

First Sunday of Advent
November 27, 2022 – 10:55 A.M.

*Please stand as you are able

ENTRANCE

MEDITATIVE MUSIC Jeanne Banks, Pianist
ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Will Waller
CHIMING THE HOUR
OPENING VOLUNTARY *He Shall Feed His Flock—Bach* Lynn Meeks, Organist
ACOLYTE MINISTRY

GREETING

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Linda Dunlap, Liturgist
L: We are here Father, journeying once again to the manger.
P: Stir in us a yearning to listen to the sounds of your call.
L: Many are swamped with to-do lists and parties, getting things right or just getting through it.
P: Let us have faith that you will guide us every step of the way.
L: May the hope of Christmas be with us now, still so far from Bethlehem.
P: And may Jesus remain why we journey to that Holy Night. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE** *Hail to the Lord's Anointed (vs. 1-3)* No. 203

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord of all times, we come into your presence asking your forgiveness. We have failed to live as people of the present. We have wasted our moments, wanting the future now, seeing our dreams as the answer to today's problems. Rather than seeing your blessing in each day, we have looked backward to glory days that seem glorious only in their passing. Open our eyes to our mission at hand. Open our ears to your message to us today, that we might share in bringing the good news of your salvation to the world. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

PRAYER OF ASSURANCE

Christ has paid the price for your sin because he sought your presence in the house of God. When we confess our sin, we no longer have to fear the throne of judgment. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! **Amen.**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *The Apostles' Creed* No. 881

INVITATION TO THE CHILDREN *Where Children Belong* TFWs No. 2233
This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Waller

PSALM 122

***LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE**

L: "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'"
P: We are glad. Whether we drove in or climbed up, whether we logged on or tuned in. We are glad to be here in this community, with this family. It is a place of joyful hope, of radical welcome.
L: Isaiah tells us, "Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that God may teach us God's ways and that we may walk in God's paths.'"
P: We light this candle as a sign of our hope, our joyous hope that we can be restored – our faith restored, our strength restored, our confidence restored, our joy restored as we watch and wait with all God's people for the promise to be fulfilled.

(Afterwards, children in preschool through 2nd grade may go to Children's Church.)

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 8:22-25 New Testament pg. 63

Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON *Christmas On Your Radio: All I Want for Christmas* Rev. Waller

OFFERTORY *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming—Traditional*
(Please tear off the pew pad attendance sheet and place in the offering plate.)

***THE DOXOLOGY** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 94
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ,
Whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

ANTHEM *Advent Alleluia—Larson* Chancel Choir

PRAYER REQUESTS

CALL TO PRAYER *O Little Town of Bethlehem (vs. 4)* No. 230
O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

(continued on back)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

***CLOSING HYMN** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* No. 196

***THE ACOLYTE MINISTRY**

***BENEDICTION AND BLESSING**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE** *As We Go*
As we go, may your spirit go before us. As we go, may we follow where you lead.
May we live what we have learned, share the message we have heard,
and be a light unto the world, as we go.

***GOING FORTH** Rev. Waller

***POSTLUDE** Mrs. Meeks

CCLI License Number 2745989

Serving Today:

Liturgist: Linda Dunlap
Greeters: P. D. and Mittie Hambrick
Acolyte: Audrey Mitchell
Ushers: P. D. and Mittie Hambrick
Children's Church: Tammy Burdick
Nursery: Jane Roseberry
Counters: Dan Walters, Jack Watts

Serving Next Week (December 4):

Liturgist: Greg Dunlap
Greeters: Nathan, Jovie and Georgia Angle
Acolytes: Jovie Angle and Audrey Mitchell
Ushers: Benny Gibson
Children's Church: Christina Gibson
Nursery: Martha Sue Gibson
Counters: Martha Sue Gibson, Becky Newbill

Prayer Concerns:

Our country, our church and those serving in our armed forces; People of Ukraine; Don Angle; Jack Dillon; Robin Cooper; Jason Lavinder; Hazel Henderson; Peggie Foster; Kathleen Higgins; Lillie Hatchett; Jerry Davis; Barbara Huffman; Lynn Cooper; Anna Campbell; Betty Dillon; CO Brickey; Dick Shoemaker; Jennifer Cooper; John Cooper; Arnold Dillon, Sr.; Cheryl Peck (Sandra Funk); Janis Odom (DJ Pritchard); Becky Bennett (Jennie Ardis); Mike Shea (Enna Roseberry); Debbie Ford (Ben Whitesell); Dennis Holland (Cyndee Holland); Janet Blankenship and Family in the death of her mother, Gina Browning, on November 18; and **Bill Collins and Family** in the death of his sister, Mary Patton, on November 22.

Forget-Me-Nots:

Eleanor Woody

Meetings and Announcements:

- **Today, November 27** **5:00 p.m.**, Youth are going shopping for the special needs adults in our neighborhood

- **Monday, November 28** **7:00 p.m.**, Boy Scouts
- **Tuesday, November 29** **7:00 p.m.**, Jubilant Ringers
- **Wednesday, Nov. 30** **5:00-6:30 p.m.**, Wonderful Wednesday
 7:00 p.m., Chancel Choir
- **Thursday, December 1** **6:30 p.m.**, Cub Scouts
- **Friday, December 2** **5:30 p.m.**, “Come Home to a Franklin County Christmas”
- **Saturday, December 3** **10:30 a.m.**, Children’s Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal
- **Next Sunday, Dec. 4** **10:00 a.m.**, Small Groups
 10:55 a.m., Worship
 7:00 p.m., Children’s Christmas Program

- **Monday, December 5** **10:30 a.m.**, United Women in Faith will meet at the church to carpool to the Hotel Roanoke for the Christmas Luncheon at Hotel Roanoke

- **Wednesday, December 7** **3:30 p.m.**, Youth are wrapping the gifts for the special needs adults

- **Sunday, December 11** **10:55 a.m.**, Worship - Chancel Choir Cantata
 Following worship, Special Needs Adults’ Luncheon
 4:00 p.m., Franklin County Community Choir Concert

- **Tuesday, December 13** **7:00 p.m.**, Staff/Parish Relations Committee Meeting

- **Sunday, December 18** **8:45 a.m.**, United Methodist Men Breakfast Meeting
 3:00 p.m., Youth Christmas Party/Polar Bear Plunge

(over)

Assistive listening devices are available outside the sanctuary.

Today you have the opportunity to select an “Advent Friend.” Envelopes will be available with the name of a church family member who is either shut-in or in need of some special care during the Advent season. Please take a card, pray for your “Advent Friend,” and extend other acts of kindness (such as a personal call, a greeting card, etc.)

The UMM will be taking orders for quarts of their world famous chili. Cost is \$10 a quart. Your chili will be ready for pick up on Sunday, December 4 in the Atrium. Fill out the order form in your bulletin and place it in the box in the narthex.

We are collecting canned soup for Heavenly Manna this month. Please put your donations in the barrel located in the narthex. Thank You!

A bracelet was found on the sidewalk outside of the sanctuary’s main door. It will be held in the office until claimed.

The Franklin County Office of Aging will brighten a Senior Citizen’s holiday this year. Pick up a star with a Senior Citizen’s needs at the Essig Recreation Center. All unwrapped gifts need to be delivered by December 12.

We need nursery volunteers. Anyone wanting to work in the nursery on Sunday mornings during the worship service, please contact the church office (540-483-5338 or admin@rm-umc.org). Thank you.

Rocky Mount United Methodist Church
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Will Waller, Pastor
Lynn M. Meeks, Director of Music/Diaconal Minister
Jeanne Banks, Pianist
Valerie Latimer, Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Ardis, Nursery Attendant
Rebecca Dillon, Children’s Church Coordinator
Brad Hodges, Custodian