



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

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HANGING OF THE GREENS

December 5, 2021 - 9:30 am

Entrance

Prelude

Welcome Come, rest from your struggles, your worries, and your work. May the Lord of Love reign above every earthly power, and in our hearts as well.

Hanging of the Greens

Insert

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

“Hope”

Insert

Call to Worship

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

Choir

† Opening Hymn

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

#196

† Opening Prayer

(Unison)

Righteous One, your glory shines brighter than the sun. We remember your compassion and your faithful love, as we come to worship this day. Lift up our souls to meet the challenges we face, as we seek to bear the fruit of your salvation. May your righteous branch grow within our hearts, that our lives may abound in mercy and steadfast love. And may we be found ready and waiting when the one drawing near comes with power and glory to bring us to you. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 25:1-10

Pastor

† Gloria Patri

#70

Children’s Message

Receiving of Joys and Prayer Concerns

Pastor

Musical Interlude

Pastoral Prayer and Silent Meditation

Special Music

“Emmanuel”

Choir

Sermon Text

Luke 21:25-36

Message

Salvation is Near

Pastor

† Sending Forth

“Take My Life, and Let It Be”

#399

† Benediction

† 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!

Altar Flowers - Altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and to honor the union of Hank and Diane Richards.

Toys for Tots! Mark **December 5th** from 8:00-9:00 on your calendars! Our **Toys for Tots Breakfast** will take place in the Fellowship Hall, so please bring an unwrapped toy to exchange for a Hot Breakfast Plate. You can eat-in or get takeout. See Lou or Danny if you would like to help.

Medical Members of Morris Chapel If you have medical experience (nurse, physician, EMT, etc.) please contact Peggy Scott and relate your information. This information will stay within the church, but knowing who might be willing to assist in an emergency at the church will be very helpful. We need to care for each other physically and spiritually and your assistance is greatly appreciated. Peggy's number is (903)539-1898. Thank you and God bless you.

The Christmas Post Office is OPEN for this holiday season! Bring your letters to the Media Class for their sorting and organizing, to be distributed in December prior to Christmas. Rather than paying Uncle Sam to deliver your letters, bring a donation and this will be used by the Media Class for shut-in work and other charities. Thank you and God bless!

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 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 or (919) 271-0963.*

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

People of Afghanistan	Melissa Edwards	Susie Johnson	Susie Pierce
Project Agape	Rev. Michael Edwards	Bobby Jones	Phyllis Poe
Cindy Roberts Alexander	Family of Pat Ellis	Sandi Kankelfritz	Sue Pope
Sheila Armstrong	Wayne & Elaine Everts	Gary Kelly	Brenda Popke
Richard & Pat Angel	Tim & Heather Fabek	June Kelly	Dot Roberts
Teresa Baker	Mason Faircloth	Kelly Kilcullen	NC Schools-staff & students
Sherry Baucom	Sharon Fields	Margaret Kilcullen	Maria Serra
Don Beach	Pat Felton	Don Key	Sandra Shope
Joshua Black	Connie Ferra	Beverly Leslie	Donna Sloan
Elizabeth Brown	Donnie Fletcher	Branson Long	Richard Smith
Pauline Brown	Brenda Flow	Lost souls everywhere	Tommy Smith
Louise Buchanan	Karen Foy	Mary Luth	Cynthia Spivey
Vicki Buchanan	Judy Garner	Maude Maloney	Fred & Margaret Spivey
Ken Cameron	Family of Irene Garver	Rebecca Mansfield	Marianna Steer
Larry Cameron	Richard Gillis	Melissa Martin	Hilton Stewart
Opal Campbell	Cindy Griffin	Jimmy McCormick	Gretchen Taylor
Rick Campbell	Kathy Gross	Jackie McMillian	Buck Thomas Family
Barbara Cashion	Berrymon Hall	Linda McNeill	Gail Thomas
Christians in Middle East	Elva Hall	Rhonda McNeill	Larry Thomas
Families in Cuba & Haiti	Henry Hall	Tim & Donna McNeill	United Methodist Church
Frank Clark	Kristin Halsted	Martha Meeks	United States of America
Ronnie & Ella Cleary	Weston Hamil	Marion Edwards Recovery	Pam Vaughan
Shirley Coleman	Hardt family	Center Initiatives	Evelyn Watson
Kay Coles	Lewis Hartman	Lou Millar	Cyndi White
Covid victims	Kelly Hatcher	Military troops & families	Betty Whitehurst
Greg Cox	Bobby Holder	Kidnapped Missionaries in	Lilla Williams
Jeanette Amos-Cox	Laura Holder	Haiti	Jackie Wilson
Vanessa Davis	Linda Holder	Wilson Myers	Judy Wilson
Liz DiCamillo	Mary Hudson	Maude Oakley	Sammy Womack
Harry Dunlap	Chad Huffman	Molly Margaret O'Quinn	Crystal Yow
Ben Edwards	Janet Hughes	Nancy Page	
Emily Edwards	Kathy Hyde	Cecile Parker	

Hanging of the Greens

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.

How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

By hearing again the words of the prophets, who foretold the saving work of God.

For God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

Glory to God in the Highest!

GOD WILL SEND A RIGHTEOUS KING Jeremiah 23:5-6

In ancient times the cedar was revered as the tree of royalty. It also signified immortality and was used for purification. We place this cedar branch as a sign of Christ, who reigns as King for ever, and whose coming, in justice and righteousness, will purify our hearts.

THE PROPHET DECLARES A CHILD WILL BE BORN Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Because the needles of the pine and fir trees appear not to die each season, the ancients saw them as signs of things that last for ever. Isaiah tell us that there will be no end to the reign of the Messiah. Therefore, we hang this wreath of evergreens shaped in a circle, which itself has no end, to signify the eternal reign of Jesus, the Christ.

THE FOURTH SERVANT SONG Isaiah 53:1-6

For Christians, this passage from Isaiah reflects the suffering of Jesus, who saved us from our sins by his death on the cross, and by his resurrection from the dead, in ancient times, holly and ivy were considered signs of Christ passion. Their prickly leaves suggested

the crown of thorns, the red berries the blood of the Savior, and the bitter bark the drink offered to Jesus on the cross. As we hang the holly and the ivy, let us rejoice in the coming of Jesus, our Savior.

THE MYSTERY OF THE INCARNATION John 1:1-5, 9-14

As we prepare for the coming of Jesus, the light of the World, we light the Chrismon tree. During this Advent, wherever you see a lighted tree, let it call to mind the one who brings light to our darkness, healing to our brokenness, and peace to all who receive him.

BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE

Holy Lord, we come with joy to celebrate the birth of your son, who rescued us from the darkness of sin by making the cross a tree of life and light. May this tree, arrayed in splendor, remind us of the life-giving cross of Christ, that we may always rejoice in the new life that shines in our hearts. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Christ came to bring us Salvation and has promised to com again. Let us pray that we may always be ready to welcome him.

Come, Lord Jesus.

That the keeping of Advent may open our hearts to God's love, That the light of Christ may penetrate the darkness of sin, that this wreath may constantly remind us to prepare for the coming of Christ, that the Christmas season may fill us with peace and joy as we strive to follow the example of Jesus,

Loving God, your Church joyfully awaits the coming of the Savior, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin. Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May their light reflect the splendor of Christ, who is Lord, for ever and ever. Amen.

First Sunday of Advent

Hope

What are these candles for?

This is an Advent candle ring. It shows the circle of God's unbroken love.

There are five candles. We shall light a new candle each Sunday from now until Christmas.

What is the point of doing this?

Because the old proverb is true; What I hear, I forget.

What I see, I remember. What I do, I understand.

As we light our Advent candles, may they bring us together in the warm light of God's love.

The Gospel of Luke speaks about the future: "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth, distress among the nations. People will faint from fear and coming evil."

Because our world is full of fear and distress, we light our first candle, trusting that Christ is alive on earth and that the Spirit of Christ lives among us.

(Light the first candle.)

Living Christ, give us faith to trust you.

We trust you, we love you, we praise you. Amen.