

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Enter to Worship, Depart to Serve

**Stand if you are able*

Prelude

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Chiming of the Beginning of Worship

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Come! Now is the time to worship!

We come to worship God who invites us.

When the Israelites worshiped the golden calf,
God listened to Moses and chose to correct
instead of destroy.

God persistently invites us to return to God.

Jesus tells a story of a wedding banquet where the guests
dismissed the invitation and harmed the messengers, so the king
invited people off the streets and welcomed all who received the
invitation in earnest.

God persistently invites us to return to God.

Too often we turn from God's ways, choosing our stiff-necked
insistence that we know what is best instead of trusting God's
provision, love, and guidance.

When we turn away and our love fails,

**God continues to offer us opportunities
to return to God and join in the celebration
of God's abundant love and life.**

Come! Now is the time to worship!

We come to worship God

who keeps inviting us for the long haul.

***Hymn** *I Love You, Lord* (3 times) TFWS 2068

Gospel Reading **Matthew 22:1-14**

The Word of God for the people of God; Thanks be to God!

Special Music *Fairest Lord Jesus* arr. J. Daniel Smith

Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 32:1-14

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon **A Convincing Argument?**

Affirmation of Faith

Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar

Creator God, the world continues to chide, "Sing us one of the
songs of Zion!"

**But like our ancestors in the faith, we continue to ask,
"How can we sing the LORD'S song in a foreign land?"**

Remind us, O God, that wherever we live, it is no longer foreign,
but it is your land. Help us to honor this land as sacred.

**Remind us that Zion's songs are to be sung everywhere
and all the time in our global community.**

Gracious God, we do not truly honor and respect your creation as
good stewards. Our failure to see that every human being is created
in your own image...

**Our refusal to celebrate the earth you have given us
with sanctity and decorum...**

Our inability to sing the songs of Zion, through our lips, hearts,
minds, and actions,

**Have caused pain, anger, suffering, racial injustice, poverty,
war, and conflict in our communities, nation, and world.**

Merciful God, hear our humble confession that we have sinned
against you by refusing to sing these songs of Zion.

**We confess that our silence-when colleagues and friends with
different skin colors, accents, or cultures have been unfairly
treated — has made the oppressor stronger and has harmed
the oppressed. We take that responsibility for our weakness
and failure.**

Powerful God, grant us the grace, courage, and wisdom to be
dynamic disciples of Jesus Christ, filled with the mighty power of
the Holy Spirit...

**So that we may sing with gusto the songs of Zion wherever
we are. So that we live the words of our song through our
acts of holy boldness. So that we might keep marching to
Zion. So that we, as baptized Christians, fight against all
kinds of racism, inequality, and injustice.**

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer UMH 895

Presentation of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

An offering plate is located on the table near the entrance of the sanctuary.

***Doxology and Offertory Prayer** UMH 95

***Hymn** *The Lily of the Valley* TFWS 2062

***Dismissal with Blessing**

***Threefold Amen**

Boy Scout Troop 911 is selling holiday wreaths, swag, and centerpieces to help pay for camping trips and summer camp. Payment is due (payable to Troop 911) at the time of the order. Please see a scout following worship service. Thank you!

Prayers and Praises

Shared the week of October 8th: *Billy Herring, People in Israel and Palestine, People affected by the earthquake in Afghanistan, Terri & Jim Holloman, Lee & Debbie Lallance, Rita Waite*

October 1: *Carl Lewis Williams, Kim Jackson & her family, the Alexander family, Lee & Debbie Lallance*; Praises: *Betty Bewley*

Serving in Worship

Today: Ushers—Daryl Dixon, David & Susan Disher; Liturgist—Mike Price; Financial Officer—Greg Lisle; Trustee—Mike Price

Next Sunday: Ushers—Rick Mende, Beth Dixon, Larry Parks; Liturgist—Durwood Howell; Financial Officer—Greg Lisle; Trustee—Mike Price

This Week at Burkhead United Methodist Church

Sunday, October 15

- 9:15 am New Life Sunday School class
- 9:30 am Seekers Sunday School class
- 10:15 am Fellowship Time
- 10:30 am Worship Service
- 2:00 pm Lay Service Ministry Award Ceremony
- 5:00 pm **Burkhead Book Discussion & Dinner**

Tuesday, October 17

- 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 911

Wednesday, October 18

- 1:00 pm **Y.A.R.N. Ministry**

Thursday, October 19

- 11:30 am **Third Thursday “Halloweenie”**

Saturday, October 21

- 9:00 am District Office Training

Sunday, October 22

- 9:15 am New Life Sunday School class
- 9:30 am Seekers Sunday School class
- 10:15 am Fellowship Time
- 10:30 am Worship Service

Sunday, October 29

- 11:30 am **BBQ Committee meeting**



“Adoration of the Golden Calf”
Poussin, Nicolas, 1594?-1665

Burkhead United Methodist Church

October 15, 2023

5250 Silas Creek Parkway, Winston-Salem, NC 27106

Website: <https://burkheadumc.org>

Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday, 10 am - 2 pm

Phone: 336-765-6590

Rev. Julie O’Neal, Pastor (extn 2), Cell: 336-929-6001

Pastor’s email: joneal@wnccumc.net

Darlene Davis, Administrative Secretary (extn 3)

Office email: burkheadumc@gmail.com

Finance Office email: burkheadfinance@gmail.com

Guy Kelpin, Director of Music

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