

North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church



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Facebook: North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP • FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS
December 26, 2021 - 11:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

WE BECOME AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Call to Worship

One: Praise the Lord! Praise God in the heavens!

Many: Praise the Lord from the earth!

One: Young and old alike, men and women together.

All: Let us praise the Lord!

***Hymn (#113)**

Angels We Have Heard on High

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S GRACE

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

God of wonder,

**You surround us with signs of your glory
and surprise us with your presence,
yet we often miss the marvels you place before us.**

**Forgive our dullness and make us alert
to the ways you make yourself known,
that we might be witnesses to your good news
and proclaim your extravagant love;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior. (Silence)**

***Responsive Assurance of Pardon**

One: In Jesus Christ God saved us.

Many: Not because of any good works we have done,
but according to God's mercy.

One: Through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit
we have been made anew! People of God, rejoice!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

***Congregational Response (#113, Refrain)**

Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo.

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD TO US

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson Isaiah 52:7-10

(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Many: Thanks be to God.)

Sharing Faith with God's Children

Special Music

Second Scripture Lesson John 1:1-14

(One: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Many: Thanks be to God.)

Sermon

The Word Dwells Among Us

Rev. Steve Snipes

WE RESPOND TO GOD IN FAITH

***Hymn (#121)**

O Little Town of Bethlehem

***Affirmation of Faith**

Apostles' Creed

**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; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the
dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of God the
Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the living 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.**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

*Congregational Response (#606)

Doxology

*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.*

*Responsive Prayer of Dedication

One: Loving God:

Many: **We give you thanks for Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.**

One: Receive the gifts we offer in union with Christ's gift for us.

Many: **Clothe us with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and
patience, that we may be Christ for others.**

One: In Jesus' name we pray.

All: **Amen.**

WE DEPART TO SERVE

*Hymn (#132)

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

***Please rise, in body or spirit.**

113 Angels We Have Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet-ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
 2 Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro-long?
 3 Come to Beth-le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun-tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad-some ti - dings be which in-spire your heav-en-ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - - ol Glo

This French carol probably dates from the 1700s, though it was not printed until the following century. Because it uses a vernacular language for the narrative stanzas and Latin for the refrain, it belongs to a special category called "macaronic" or mixed-language texts.

121 O Little Town of Bethlehem



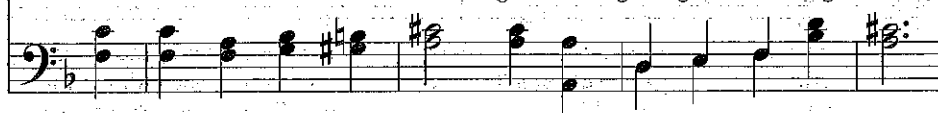
1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y and, gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by.
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light;
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell,



the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us; a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - ell



Though he was famed during his lifetime as a great preacher, no sermon Phillips Brooks ever preached has been heard or read by as many people as have sung this carol he wrote in December 1868 for the Sunday School children of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Philadelphia.

132 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!



Carols using two languages, like this one dating from at least the 14th century, belong to a special group called "macaronic," the original languages here being German and Latin. Though the present version is only in English, it is sung to the traditional German folk melody.

Poinsettias in the sanctuary are given in loving memory of:

*Brenda Hall-Cashion by Linda & Gerald Lankford
Frances and Claude Hall by Linda & Gerald Lankford
Carolina Finley by Harry & Jean Page
Dr. Bob C. Thompson by The Thompson Family
Bob C. Thompson by Robin & Barbara Thompson England,
Zeb Wright & Candyce Collard, & Cole Wright*

*Sam Johnson by Tamara Johnson
Grant and Jessie Rhodes by Barbara & Ed Gregory
Richard and Brattie Gregory by Barbara & Ed Gregory
Bob Thompson by Barbara & Ed Gregory
Rev. Bill Pruitt and Mary Felts Pruitt by Polly E. Pruitt*

*Mildred Brooks by Margie Edgerton
Ann Miller by Margie Edgerton
Opha Manus by Margie Edgerton
Bob Thompson by Margie Edgerton
John W. Hubbard by The Czerkawski Family*

*Ted and Ann Czerkawski by The Czerkawski Family
John Hubbard Jr. by The Czerkawski Family
Stacey Edmund by The Czerkawski Family
Penny Musson by Ellen Lipscomb
Blair and Florence Gwyn by Carolyn Bell*

*Our Grandfathers, John Hubbard and John Hughes by Sydney & Meredith Hubbard
Perry S. & Bobbie Snipes by Perry & Nancy Snipes
Philip Keener by Olive, Gus, & Charlie Keener
Joyce Davis by Mary Keener
Stephen Powell by Betty Powell*

Poinsettias in the sanctuary are given in loving memory of (cont.):

*Bob Powell by Betty Powell
Carol Childers by The Franklin Family
Jo Green by The Franklin Family
Penny Musson by The Franklin Family
Bob Thompson by The Franklin Family
H.M. (Skip) Parker by Mike & Chris Atwood*

Poinsettias in the sanctuary are given in honor of:

*Our Children & Grandchildren by Harry and Jean Page
Our NWPC & WPC Family by The Thompson Family
Betty Thompson by Robin & Barbara Thompson England,
Zeb Wright & Candyce Collard, & Cole Wright
The NWPC Kingdom Kids and Youth by Polly E. Pruitt
Becky Hubbard by The Czerkawski Family*

*Our Grandsons by Richard & Mamie Collier
The Seekers Class by Ellen Lipscomb
Our Grandmothers, Becky Hubbard & Donna Hughes by Sydney & Meredith Hubbard*

Poinsettias in the sanctuary are given by:

Jan and Steve Jackson