregational Response is found on the insert, verse 4

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

The closing voluntary is from the organ collection of Wanna McAnnally and is being played today in honor of her 104th birthday on Nov. 29, 2016. Wanna was the organist at Wesley Memorial for over half a century, retiring in 1996.

Service Notes:

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer are written by Nancy Townley and appear in ministrymatters.com.

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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 heavenly 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.

† 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 No. 217

Away in a Manger..... AWAY IN A MANGER

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 1:18-25 (NT pg. 1)

SERMON

Al Ward

† BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Divinum MysteriumRichard Purvis

† Please stand as you are able.

Worship Leaders: Al Ward, Senior Pastor; Heather and Sophia Singer, Advent Readers; Emily Frye, Wesley Singer; Frank Pifferetti, Organist.

Horizon Worship

December 18, 2016

9:45 am

Gathering Music

Joyful, Joyful Casting Crowns
Do You Hear What I Hear Third Day

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Prayer Concerns and Prayer

Offering

Welcome to Our World Chris Rice

Scripture

Matthew 1:18-25

Message

Erin Beall

Time of Reflection

Reprise

Closing

Worship Leaders: Erin Beall, Associate Pastor for Adult Spiritual Formation and Contemporary Worship; Jared Stine, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care; Bill, Whitney, Wills & Lucy Heard, Advent Readers; 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 8:45 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

December 18, 2016

11 am

OPENING VOLUNTARIES

Praeludium and Fuga in g minor.....Dietrich Buxtehude

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

Savior Of The Nations, Comearr. John Ferguson

Chancel Choir

Savior of the nations, come: Show the glory of the Son! Every people, stand in awe; Praise the perfect Son of God.

Please stand as you are able.

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are always looking for evidence that God is with us.

That sign is in the One to come--the One that God is sending.

We want to know for sure that everything is in God's care.

And so we cry to the heavens in our distress. Our cries are heard! God is responding in love and hope.

Let us come before God with expectant hearts and spirits!

Let us be ready to receive the blessed gift of the Savior. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Lord of all life and all seasons, help us open our hearts to hear the words of promise and love that you send to us. Like Joseph, may we trust in your abiding love and power. Prepare us to receive your gift of grace and peace. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 238

Angels We Have Heard on HighGLORIA

Please be seated.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

UM Hymnal No. 881

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

Leslie, Iv, George & Anna Sloan Culp

Please join me in our Advent Candle Liturgy

We long for the presence of Christ, Emmanuel, God with us.

Come Bearer of Hope.

Love coming to earth to live among us, full of grace and truth.

Come Bearer of Hope.

Do not be afraid: See I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people.

Christ, shine in our hearts today.

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

ANTHEM

In The Bleak Midwinter.....Brenda Austin

Chancel Bells

PRAYER

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.

"In the Bleak Midwinter" was purchased for the Glory of God by Anthem Angel, Elizabeth Dozier Lyles, in loving memory of Michael John Lyles.

LORD'S PRAYER

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

A Spotless Rose Bryan Greer

Chancel Choir

A spotless rose is growing, Sprung from a tender root, Of ancient seer's foreshowing, of Jesse promised fruit; Its fairest bud unfolds to light Amid the cold, cold winter, And in the dark midnight. The rose which I am singing, where-of Isaiah said, Is from its sweet root springing In Mary, purest maid; For through our God's great love and might the Blessed Babe she bare us in the cold, cold winter's night.

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

HYMN No. 196

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus HYFRYDOL

Please be seated.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 2:1-5 (NT pg. 1)

SERMON

Al Ward

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN No. 229

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly W ZLOBIE LEZY

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

Deo Gracias Boris Ord

Thanks be to God

Chancel Choir

CHIMES OF THE TRINITY

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Divinum Mysterium Richard Purvis

"A Spotless Rose" was purchased by Patricia S. Newman for the glory of God in loving memory of Libby and Richard Atwell.

The closing voluntary is from the organ collection of Wanna McAnnally and is being played today in honor of her 104th birthday. Wanna was the organist at Wesley Memorial for over half a century, retiring in 1996.

Service Notes:

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Worship Leaders: Al Ward, Senior Pastor; Jared Stine, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care; Erin Beall, Associate Pastor for Adult Spiritual Formation and Contemporary Worship; Debbie Foust, Director of Children's Ministry; Anne Carroll, Director of Music Ministries; Chancel Choir; Chancel Bells; Frank Pifferetti, Organist; Leslie, Iv, George & Anna Sloan Culp, Advent Readers; Neil Brown and George Culp, Acolytes; Moregan Kelley, Crucifer; Joe Gamble, Altar Guild; Gary Yates, Sound Engineer.

Ushers for the month of December: Scott Dunbar, Windley Dunbar, Barbara Frye, Miles Gurley, Jane Harriss, Stuart Nunn, Tom Smothers.

Greeters: Wanna Blanton, Bill Bradner, Brian Bunch.

Our Sympathy to ~

Katie Hutchens & family in the death of her mother, Starr Braswell, on Dec. 5, 2016.

Miriam Ward & family in the death of her father, Ralph Helderman, on Dec. 3, 2016.

Thanks and Praise ~

... to the WMS Early Childhood Team for planning a wonderful Christmas Staff Luncheon with the surprise of "designer" Christmas tables. Thanks to the WMS teachers for their delicious pot-luck dishes, and to Jim Royal for his meaningful presentation of the Christmas children's book *Alabaster's Song* by Max Lucado.

... to all those volunteers who helped with the 11:00 nativity program last Sunday. Especially to Alison Collins who helped as coordinator. To the narrators; Mallory Atkinson, Lyla and Georgia Dorn, Abby Keever and Cooper Singer who did a fantastic job telling the story. It was such a wonderful experience for the children as well as the congregation.

... to all the parents and grandparents who repeatedly brought their children to Music early on Sunday mornings and to all the children who sang so beautifully in worship on December 11.

... to Anna Cromer, Ryan and Autumn Melino and Susan and Rick Kelley for meeting participants in Children's Music after Sunday School and getting them to the sanctuary for worship.

Ways to CONNECT



HIGH SCHOOL WINTER RETREAT! JANUARY 27-29, 2017

Calling all high school students and their friends! We are hitting the road for the slopes in 2017! Check your calendar and invite your friends to join us on Friday, January 27 - Sunday, January 29! We will leave after school on Friday and come back Sunday evening. We are going to Teen Valley Ranch in Plumtree, NC. Check it out at www.tvr.org. There will be options to ski, snow tube or just hangout if you choose! Registration is open now and will continue through Wednesday, January 18. Cost is \$250 per student. Registration forms can be found on-line at www.wesleymemorial.org/students. Questions? Contact Steven Nelson at snelson@wesleymemorial.org or 910-232-6064.

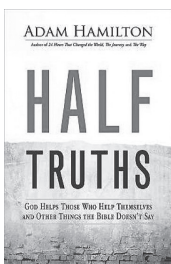
FINAL LIVE ALIVE OF 2016 - THIS TUESDAY AT 11:45 AM

If you haven't made reservations, fear not! Feel free to join us in the Dining Hall anyway. Bring a sack lunch and enjoy our speaker, David Williams from "Sawdust Trail Marketing." He will be telling stories and singing, including an original song about High Point called "The Town on the Hill."

BLESSING OF THE GIFTS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Children are invited to bring one toy they have received for Christmas to either of the two services on Christmas Day at 10 am. There will be a brief time when the gifts and those who have received them will be blessed.

Ways to GROW



JOIN US FOR A NEW SMALL GROUP STUDY IN JANUARY

"God helps those who help themselves" and other things the Bible DOESN'T say will be the focus of a new short-term study in January. Together we'll read Adam Hamilton's book *Half Truths* to go beyond everyday sayings and experience the full message of Jesus. Join us on Sunday, January 8 for the sermon kick-off. The small group study will begin Wednesday, January 11 at Bible Study Lunch (noon) and again at 6:30 pm.

Ways to SERVE

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR WAYS TO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY?

We have dates available for serving meals at Open Door Ministries and Ward Street Mission in 2017. This is a great opportunity for small groups and/or families. If you would be interested in serving at Ward Street, contact Audrey Miller at atmiller75@gmail.com or sign-up using the link on the home page at www.wesleymemorial.org.

Ways to GIVE

WILL YOU HELP US RESTOCK THE BACKPACK PANTRY?

Our pantry is completely depleted! Help us restock with pudding cups, individually packaged chips, cookies, crackers, juice boxes, milk, and breakfast items including individual cereal boxes and granola bars. Collection bins are in the Narthex, Fellowship Hall Lobby and Administrative Building Lobby.



CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING FOR THE CHILDREN'S HOME

This year the offerings received at all of our Christmas Eve worship services (5:00 pm, 8:00 pm, 11:00 pm) will be given to The Children's Home in Winston-Salem. Since 1909 The Children's Home has provided our most vulnerable children and families with an array of modern, professional service and programs, including residential treatment, foster care and adoption services, substance abuse services, needs-based education, and comprehensive life-skills day treatment. Your gift will enable children served by TCH to not only have a wonderful Christmas but will help ensure that they have a safe and successful life throughout the year. (If you cannot attend one of the services on Christmas Eve, but would like to be part of this offering, you may send your check to Wesley Memorial earmarked "TCH.")

DEADLINES APPROACHING FOR 2016 YEAR-END GIVING

At Wesley Memorial, our staff is happy to work with you to help you achieve your 2016 giving goals and intentions. Please contact Deanie Simmons at dsimmons@wesleymemorial.org or 336-812-4801 to facilitate your giving at this busy time of the year. In order for your tax-deductible contributions to appear on your 2016 giving record, here are some options and important deadlines:

- Give at one of the remaining Sunday worship services (Dec. 18, 25);
- Mail your check to 1225 Chestnut Drive, High Point, NC 27262. Must be postmarked by 12/31;
- Contribute on line at <http://www.wesleymemorial.org/online-giving> by 12/22;
- Use your bank's bill pay system by 12/22;
- If giving stock/funds managed by a broker, ask for transfer completion by 12/26;
- Bring your gift to the church office by Friday 12/30 before 12 noon.

Thanks for making a difference in countless lives in this community & around the world.



Advent 2016

December 18

4th Sunday of Advent

Children's Nativity at 8:30 am
(Contemporary Service)

December 24

Christmas Eve Worship

Lovefeast at 5 pm

Contemporary Candlelight
Communion Service at 8 pm

Traditional Candlelight
Communion Service at 11 pm

December 25

Contemporary Service 10 am

Traditional Service 10 am

wesley
memorial school
NURSERY • PRESCHOOL • KINDERGARTEN

ANNOUNCING A NEW PRESCHOOL CLASS FOR 3-4 YEAR-OLDS

The new class is beginning January 5 for children who have been on our waiting list. Spaces available to welcome a few more friends. Tuesdays (9-12 noon) and Thursdays (9-1 pm Lunch Bunch). Children are eligible who already reached their 3 year-old birthday by last August, 2016 ~ becoming 4 this school year. Exciting hands-on learning activities! "Get Set For School" curriculum! Contact Susan Sumpter for more info or schedule a tour: 336.884.4232 or ssumpter@wesleymemorial.org.

CALENDAR: December 18-25, 2016

Sunday, December 18, 2016 (4th Sunday of Advent)

- Contemporary Worship (Children's Nativity), 8:30 am, Fellowship Hall
- Children, Student & Adult Sunday School, 9:45 am
- Traditional Worship (Chancel Bells Ring), 11:00 am, Sanctuary
- JuBELLation Choir, 4:30 pm, E204 Bell Room

Monday, December 19, 2016

- Non-Denominational Bible Study, 10:30 am, Circle View Room
- Senior Adult Council, 12 noon, Conf. Rm. #3

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

- Live Alive Events, 10:30 am, Fellowship Hall
- Church Council, 5:30 pm, Circle View Room

Saturday, December 24, 2016 (Christmas Eve)

- Lovefeast (Doors open at 4:30 pm), 5:00 pm, Sanctuary
- Contemporary Candlelight Communion Service, 8:00 pm, Fellowship Hall
- Youth Handbell Rehearsal, 10:00 pm, Sanctuary
- Traditional Candlelight Communion Service, 11:00 pm, Sanctuary

Sunday, December 25, 2016 (Christmas Day)

- Contemporary Worship, 10:00 am, Fellowship Hall
- Traditional Worship, 10:00 am, Sanctuary

PLEASE NOTE: THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2016 .



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!

CONNECT • GROW • SERVE

OUR CLERGY & MINISTRY STAFF:

Rev. Dr. Al Ward, Senior Pastor

336-812-4808; award@wesleymemorial.org

Rev. Erin Beall, Associate Pastor for

Adult Spiritual Formation

& Contemporary Worship

336-812-4815; ebeall@wesleymemorial.org

Rev. Jared Stine, Associate Pastor

for Congregational Care

336-812-4813; jstine@wesleymemorial.org

Scott Howell, Director of Administration & Finance

336-812-4800; showell@wesleymemorial.org

Steven Nelson, Director of Student Ministries

336-812-4812; snelson@wesleymemorial.org

Anne Carroll, Director of Music Ministries

336-812-4816; acarroll@wesleymemorial.org

Debbie Foust, Director of Children's Ministries

336-812-4804; dfoust@wesleymemorial.org

In the event of an emergency, you simply need to call the main number,

336-884-2204. You will then choose

option 1. It is available 24/7 and will connect you with a pastor.