



North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church



804 E Street, North Wilkesboro, NC 28659

336-667-1288 ■ www.nwpres.org

Facebook: *North Wilkesboro Presbyterian Church*

A SERVICE OF WORSHIP • SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 5, 2021 - 11:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

WE BECOME AWARE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Call to Worship

Bob Vickery & Lynn Durchman

One: Watch and wait for Christ's coming!
We light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love,
remembering the promises of God with prayer.
We light this candle in hope.
We light this candle for peace.

One: Hear now these words of peace from the Gospel according to Luke:
"By the tender mercy of our God,
the dawn from on high will break upon us,
to give light to those who sit in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace."

**Sung: O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lowly exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel**

One: God of promise, God of peace,
you are the way of love, and those who abide in love, abide in you.
Teach us how to love one another
as reflections of your light in the world.

All: God of promise, God of peace, into our darkness come.

***Hymn (#82)**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

WE OPEN OURSELVES TO GOD'S GRACE

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Refining God,

You have sent us prophets and we have not listened.

We have not always determined what is best

or made way for your reign

in our lives, our church, and our society.

Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us,

for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. (Silence)

Responsive Assurance of Pardon

One: Friends, I am confident of this:
if we repent, God is sure to forgive us.

Many: **The One who began a good work in us will bring it to completion.**

One: Grateful for the promise of joy and peace,
let us proclaim the good news of the gospel:

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Alleluia! Amen.**

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD TO US

Prayer for Illumination

Richard Collier

First Lesson

Luke 3:1-6

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

Sharing Faith with God's Children

Special Music

Second Lesson

Malachi 3:1-4

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

Sermon

Presenting Our Offering

Rev. R.C. Griffin

WE RESPOND TO GOD IN FAITH

***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 sits 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


Responsive Prayer of Dedication

- One:** God of all righteousness,
Receive these gifts of gratitude, the offerings of our lives.
- Many:** Purify them with your refining fire so that they may serve your purposes and shine with your glory.
- One:** We offer these gifts and ourselves in your name.
- All:** Alleluia. Amen.

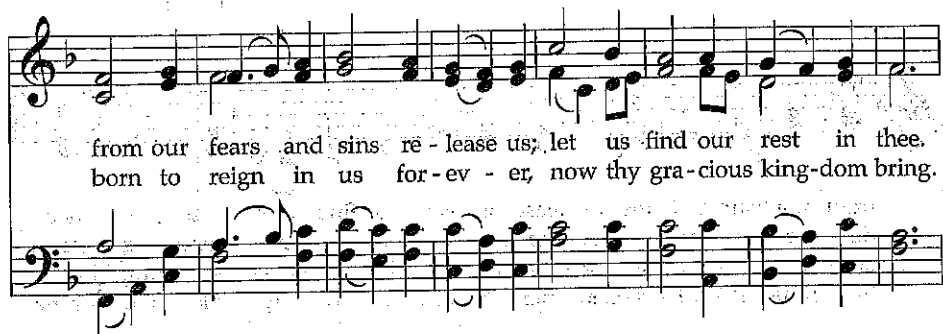
WE DEPART TO SERVE

***Charge and Benediction**

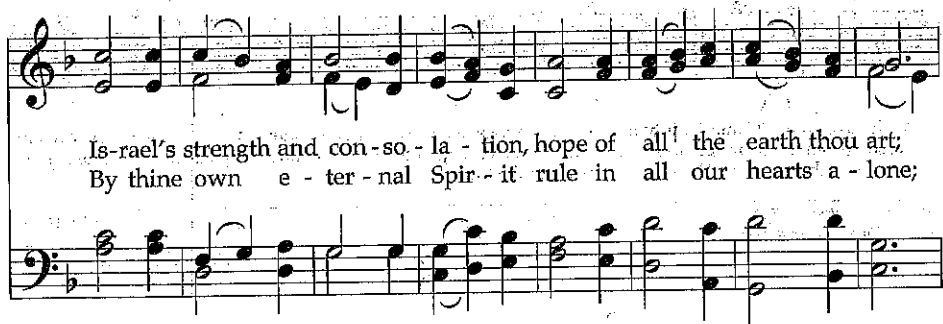
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

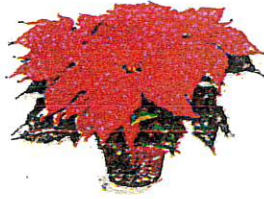


Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.



Advent is a season of preparation. We are preparing our hearts for the coming of the Christ Child. We are preparing our world for the return of Christ, the King. And we are preparing our sanctuary for the celebration of Advent and Christmas. This year, you have the opportunity once more to contribute **poinsettias** as we prepare our sanctuary for the season.

We are asking for a \$10.00 donation to help cover the cost of the plants which have already been ordered, so please return the form below
by **Sunday, December 12.**

If you choose to honor someone, please fill in the following, include your check, and either place the form in the offering plate or leave it in the church office:

I am donating a Poinsettia in memory of _____

given by _____

Or:

I am donating a Poinsettia in honor of _____

given by _____

Or simply:

Given by _____

We will recognize all memorials and honorees in worship bulletins starting December 19. Plants will remain in the sanctuary after December 25 to celebrate the Christmas season or will be delivered to nursing homes.