



Words of Welcome

Please silence your cell phone.

(†) Stand as you are able.

(©) Children leave for Children's Celebration.

GATHERING IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Opening Voluntary

Advent Meditation

arr. Tyleen Stults

Introit

Entrance Song for Advent

Smith

†Hymn 202

People, Look East

BESANÇON

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Light shines in darkness,

but the darkness has not overcome it.

During Advent our weary souls seek God's daily strength.

The Lord gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

We grow weary when fear overshadows faith.

The Lord give strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

We grow weary when destructive actions erupt in the world around us.

The Lord give strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.

For all of us feeling weary this Advent season:

Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.

Today we light two candles. The first candle illuminates patience in the areas of our lives where God has called us to wait. The second candle extends the promise of strength to all who feel weary and weak in this world As we continue our Advent journey, may our hope be kindled as the light grows brighter.

†©Passing the Peace of Christ

Anthem (11:00)

Hark, Hear the Bells!

Karl Hitzemann

LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Psalm 85

Psalter 806 with response

†Scripture Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-11

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

People: Thanks be to God.

†Alleluia

Hymn 186

Sermon

Tender Speech

Rev. Mark Ralls

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

†Hymn 171

There's Something About That Name

THAT NAME

†Affirmation of Faith (all in unison)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

†Hymn 70

Gloria Patri MEINEKE
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (all in unison)

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.

Presentation of Our Gifts and Offerings

Offertory Anthem

Daughter of Zion (8:30) Handel
Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates (11:00) Richard Shephard

†Hymn 95

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.

SENDING FORTH

†Hymn

MENDELSSOHN

Watchman, tell us of the night, what its signs of promise are.
Traveler, o'er yon mountain's height see that glory beaming star!
Watchman, does its beautiful ray any joy or hope foretell?
Traveler, yes; it brings the day, promised day of Israel. (repeat)

Watchman, tell us of the night, higher yet that star ascends.
Traveler, blessedness and light, peace and truth, its course portends.
Watchman, will its beams alone gild the spot that gave them birth?
Traveler, ages are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth! (repeat)

Watchman, tell us of the night, for the morning seems to dawn.
Traveler, darkness takes its flight; doubt and terror are withdrawn.
Watchman, let your wandering cease; hasten to your quiet home!
Traveler, lo, the Prince of Peace, lo, the Son of God is come! (repeat)

†Dismissal with Blessing

Closing Voluntary

Advent Hope

Derek Hakes

Serving Today

Rev. Dr. Mark Ralls	<i>Senior Pastor</i>
Rev. Christy Sharp	<i>Associate Pastor</i>
Rev. Jean Goodwin	<i>Assistant Pastor</i>
Michael S. Brannon	<i>Director of Music</i>
Julie Williams	<i>Handbell Director</i>
Kelli Mullinix	<i>Children's Choir Director</i>
8:30 Choir, Chancel Choir	<i>Musicians</i>
Jubilee Handbells, Children's Choir	
Dennis Sanders, Craig Etheridge	<i>Cantor</i>
Don Miller, Betty Kay Brookshire	<i>Readers</i>
Madeleine Duncan, Gwen Wilkins	<i>Altar Guild Assistants</i>
Jason Gardner	<i>Sound Technician</i>



First United Methodist Church
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Hendersonville, NC 28739

828-693-4275 – www.fumchvln.org

December 10, 2017 – Second Sunday of Advent

Weekly Connect

Week of December 10, 2017



Jesse Tree, Sundays Thru Advent, 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Services
Help us celebrate the centuries old Christian tradition of a Jesse Tree. Bring your ornaments (made or purchased) which celebrate the stories of the Bible, to worship on Sundays throughout Advent. You will have an opportunity to hang these ornaments during service. Check out the December Word for more information.

Second Sunday Soup, Sunday, December 10

Soup will be sold in Welcome Area from 8am until sold out. Soup is \$5 per quart with monies going to the FUMC Women's Retreat fund.

Dare to Dream Small Group, Sunday, December 10, Library

PJ White will lead a 6 week study, *Dare to Dream* by Pastor Mark Slaughter, which draws on the Bible & a lifetime of ministry to help us discern God's dream for us & learning to live it out, prayerfully & enthusiastically. If you are interested, join the discussion at 10:30 AM beginning December 10.

Happy Birthday Jesus Cupcake Celebration, Sunday, December 17

During the Children's Sunday School, they will be treated with cupcakes (and sprinkles!) to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Longest Night Service, Sunday, December 17, 5:00 PM, Barber CLC

Is the holiday season difficult for you? Is Christmas a reminder of loss, family tensions, broken relationships and other struggles? Do you feel tired & overrun? We invite you to attend The Longest Night Service. It will be a rich time of experiencing God's grace & wholeness.

Advent Labyrinth, December 17 thru 21, Barber CLC

Experience this walking prayer form to help connect you to the holy presence of God. Come when it is convenience for you & spend what time you have. There will be a greeter & written instructions on how to walk a labyrinth.



The Labyrinth will be open:

Sunday, December 17 an hour following the Longest Night Service
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, December 18-20; 10AM-7PM
Thursday, December 21 10AM-Noon

Art Installation by Rebecca Gottesman, 2nd Floor Music Wing
You are invited to view the art installation by local artist, Rebecca Gottesman. She states, "I truly hope that my work touches you and lifts your spirit." Her work will be up through the Holidays & is available for purchase. Also, check out the Narthex in the Sanctuary, which speaks of our journey through Advent.

Be sure your Meetings & Event Rooms are reserved for 2018!
Do you lead a group or committee—even one with reoccurring meetings & events? Ensure your activity has a room reserved in 2018. Contact Cindi Ledford 435.3531 cindi@hvlfumc.org

FUMC's Inclement Weather Policy
As the winter season approaches, please view our Inclement Weather Policy on the FUMC website to know where to go to view information on church closures & cancellations:
<http://fumchvln.org/connect/inclement-weather-policy>

New Wednesday Night Study Coming in January—Save the Date!
Our pastors will lead a 4-week study of the book "Why Jesus?" by Will Willimon. Classes are scheduled for January 10, 17, 24 & 31. Copies of the book will be on sale at the end of December for \$10.

A Day with Will Willimon, Saturday, February 3, Barber CLC
Invite Your Friends to Spiritual Formation Weekend! Saturday, February 3 from 8:30AM to 4:00 PM, Bishop Willimon will be with us to talk about "Jesus Christ for Today." On Sunday, February 4, he will be our guest preacher at all three services.



Join us January 10, 2018.

Kairos Leadership Team wishes to share the following financial information as of November 30, 2017.

	Actual	Budget
Total Revenue	\$1,244,406	\$1,299,206
Total Expenses	\$1,298,277	\$1,358,510
Net Income	\$ (53,871)	\$ (59,304)

Worship Today

8:30 & 11:00 Service: The altar greenery is giving by Guy & Vicki Leary in celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

9:15 Service: Children's Celebration time is provided for ages 3-1st Grade. Accompany your child to the main entrance of worship space after first song set.

11:00 Service: Children's Celebration time is provided for ages 3-1st Grade. Accompany your child to the hallway behind pulpit area on main sanctuary level.

Interested in Joining? Contact Mark Ralls
mark@hvlfumc.org or 828.424.1058

Pastor Care Line 828.702.1454

Emergencies ♦ Pastor on-call ♦ Hospitalizations ♦ Prayer Needs

Learn more: FUMC weekly E-Blast or FUMCHVLNC.ORG

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Text Giving: Text fumchvl to 73256

Sunday Morning Worship

8:30 & 11:00 Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

Live Broadcast of 11:00 Service WTZQ, Stations FM 95.3 & AM 1600

9:15 Ignite Worship in the BCLC