



# MORRIS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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**Leonard Fairley**

Raleigh Area Bishop

**Michael T. Edwards**

Pastor

**Dena White**

Fairway District Superintendent

**Nancy Martinez**

Administrative Assistant to the District Superintendent

## An Order of Service for Word and Worship

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 18, 2022 - 9:30 AM

#### Entrance

#### Prelude

*“Still, Still, Still” a German Carol*

arr. Robert Lau

**Welcome** Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son. You shall name him Immanuel. When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded. Today, the promise of new life comes to us. How will we receive it? How will we claim it? How will we live it?

#### Lighting the Fourth Advent Candle

“Love”

Danny and Peggy Baker

**Reader One:** Isaiah said that the Lord spoke to the king and said, “Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven” (Isaiah 7:11 NRSV). But when the king refused, God would not be stopped. “Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son and shall name him Immanuel” (Isaiah 7:14 NRSV).

**Reader Two:** God wants us to know, even when we aren’t sure ourselves. God wants us to experience God’s presence, even when we think we can handle life on our own. God sends us signs of God’s presence with us; all we need to do is keep our eyes open and look.

**Reader One:** “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, ‘God is with us.’” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus (Matthew 1:23-25 NRSV).

**Reader Two:** We light these candles, the candle of joyous hope, of proclaimed peace, of deep everlasting joy, and today of presence that speaks of love, as a sign that no matter our circumstance, we know we are not alone.

#### Call to Worship

*“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” verse 4*

Choir

#### † Opening Hymn

*“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”*

#196

#### † Opening Prayer

(Unison)

**Lord of all life and all seasons, help us open our hearts to hear the words of promise and love that You send to us. Like Joseph, may we trust in Your abiding love and power. Prepare us to receive Your gift of grace and peace. In Jesus’ Name, we pray. AMEN.**

#### Old Testament Reading

**Isaiah 7:10-16**

Minister

#### † Gloria Patri

#70

#### Children’s Message

Minister

#### Receiving of Joys and Prayer Concerns

Minister

#### Musical Interlude

#### Pastoral Prayer and Silent Meditation

#### Special Music

*“Once In Royal David’s City”*

Choir

#### Message

**Matthew 1:18-25**  
**How Did Joseph Know?**

Minister

#### † Sending Forth

*“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”*

#140

#### † Postlude

† *Please stand as you are able*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & PARISH NOTICES

Welcome to Morris Chapel United Methodist Church! We are excited that you joined us in Worship today via Facebook Live and in person. All are welcomed as we come together to praise God and make disciples for Jesus!

**Thank You** to the entire choir for the wonderful Cantata last Sunday, and to the Fellowship Committee for the excellent breakfast prepared after the Service. We have seen God's grace through both of these offerings by hands and voices in praise of our gracious God!

**2022 Advent Devotional Books** - Please pick up your 2022 Advent Devotional Book at the entrance of the church. Pastor will once again have devotion time, 7:00 am each morning via Facebook Live. Sunday's devotion time is 8:45 am.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** - Please come celebrate Christmas Eve at 4:00 pm on December 24th as we prepare for the coming of Baby Jesus.

**Christmas Day Service** - Celebrate the birth of the Baby Jesus with us at 9:30 am Christmas Day!

**Christmas Post Office** - Our Christmas Post Office will be open through December 25th! Bring your cards to the Fellowship Hall, place them in the basket, and we will sort and deliver them for you. Please see Pastor Mike or Laurel or Gillian Hubley if you have any questions.

**Tithes and Offerings:** The church thanks you for your faithfulness in tithing and offering. Please continue to mail your gifts and tithes to the church or bring them when you attend. You may also follow the directions on the website at [www.morrischapelumc.org](http://www.morrischapelumc.org) for on-line giving through Vanco. Be in God's Grace, Peace and Love.

*Announcements may be given by noon on Wednesdays  
to Laurel Parker at [laurelparker@charter.net](mailto:laurelparker@charter.net) or (919) 271-0963 **AND**  
Mavis Harper at [mavisharper1944@gmail.com](mailto:mavisharper1944@gmail.com) or (919) 770-0489.*

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Richard & Pat Angel  
Family of Irma Autrey  
Carla Bailey  
Joshua Black  
Della Brooks  
Sherran Cameron  
Berle Campbell  
Alan Cox  
Jeanette Amos-Cox  
Keith Cox  
Caleb Craig  
Colleen Custer  
Melissa Edwards  
Family of Ms. Euby  
Dennis Fore  
Bob Gillis  
Pam Gillis  
Bill Godfrey  
Ann Godwin  
Buddy Godwin

Kristen Halstead family  
Dennis & Lewis Hartman  
Bobby & Laura Holder  
Holly Holt  
Mary Hudson  
Wayne Hudson  
Chad Huffman  
Rhonda Hughes  
Evan Johnson  
**Nancy Johnson**  
Ronnie Johnson  
Laverne Joiner  
Bobby Jones  
Phil Kelly  
Peggy Kennedy  
Don Key  
Warren Keyser  
Beverly Leslie  
Jeff Ludewig  
Bette Lyons  
Shirley Maddox

Maude Maloney  
Melissa Martin  
Allie Martinez family  
Martha Meeks  
Military troops & families  
Linda McNeill  
Mary McNeill  
Rhonda McNeill  
Tim & Donna McNeill  
**Clay Moore**  
June Mullins  
Gary Nowell  
Molly Margaret O'Quinn  
Nancy Page  
Greg Patterson  
Susie Pierce  
Phyllis Poe  
Renee Ratcho  
Jason Ray  
Johnny Ray  
Hank Richards

Dot Roberts  
Betty Jean Rosser  
Sandra Shope  
Patsy Sloan  
Caden Smith  
Ron Smith  
**Fred Spivey**  
Jim Stuart  
Family of Joe Thomas  
Joyce Key Thomas  
Calvin Tucker  
United Methodist Church  
United States of America  
Unspoken Prayers  
Pam Vaughan  
**Marine Waylon**-prisoner  
Lance Weekly  
Carol Wilcom  
Flossie Wilt  
Lilla Williams  
Bill Wilson  
Sammy Womack

After Worship snacks in the Fellowship Hall today are provided by Danny & Peggy Baker and Janice Holder. Thank you!