

Laurinburg Presbyterian Church

600 West Church St. Laurinburg, NC 28352

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 4, 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 4, 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 O Come, All Ye Faithful, arr. Larson (Youth Handbells)

CALL TO WORSHIP – The Ceremony of the Advent Wreath
The Caudill Family

Relighting the Candle of Hope

Lighting of the Second Candle - the Candle of Peace

Unison Prayer, The Prayer of St. Francis: **Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is sadness, joy; and where there is darkness, light. Amen**

Advent Sung Response - #89, refrain (all), verse 2(choir), refrain (all)

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

PRAYER OF ADORATION

*HYMN 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

O gentle God: our hearts are restless until they rest in you. From all the vain hopes that earth lifts up, we turn unfilled to you. In your

presence, we admit our emptiness, our need of aid and comfort. Our smiling face often hides a heart that yearns for your care. Our many accomplishments cannot quite mask our failures. We seek your forgiveness and your strength. Fill us with heavenly food; embrace us with loving arms; bind our wounds with words of comfort, as we now confess our sins before you...

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

Glorify 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

CHILDREN'S SERMON for all children

Children please meet your teachers at the back of the sanctuary to go to Sunday School.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 40:1-11, OT pg 667

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

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM O Holy Christ, in Love Come Down Parker & Rainey
(Chancel Choir and youth handbells) Jane McLaurin, Flute

THE MESSAGE "The Coming One: The Comforting God"

*HYMN 792 There Is a Balm in Gilead

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

In the fullness of time God sent his Son, his eternal wisdom, the substance of God's own glory, into this world, who took the nature of humanity from the substance of a woman, a virgin, by means of the Holy Ghost. And so was born the 'just seed of David', the "angel of the great counsel of God", the very Messiah promised. We confess and acknowledge this one to be Emmanuel, true God and true human, two perfect natures united and joined in one person.

From The Scots Confession, 1560

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, whate'er 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 100

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

*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 Joy to the World, arr. Larson (Youth Handbells)
We Wish You a Merry Christmas

**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 4

4:30 pm Deacons Meeting

M.S. Bible Study: In Adult S.S. and after worship (lunch)

December 6

7:00 pm BEG

December 7

5:45 Dinner and M.S. Bible Study

December 8

6:30 pm Deacon Training

December 14

7:00 pm Finance & Administration

December 15

5:30 pm Child Care Meeting

6:00 pm Child Care Christmas Program

December 18

5:30 pm Dinner and Carol Singing

Youth Groups - Caroling at Scotia Village

December 19

6:00 pm Meal - New Officers Meet With Session

7:00 pm Session Meeting

DECEMBER SANCTUARY COMMITTEE

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

Kids & Youth (PreK-Grade 8)--join the Christmas pageant!

We will present our annual Christmas Pageant during Worship on Sunday, December 18. Come to the Advent Workshop on December 3 at 10 am to begin learning the songs! A second rehearsal will take place Sunday, December 11 at 4 pm, and then we'll meet in the Sanctuary on December 18 at 9:30 for our final run-through. If you'd like to participate but can't come to the Advent Workshop, just let Jaime know. For more information, call or email Jaime at 910-258-8459 or jam6ah@gmail.com.

NOTES AND THANKS

St. Andrews Final Exam Stress Buster -- Calling all LPC Bakers! The annual St. Andrews Final Exam "Cookies and Milk" Stress Buster event will be hosted by LPC on Sunday evening, December 4. Please bring your cookies, or any other goodies, to the church by noon on Sunday December 4, and leave them in the Fellowship Hall Kitchen. Also, please include a note if they contain nuts or coconut. The LPC Deacons and St. Andrews students thank you so much! Bill Loftus

Christmas Cheer Tree is up. "Again this Christmas, the LPC Deacons ask you to take a tag (or two) from our Christmas Cheer trees set up outside the fellowship hall and sanctuary and buy gifts for local families in need. Please wrap the gifts, include the tags on the outside of the packages, and bring them to the church office by Sunday, December 11, 2016. The Deacons will then deliver the gifts with food baskets to the families before Christmas. Thank you for your generous support of this annual mission project!" **Denise Herr, Chairman**

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 12/1/16

2017 Pledge Budget	\$412,915
2017 Pledges Received	\$292,904

2017 Pledges Needed \$120,011
2017 Pledges Received = 71% of Goal

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

A 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 by Dec. 18

Presbyterian Women Hospitality

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

TODAY - Dec. 4, 3:30 pm - Dr. Clark Hanmer is signing copies of his recently published book "My Cancer Demon" at Scotia Village.

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	Duane Hix	ext. 310	cell:	919-819-7198
Director of Music	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

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

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Mike Coughenour, Chair Building, Equipment & Grounds

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Debby Holcomb, Chair Fellowship

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Richard Massey, Chair Childcare Advisory

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Denise Herr, Moderator Deaconate

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