

## 2nd Sunday of Advent

*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

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Reader 1: In days when God's people longed for peace, Isaiah declared, "Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins" (Isaiah 40:1).

Reader 2: We who gather today also seek comfort and peace, yet we are unsatisfied with ideas of peace that tell us to keep quiet and go with the flow. We long for real peace, true peace, just peace.

**Congregation: We wait as people who yearn for peace that bears the fruit of community, equity, and flourishing for all.**

Reader 1: We light these candles as signs of God's shocking hope and just peace. May they be beacons calling us to repent and to live the good news of Jesus Christ as we wait and watch and labor for the day when all people can gather together to worship and glorify God. **Amen.**

\*Hymn ***Christ Is the World's Light*** UMH 188

Old Testament **Isaiah 40:1-11**

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

Special Music arranged by Richard Walters

***It Came Upon the Midnight Clear***

Gospel Lesson **Mark 1:1-8**

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon **A Baptism of Repentance**

Affirmation of Faith

Rev. Stephen M. Fearing

**We believe that God has come to us;  
that God brought us into being,  
that God gave us breath and purpose,  
that we have been blessed to be a blessing to others,  
that we have fallen short of this commandment  
but that God has nevertheless loved us  
despite our brokenness.**

**We believe that God is coming to us;  
that God is not happy to leave us alone,  
that God will be made known to us  
in flesh and bone like ours,  
that Mary will soon give birth  
and Joseph will soon clap his hands in joy,  
that Jesus Christ will be born  
and our salvation made complete.  
We believe that God will come to us;  
that God will have the final word  
and that Word will be good,  
that this God will give us the presence of the Spirit  
to continue our work,  
that we are called to be disciples  
to all the corners of the earth,  
that the day is coming  
when tears and pain will be no more,  
and all will gather at the Table  
to sing an endless and perfect "Alleluia!"**

Concerns and Praises of the Body of Christ

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 ***Hail to the Lord's Anointed*** UMH 203

\*Dismissal with Blessing

\*Threefold Amen

### Prayers and Praises

Shared the week of December 3: *Gloria McGurk, Katie Moore, Gloria's Family, Steve Pauley, Wanda Truesdale, Mitch Mende, Ali Gonzalez and Baby Jasper, Charities during the holiday season & the people that serve/volunteer for them, Kim Jackson, China Moore*

Praises: *Shirley & Johnny Hedrick celebrating 56 years of marriage*

November 26: *Zoe Ruhl, Steve Holly, Connie Mende*

November 19: *Connie Mende, China Moore, Peace around the world especially in the Ukraine and the Middle Eastern conflict, those in need*

Praises: *Marilyn Baird is back with us, the birth of Addison Lee Parrish*

November 12: *Julie's safe travel, Keith Arnott, Connie Mende, The Disher family, Marilyn Baird, Ed Harris, Bill Wingate, The people of Ukraine, China Moore*

### Serving in Worship

**Today:** Ushers–Taylor Crane, Terry & Lynn Blumenthal; Liturgist–Durwood Howell; Financial Officer–Durwood Howell; Trustee–Betty Bewley

**Next Sunday:** Ushers–Daryl Dixon, David & Susan Disher; Liturgist–Betty Bewley; Financial Officer–Durwood Howell; Trustee–Betty Bewley



*Thank you for joining us at Burkhead UMC today! If you have questions or pastoral concerns, please contact our pastor, Julie O'Neal at 336-929-6001.*



## **Burkhead United Methodist Church**

**December 10, 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](mailto:joneal@wnccumc.net)

Darlene Davis, Administrative Secretary (extn 3)

Office email: [burkheadumc@gmail.com](mailto:burkheadumc@gmail.com)

Finance Office email: [burkheadfinance@gmail.com](mailto:burkheadfinance@gmail.com)

Guy Kelpin, Director of Music

CCLI #2257491

## **This Week at Burkhead United Methodist Church**

Church Office is open Tuesday - Thursday, 10 am - 2 pm

Sunday, December 10

9:15 am **Combined Sunday School Classes** -  
*Experiencing Christmas – Christ in  
the Sights and Sounds of Advent  
by Matt Rawle*

10:15 am Fellowship Time

10:30 am Worship Service

2:00 pm **Christmas Caroling**

Tuesday, December 12

6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 911 Potluck Dinner

Wednesday, December 13

6:00 pm **Fellowship Meal - Pancakes &  
Singing Carols**

Saturday, December 16

11:00 am **Memorial Service for Gloria McGurk**

Sunday, December 17

9:15 am **Combined Sunday School Classes**

10:15 am Fellowship Time

10:30 am **White Christmas and Hymn Sing**

12:00 pm Fellowship Hall is reserved

### **Upcoming Events**

Wednesday, December 20

**Y.A.R.N. Ministry cancelled until January**

Thursday, December 21

11:30 am **Third Thursday - Christmas  
Traditions Around the World**

Sunday, December 24

10:30 am **Christmas Eve Worship Service**

Monday, December 25 Our Lord and Savior's Birth

*More information is available at [www.burkheadumc.org](http://www.burkheadumc.org).*

## ***Experiencing Christmas – Christ in the Sights and Sounds of Advent by Matt Rawle***

This four-week video-based study **meets in the Fellowship Hall starting at 9:15 am**. You are welcome to join any Sunday. Participant books, while not required, may be purchased directly from Cokesbury.com or your favorite retailer.

Our community fellowship meal is **Wednesday, December 13th**. Join us at **6 pm** for some delicious pancakes! We'll raise our voices and sing some favorite Christmas carols after we've eaten. Please sign up on the sheet at the information table. The price is \$6 for adults while children and first timers eat free. Please continue to invite friends and neighbors!

Burkhead will again celebrate a **White Christmas** by donating nonperishable food items wrapped in white at the **December 17th service**. Everyone is encouraged to bring items wrapped in white paper or white plastic bags to place on and around the altar table. These food items will be given to a nonprofit organization that helps those who are having trouble feeding their families. Unfortunately, Forsyth County has more hungry people than most other counties in North Carolina. Let's make this a truly **WHITE CHRISTMAS** on the 17th!