

O Root of Jesse, who stands for ensign of the people before whom kings shall keep silence and to whom the Gentiles shall make their supplication:

Come, and deliver us and tarry not.

O Key of David and Scepter of the House of Israel, who no one shuts and no one opens:

Come, and bring forth from prison the captive who sits in darkness and in the shadow of death.

O Dayspring, Brightness of the light eternal and Sun of justice:

Come, and enlighten those who sit in darkness those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.

O King of the Gentiles and their Desired One, Cornerstone that makes both one:

Come, and deliver us whom you formed out of the dust of the earth.

† Hymn *“Away in a Manger”* # 217

Prayers for the Church and the world, the Lord’s Prayer

Presentation of God’s tithes and our offerings

Offertory

† Doxology *(to the tune of O Come, O Come, Emmanuel)*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow:

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

SENDING FORTH

† Hymn *“It Came upon the Midnight Clear”* # 218

† Benediction

† Postlude

†*The congregation is invited to stand, as you are able.*



Nowell, nowell. Who is there that singeth so, I am here, Sir Christemas.
Welcome, my lord, Sir Christemas! Welcome to all, both more and less, come near:

God keep you, good sirs. Tidings I you bring; a maid hath born a child full young, Which causeth you to sing. –by David Brunner



MORRIS CHAPEL
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

8533 Cox Mill Road, Sanford, North Carolina 27332

Office – (919) 499-4949

Pastor cell (919) 802-8286 | kseymour@nccumc.org

Worship Celebration 9:30 AM

Fellowship Time 10:30 AM | Sunday School 10:45 AM

The Rev. Connie Mitchell Shelton

Raleigh Area Bishop

The Rev. Kevin H. Seymour

Pastor

The Rev. Sunny B. Limm
Fairway District Superintendent

Nancy Martinez
Assistant to the District Superintendent

A Service of the Word

Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2023 9:30 AM

The first and second Advents of Christ fulfill many prophecies of the Old Testament Scriptures. In Mark's Gospel, John the Baptist preaches a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, proclaiming the One who will baptize with fire and the Holy Spirit. John quotes the prophet Isaiah, calling all creation to prepare itself for Jesus' coming, for "the grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever."

GATHERING AND PRAISE

Ring the Church bell

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

Judy Spivey

Choral Praise

"Light the Advent Candle"

Choir Quartet

† **Call to Worship**

Holy God, we praise your name.

Lord of all we bow before you.

Son of God, yet born of Mary.

It is he who opened the heavens to faith.

Undivided God, we claim thee.

Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Spirit --

Three-in-One we acclaim thee, and we adore your mystery.

† **Opening Prayer**

Lord Jesus, people came from all over Judea to confess their sins, and to be baptized by John in the river Jordan. John baptized them water, and he told them of the One coming after him. We have come today confessing our sins. Hear our prayer for the peace only you bring with the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

JC Ray and Morgan Baker

Last Sunday we lit the first candle in our Advent Wreath, the candle of hope. We light it again as we remember that Christ will come again to fulfill all of God's promises to us.

Light the first candle

The second candle of Advent is the Candle of Peace. It is sometimes called the Bethlehem Candle to remind us of the place in which preparations were made to receive and cradle the Christ child.

Peace is a gift that we must be prepared to receive. God gives us the gift of peace when we turn to him in faith.

The prophet Isaiah calls Christ "the Prince of Peace." Through John the Baptist and all the other prophets, God calls on us to prepare our hearts so that he may come in.

Our hope is in God, and in his son Jesus Christ. Our peace is found in him. We light this candle today to remind us that he brings peace to all who trust in him.

Light the second candle

† **Hymn** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verses 3 & 7) # 211

**O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times did give the law in cloud and majesty and awe.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

**O come, Desire of nations bind all peoples in one heart and mind.
From dust thou brought us forth to life; deliver us from earthly strife.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-11

Drew Burris

Anthem

"Emmanuel"

Choir Quartet

Children's Lesson

Krystle Ray

† **Gospel Lesson**

Mark 1:1-8

Sermon

"The Beginning of the Good News"

Kevin Seymour

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Litany of the Coming Christ

O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver, the Expected of the nations:

Come and save us, O Lord our God.

O Leader of the House of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the flames of the bush and gave him the Law on Mt. Sinai:

Come, and with your outstretched arm redeem us.

MORRIS CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
ANNOUNCEMENTS & PARISH NOTICES – December 10, 2023

WELCOME!

Welcome to Morris Chapel United Methodist Church! We are delighted that you joined us in Christian Education and Worship today. Morris Chapel United Methodist Church welcomes visitors who are seeking a church home, those who join us for special occasions, and those who seek relief from life's burdens. Join us in praising God, making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, and giving thanks to a loving God for the blessings of the day!

CALENDAR

Every Sunday	9:30 am	Worship Service – in person and Livestream
Sunday	10:30 am	Fellowship Time
Sunday	10:45 am	Sunday Schools
Tuesday	10:00 am	Bible Study “Sunday’s Coming” Pastor Seymour
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Choir Practice – all are welcome

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

First Time Visitors! We are so glad you joined us, and we hope you return! Please pick up a coffee mug with goodies and info at the front door area as you exit. It is a token of our gratitude and love for visiting our Worship Service. Be blessed!

Christmas Cantata: The Christmas cantata “Song of Joy” will be presented NEXT Sunday, December 17, during the 9:30 Worship Service.

BIBLE STUDY: The study of Philippians will resume on December 31 after the Service (10:50 or so). No class until 12/31. We are on Chapter 2, verse 5. Simply bring a Bible and be ready to read, listen and discuss. All scripture is God breathed.... So come and let the Word speak to you today!

The Morris Chapel Christmas Post Office is in operation now! Bring your cards to the Post Office location in the Fellowship Hall. The Media Class will sort them, and distribute all at Christmas time. Donations are accepted, of course, and all will be used for charitable purposes. See Margaret Spivey for any questions... Thank you!

New Site: Accessing Sunday Sermons is as easy as going on Facebook. Refresh your memory, rethink the messages, be enriched again. May God bless your interest and devotion! Here is the link:

<https://www.facebook.com/MorrisChapelUnitedMethodistChurch>

PARISH NOTICES

Please check out nccumc.org for listings of programs and offerings beginning in January 2024 through early March. Included are: Conference Wide Leadership Training, Local Church Treasurer Training, What Does Church Look Like Now?, Safer Sanctuaries and Faithful Ministry in a Chaotic World.

Announcements: by noon on Wednesdays to Laurel Parker at laurelparker@charter.net or (919) 271-0963

AND Mavis Harper at mavisharper1944@gmail.com or (919) 770-0489.

PLEASE word your announcement as you wish to see it printed.. Thank you

**After Worship treats and goodies will be available in the Fellowship Hall courtesy of
Gail Thomas, Travis Thomas and Crystal Burichin! Thank you!!**

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Adams Family baby Anna's surgery & Gino's death – Manuela's friends Sherry Baucom Maryann Bell Rick Billings Brethen Family Richard & Amanda Campbell Kristie Casterlin Congregational Unity Deborah McNeill Cox Shelton Crutchfield Connie & Doug Currin	Faethe & Olivia Davis Greg Garcia Ron Hartman Ron Height Connie Hickman Mary Hudson Teresa Ingram Ann Jackson Evan Johnson Nancy Johnson Sandi & Mel Kankelfritz Jeff Ludewig Charles Maddox	Maude Maloney Ann McLeod Maxine McLeod Rhonda McNeill Sandra Norris Leslie & George Orlovsky Peace on earth Susie Pierce Crosby Price Danielle Rahko Residents of Gaza Ron & Peggy Scott Family of Prentice Sharpe	Kyle Smith Nathaniel Smith Cynthia Spivey Kenneth Spivey Joey Stewart Joyce Key Thomas United Methodist Church United States of America Pam Vaughan David Wagner Sandy Woolston Debra Underwood
---	---	---	--

Weekly Attendance, Tithes & Offerings

Attendance 12/03/23 80

Tithes & Offerings	
December Goal to Meet the 2023 Budget	\$ 17,938.65
Needed Each Sunday in December	\$ 4,675.25

NOTE: December Giving will be subtracted from the goal each Sunday.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Worship Volunteers-- you are respectfully asked to arrange for a substitute in the event that you cannot fill your assigned slot. Thank you.

Dec	Acolytes	Children's Message	Lay Readers	Ushers	Greeters	Communion Servers
10	Bryson Baker Calleigh Baker	Richard Angel	Drew Burris	Danny Baker Drew Burris	Marcia Garcia Jack Harper	
17	Ian Carter Jason Little	Krystle Ray	Inge Hersman	Gary Rosser Danny Baker	Greg Vorholt Cindy Vorholt	
24	Calleigh Baker Jase Burris	Richard Angel	George Orlovsky	Gary Maddox Gary Rosser	Marian Huepper Linda Dilley	Kevin Seymour Manuela Seymour Walt Hersman Inge Hersman
31	JC Ray Rylee Ray	Krystle Ray	Manuela Seymour	Ron Mercer Jack Harper	Dan Wissinger Melanie Wissinger	
Jan 7	Paisely Kilmer Teagen Kilmer	Stacey Burris	Doug Currin	Dan Wissinger Melanie Wissinger	Doug Currin Donna Maddox	Kevin Seymour Manuela Seymour Donnie Carter Sandra Carter



PLEASE JOIN US FOR

The Story of Jesus' Birth

PRESENTED BY -- The Morris Chapel Children

Sunday, December 24th – Worship hour