

Third 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: When God's people were surrounded by hardship, suffering, and grief, Isaiah proclaimed, The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit (Isaiah 61:1-3a).

Reader 2: We come today as people who are also surrounded by suffering and grief. And yet, the Spirit hovers among us, tending and anointing, inspiring freedom where there is captivity, declaring blessing in places the world has cursed, and igniting fierce joy where mourning and heartache prevail.

Congregation: We wait as people who experience hardship and pain, yet we are called to witness to the persistent joy that sustains our life as God's people.

Reader 1: We light these candles as signs of our shocking hope, just peace, and fierce joy. May our lives shine with the fierce, tenacious joy of the Light who lives in our hearts as we wait and work for the coming of God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

*Hymn ***In the Bleak Midwinter*** UMH 221

Epistle Reading **1 Thessalonians 5:16-24**

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

Special Music ***Gentle Mary***

Gospel Lesson **John 1:6-8**

Hymn Sing *(congregation may remain seated)*

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel UMH 211

O Little Town of Bethlehem UMH 230

Choral Anthem ***Bethlehem Wind*** Joseph Martin

Hymn Sing *(congregation may remain seated)*

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly UMH 229

Angels We Have Heard on High UMH 238

O Come, All Ye Faithful, vss. 1-3 UMH 234

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 ***From All that Dwell Below the Skies*** UMH 101

*Dismissal with Blessing

*Threefold Amen

Prayers and Praises

Shared the week of December 10: *Gloria McGurk's family, Shane Plott, Gail Potter, serving our community through The Salvation Army and SPARK, God's leading for Burkhead's future; Praises: China Moore*

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*

Serving in Worship

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

Next Sunday: Ushers–Rick Mende, Beth Dixon, Larry Parks;
Liturgist–Rick Mende; Financial Officer–Durwood Howell;
Trustee–Betty Bewley

This Week at Burkhead United Methodist Church

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

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
2:00 pm **Christmas Caroling**

Monday, December 18

6:00 pm Girl Scout Troop 1929

Tuesday, December 19

6:30 pm Boy Scout Troop 911

Wednesday, December 20

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

Thursday, December 21

11:30 am **Third Thursday - Christmas Traditions**
Around the World
6:30 pm **Single Board Leadership meeting**

Sunday, December 24

9:15 am **Combined Sunday School Classes**
10:15 am Fellowship Time
10:30 am **Christmas Eve Worship Service**

Upcoming Events

Monday, December 25 Our Lord and Savior's Birth

Tuesday, December 26 **Newsletter information to office**

More information is available at www.burkheadumc.org.

***Our Church Office Hours will be 10 am until noon
for December 26, 27 and 28.***

*Please contact us to arrange another time if needed.
Happy Holidays!*



Burkhead United Methodist Church

December 17, 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

CCLI #2257491