

Laurinburg Presbyterian Church

600 West Church St. Laurinburg, NC 28352

4th Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2016



Founded 1859

Dr. Duane Hix, Interim Pastor

Dr. José Rivera, Director of Music

Mr. Sean McDonald, Organist

Supported Missionary

Christopher McReynolds

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 18, 2016

Eleven o'clock

Prayer for Reflection:

God of Advent, God of Adventure: Ahead of us lies the season of waiting and expectation. Cleanse our hearts and prepare our minds to receive the Christ child. May this hour of worship lead us toward his manger, his footsteps, and his cross. Amen

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please print your name on the Friendship Pad found at the end of the pew, and return it to its starting place.

WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE The Friendly Beasts (Joyful Ringers)

CALL TO WORSHIP The Ceremony of the Advent Wreath

The Patterson family: Kevin, Terry, Alexis, Matthew

Relighting the Candles of Hope, Peace, and Joy

Lighting of the Fourth Candle - the Candle of Love

Unison Prayer: **God of grace, thank you for expressing your love through the life of Jesus, through our own lives, and through the lives of fellow Christians. Help us remember that your love will never end. Amen**

Advent Sung Response - #89, refrain (all), verse 4(choir), refrain (all)

**Refrain – For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits;
Truly my hope is in you.**

PRAYER OF ADORATION

*HYMN 105 People, Look East

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

God of wisdom: you know us better than we know ourselves. You watch us strive for happiness and yet remain unsatisfied. You watch us achieve success and still remain empty. Our whirlwind lives exhaust us; the search for popularity compromises our integrity. We are not sure what goals we should seek or whom we should follow. In your presence, we admit our confusion. Forgive us, Lord. Remove our illusions. Send your Spirit to guide us toward the manger, to the side of your Son. There let us hear glad

tidings of great joy. Please now accept our personal prayers of confession....

Silent Prayer

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 581 *Gloria Patri*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

At the conclusion of Children's Anthems, kids in PreK through Grade 5 are invited to join the Sunday School teachers at the back of the sanctuary for Children's Church. Younger children may also be taken to the nursery.

Anthem: How Will We Know Him?, Algozin

Anthem: The Friendly Beasts, arr. McDonald

Verse 1: Children

Verse 2: Katie Carmichael, solo

Response: O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Verse 3: Max Anderson, solo

**Response: Away in a manger, no crib for a bed
The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay!**

Verse 4: Claire Carmichael, solo

Response: Noel, noel, noel, noel! Born is the King of Israel!

Verse 5: Sarah Beth McLaurin, solo

**Response: Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin, mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild.
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

Verse 6: Joyful Singers & Cherub Choir
**Response: Joy to the World! The Lord is come!
Let Earth receive her King!
Let ever heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and heaven and nature sing!**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SCRIPTURE READING Luke 1:26-49, NT pg 56

One: The word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

THE MESSAGE "The Coming One: The God of Joy"

*HYMN 140 Once In Royal David's City

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH(unison)

Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus. His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God. He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel, the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity. He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world.

From The Confession of 1967

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING OF SELF AND SUBSTANCE

OFFERTORY

*DEDICATION RESPONSE: The Doxology # 606

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. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THANKSGIVING (unison)

We give thee but thine own, what'e'r the gift may be. All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee. Amen.

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN 136 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

*BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 88 O Come, O Come,
Emmanuel, v. 1

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

POSTLUDE

**All who are able may stand.*

Welcome to everyone in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. May each of us know the presence of the risen Christ as we worship and feel the warmth and love of the community of Christ here today. If you are searching for a church home, we invite you to join us in the worship and work of Jesus Christ through the ministries of this congregation. To receive information about the life of this faith community, please mark the Friendship Pad.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 18

Joy Offering will be received

Youth Groups - Caroling at Scotia Village (meet at LPC at 3:15 pm)

5:30 pm Dinner and Carol Singing

December 19

6:00 pm Meal - New Officers Meet With Session

7:00 pm Session Meeting

December 20

4:00 pm Christmas Communion Service -Morgan Room-Scotia

December 24

5:30 pm & 11:00 pm Christmas Eve Services

DECEMBER SANCTUARY COMMITTEE

Ellen Dean, Chair, Emily Womble, Angela Purcell, Susan Wentz,
Kristen Dean, Sue Schulz, Sharlene McLaurin, Meredith Bounds

NOTES AND THANKS

URGENT: We need volunteers for Christmas Eve at 5:30 pm to help out in the church nursery. If you're able to assist please call the church office asap. Thanks.

REMINDER: The 2017 Lorena Clark Piner Scholarship forms are available outside the church office. Please pick up forms. This is provided by the Coastal Carolina Presbytery and is due February 13, 2017. Thanks. Virginia Ann McCormick , PW Moderator

Thanks to the Joyful Singers & Ringers and Cherub Choir for their contributions to this morning's worship services! Thanks as well to parents and grandparents for helping the kids learn their music and bringing them to rehearsals. Participants: Annie Anderson, Max Anderson, Claire Carmichael, Katie Carmichael, Caroline Hicks, Eli Hicks, Sarah Beth McLaurin, Sumner McLaurin, Ella Kate Quick, Vivienne Rhue

The Youth Handbells, Joyful Singers & Ringers, and Cherub Choir will perform this Wednesday, December 21, at the Scotland Memorial Library's holiday party. Come support our kids as they participate in this annual tradition! Their performance will start at approximately 4:15 pm.

ALTERNATIVE GIVING OPPORTUNITY

Books are in the office for you to review as an alternative for this Christmas Giving Season. Thank you for your generosity. Bill Hill, Chairman

2017 Stewardship Update 12/15/16

2017 Pledge Budget.....\$412, 915

2017 Pledges Received.....\$351, 604

2017 Pledges Needed.....\$61, 311

2017 Pledges Received = 85% of Goal

If you have not turned in your 2017 pledge card, please mail it or drop it off in the church financial office as soon as possible. Thank you,
The Stewardship/Membership Committee

NOTE FROM THE MISSION STUDY TEAM

Have you taken the Congregational Survey yet? You may do so online at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/laurinburgpres> or you may pick up a paper copy in the lobby near the offices. Please return paper copies to the office. Online submissions will be processed automatically upon submission. Thank you! We would like surveys to be completed soon.

Presbyterian Women Hospitality

If your child is a college student please contact office with their name and address ASAP. Thanks Sis. Thomas , PW Hospitality Chair

Please remember these in your thoughts and prayers—

Continuing Concerns: Lucile Bridgeman, Clark Hanmer, Louise Wester, Sarah Bullock, Jake Caudill, Millie Peele, Flo Johnson, Sammy Simmons Jane McKay

In Scotia Skilled: Anne Collins, Evelyn Crossley, Edna Drake, Virginia Johnson, Mackey McCormick, Helen Middleton, Elizabeth McIntosh, Klare Van Dusen

Scotia Special Care: Frances Haupt, Ann Hill, Margaret Caudill

Scotia Assisted: Ervin Hill, Adell Page, John and Helen Baker, Marjorie Coughenour

At Scottish Pines: Katherine Edmund, Thelma Morgan

STAFF — Office 910-276-0831 email: laurinburgpres@bizec.rr.com

Interim Pastor	Dr. Duane Hix	ext. 310	cell: 919-819-7198
Director of Music	Dr. José Rivera	ext. 305	cell: 414-218-2822
Organist	Sean McDonald	ext. 305	cell: 910-373-1776
Business Manager	LeGette McLean		ext. 304
Child Care Director	Priscilla Graham		ext. 306
Office Manager	Cathy Meekins		ext. 301
Assist. for Pastoral Visitation	Dr. Doug Hix		cell: 910-280-2517
Assist. for Christian Educ.	Dr. Jaime Martinez		cell: 910-258-8459



REMEMBER THE REASON

JESUS

THE SESSION: Moderator Dr. Duane Hix (cell: 919-819-7198)

Class of 2016

John Baker
Julian Butler
David Harling
Bill Hill
Fred Mabry
Lynn Mason
Maggie Ratcliffe

Class of 2017

Anne Caudill
Mike Coughenour
Debby Holcomb
Edna Ann Loftus
Richard Massey
Larry Schulz
Clint Willis

Class of 2018

Kristen Anderson
Scott Miller
Martha Olmstead
Robin Snead
Janet Smith
Nick Sojka
Susan Wentz

THE DEACONATE: Moderator: Denise Herr

Class of 2016

Denise Herr
Kim Liles
Richard Mabry
Kaye McMillan
Jimmy Stubbs

Class of 2017

Kitson Broadbelt
Chris Carmichael
Stuart Carmichael
Bill Loftus
Chris Rhue
Ellen Thompson

Class of 2018

Barbara Bateman
Beverly Bowling
David Carmichael
John Decembrino
Dan Sprouse
Debra Sutherland

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN: Moderator: Virginia Ann McCormick

Vice-Moderator, Leslie Sellers

Delia Muse, Treasurer

Beverly Bowling, Secretary

Betsy Massey, Historian

Moderator of Search Committee,

Clara Butler

CHURCH LEADERSHIP BY COMMITTEE:

Edna Ann Loftus, Clerk of the Session

home: 277-0186; work: 277-5256; cell: 280-3057; eaol@sa.edu

Anne Caudill, Chair Christian Nurture & Education

home: 276-8116; cell: 318-1235; acaudill66@gmail.com

Mike Coughenour, Chair Building, Equipment & Grounds

home: 276-5150; cell: 280-0286; tmcoughenour@gmail.com

Debby Holcomb, Chair Fellowship

cell: 280-2722; registerscotland@roadrunner.com

Bill Hill, Chair Membership & Stewardship

home: 276-7871; cell: 610-3180; baphill6@roadrunner.com

Larry Schulz, Chair Worship, Music & Arts

home: 276-4826; cell: 280-5381; les@sa.edu

Clint Willis, Chair Capital Campaign

home: 276-2739; cell: 910-986-3352; bg.clint7@gmail.com

David Harling, Chair Finance & Administration

cell: 280-0389; david@davidharling.com

Bill Loftus, Chair Personnel

home: 277-0186; cell: 280-3061; wjl@sa.edu

Richard Massey, Chair Childcare Advisory

home: 276-0479; r.w.massey3@gmail.com

Denise Herr, Moderator Deaconate

home: 277-0792; denisecherr@gmail.com

Virginia Ann McCormick, Moderator Presbyterian Women

home: 276-0230; cell: 280-0711; vmccormick1@roadrunner.com