

## SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

**PRELUDE** *A Promise of Spring* H. Beetfink  
Misty Theisen, flute

**WELCOME**

**ADVENT AND CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTING**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, T. Helmore  
Marc Eden, tenor

\* **OPENING HYMN 133** “O Come, All Ye Faithful” vv. 1, 3-4

**PRAYER**

**FIRST LESSON** Isaiah 9:2, 6-7  
*The people who walk in darkness  
receive the promise of the Messiah.*

**CAROL** Hymn 121, “O Little Town of Bethlehem” vv. 1 & 4

**SECOND LESSON** Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9  
*The Messiah will come from the root  
of Jesse to restore the peace of creation.*

**CAROL** Hymn 129, “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” vv. 1-2

**THIRD LESSON** Luke 1:26-35, 38  
*An angel appears to Mary and  
announces that she will bear a holy child.*

**CAROL** Hymn 119, “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” vv. 1 & 3

**FOURTH LESSON** Luke 2:1-7  
*Joseph and Mary travel to Bethlehem,  
where Mary gives birth to her child.*

**CAROL** Hymn 115, “Away in a Manger” vv. 1 & 3

**FIFTH LESSON** Luke 2:8-16  
*Angels appear to shepherds in the fields  
and announce the birth of the Messiah.*

---

**Bold font** indicates congregational participation.

\* You are invited to stand in body or in spirit.

**CAROL** Hymn 113, “Angels We Have Heard on High” vv. 1-2

**SIXTH LESSON** Matthew 2:1-11  
*Wise men from the East come seeking the  
Messiah and offer gifts to the baby Jesus.*

**OFFERING** *O Holy Night* Adolph Adam

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your  
kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in  
heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the  
time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the  
power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

**SEVENTH LESSON** John 1:1-14  
*The Word of God becomes flesh and  
lives among us, full of grace and truth.*

**LIGHTING OF CANDLES FROM THE CHRIST CANDLE**

*The ushers will light the candles of those sitting in the center aisle  
from the Christ candle. Please then pass the light to the person sitting  
beside you. The person receiving the light tips their candle.*

*While the light is being passed, you are invited to sing the carol  
“Silent Night.”*

**CAROL** Hymn 122, “Silent Night, Holy Night!”  
*The first verse is sung by the soloist. The congregation is invited to join  
in the singing of verses 2-4.*

**SOLO** *Lullaby*

On this silent, holy night, as we hold this precious child,  
there are no words for this moment.

Heaven and earth meet in our arms tonight.

He is ours, yet, he is God’s.

Sleep now, sleep my Son, sleep in peace.

Years ahead will yet unfold, but tonight we’ll keep Him close,  
safe and warm in a manger.

Emmanuel, sent here to save us.

Tomorrow waits, tonight, rest your head.

Sleep now, sleep my Son, sleep in peace. Sleep in peace.

\* **CLOSING HYMN 134** “Joy to the World” vv. 1 & 4

\* **CHARGE AND BLESSING**

**POSTLUDE** *A Christmas Medley* Handel/Tchaikovsky

**END OF WORSHIP ... BEGINNING OF SERVICE**



**The candles in worship:** The four blue candles were lit consecutively over the four Sundays of Advent. Tonight we also light the white candle (the Christ candle) as a sign of Christ’s birth. The smaller candle is in a candle holder made by a member of our partner church, Iglesia El Divino Salvador in Guatemala, reminding us of our covenant.

**Readers at 5 PM:** Bill Carpenter, Angela Lepro, Margaret Marsh, Jay Maveety, Elaine Morse, Bunk Spann

**Readers at 7 PM:** Janet Black, Janet and Woody Ferrell, Elaine Morse, Bonnie Runkle, Karen Ward

**Greeter at 5 PM:** Margaret Marsh

**Greeters at 7 PM:** Herschel and Linda Lewis

**Ushers at 5 PM:** Bill Carpenter and Glenn Limbird

**Usher at 7 PM:** Kim Presley

**We thank our soloists today:** Marc Eden, tenor, Andy Morse, tenor, Misty Theisen, flute, and Ruth Young, flute.

**The cover art** is a digital painting called “Center Christ” by Lauren Wright Pittman at A Sanctified Art LLC. Learn more about A Sanctified Art at [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org).

**Exploring Membership**

Interested in learning more about New Hope and the possibility of membership? Contact Kim at [pastornhpc@gmail.com](mailto:pastornhpc@gmail.com) for more information about upcoming opportunities.

**MANNA Food Bank**

We have a group that serves monthly at MANNA Food Bank throughout the year. Come join our New Hope volunteer team on the second Tuesday of every month from 4:15-5:30 PM. Our next date is coming up on Tuesday, January 11. We meet directly at MANNA (627 Swannanoa River Road, Asheville) and do a variety of service activities

getting food ready for those who need it. You can join us just one time, on a regular monthly basis, or whenever you can. Questions? Contact leader Linda Lewis at (828) 483-6296.

### **Celebrating Community and Global Partnerships**

As the year comes to a close, we celebrate a year of partnership with the following organizations dedicated to serving others:

Asheville-Buncombe Community Christian Ministry

BeLoved Asheville

Canton Presbyterian Church

Catholic Charities Fund for Afghan Refugees in Asheville

Faith 4 Justice Asheville

El Divino Salvador, our sister church in Guatemala

El Refugio Hospitality House near Stewart Detention Center, GA

Habitat for Humanity—Asheville Area

Homeward Bound

Hood Huggers Blue Note Junction

MANNA Food Bank

Paz Amigos

Presbytery of Western North Carolina's Guatemala Partnership, including the Women of Guatemala, the Children's Educational Scholarship Fund, and the Microloan Project

Presbytery of Western North Carolina's Unified Benevolence and Theological Education

Presbyterian Church (USA) Special Offerings and Nickel-a-Meal

Racial Justice Coalition

UKirk at Western Carolina University

### **New Hope COVID Policy**

**Mask Up!** Whether you are vaccinated or not vaccinated you need to wear a mask while inside the church.

### **Air Purifier in the Sanctuary**

In order to increase our safety in the sanctuary, we have purchased an air purifier, a Medify MA-112, which has a medical-grade HEPA filter and ionizer. It is able to filter particles as small as 0.1 microns (the coronavirus is slightly larger at 0.125 microns). It also provides about two complete air exchanges per worship service.

**Please sanitize your hands upon entry.** Hand sanitizer is available at all entry points and in various other locations around the building. Remember to keep your hands washed as needed.

**Please stay away from church IF** you are sick, have COVID symptoms, have been exposed to someone with COVID.

**Please do not move any of the chairs in the sanctuary.** Our new seating layout took a lot of exact measuring and effort to set up, so we would appreciate it if you would refrain from moving seats.

### **Please observe a “touchless” Passing of the Peace of Christ.**

While individuals may use their own discretion about accepting hugs and handshakes outside of the sanctuary, during the passing of the peace we will refrain from touching so that those who aren't comfortable with that yet aren't put on the spot. (And, when you're outside the sanctuary, please ask before you hug someone to make sure they're comfortable.)

**Please do not let the Narthex get crowded.** We will not be serving coffee or food after worship for now. As you leave the sanctuary, please make a conscious effort to help the Narthex not get too crowded by spreading into outdoor spaces to socialize if a lot of people are present.

**Communion:** Communion servers are vaccinated and will wear masks and sanitize hands. Juice will be served in individual glass cups, and pieces of bread will be served with tongs. Please follow the ushers' directions in coming forward and return to your seats with your elements in hand. Please wait until the pastor indicates that it is time to partake, and we will all partake together.

**Please know that the Session may change this policy,** either by loosening or tightening these restrictions, as circumstances change.

### **New Hope Presbyterian Church**

*We are a welcoming, inclusive faith community, seeking to respond to Christ's call to love and serve, through ministries of compassion and social justice.*

3070 Sweeten Creek Road, Asheville, NC 28803 | (828) 274-0191

Kim Wells, Pastor | Erin May, Church Administrator

Rob Blackwell, Director of Music Ministry/Pianist

Ken Meeks, Parish Associate

[www.newhopepcusaasheville.org](http://www.newhopepcusaasheville.org)

*New*



## *Presbyterian Church*

“Including, Renewing, Serving”

Christmas Eve  
December 24, 2021  
5 & 7 o'clock



### Service of Lessons & Carols



“To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.” (Luke 2:11)