

Laurinburg Presbyterian Church

1st Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024

Our Mission: To Be The Word In Action



Founded 1859

Rev. Rebekah Carpenter, Senior Pastor
Holly Albrecht, Director of Christian Education
Dr. José Rivera, Director of Music
Lee Harris, Organist

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Eleven o' clock

Please pass the Friendship Pad found at the end of the pew and return it to its starting place. If you are worshiping with us for the first time, we invite you to leave your contact information on the pad. This will give us the opportunity to share with you the work and witness of our community of faith—and to welcome you into our midst!

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Roderic P. Frohman

Prelude

"Sleepers Wake! A Voice is Calling"

J.S. Bach

Lighting the First Advent Candle

"Hope"

Tom and Judy Draper

*Call to Worship

Holly Albrecht

Leader: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

People: Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

Leader: Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

People: Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

Leader: Good and upright is the Lord; therefore God instructs sinners in the way.

People: The Lord leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble the way.

Leader: All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep God's covenant and decrees.

People: The friendship of the Lord is for those who are in awe. God makes the eternal covenant known to them.

*Invocation

*Hymn of Praise #105 *"People, Look East"*

Invitation to Confession

Corporate Prayer of Confession

"Holy God, we confess that we are busy with many preparations, but our busyness may be misplaced. Draw us back to the center, which is You". God of love, you come to your people to dwell with us. You come with power to transform all things. You come with promises to make all things new. You come with signs of your deep love for the world. You come, and your truth breaks into our lives, shattering lies and half-truths, setting your people free. Coming Christ, you may not find us as you hoped. Keep us alert, to the needs of our neighbors. Your coming is our hope, and so, we offer you our praise and prayers in gratitude and anticipation. Come into our lives again, O God, and show us how to hope in the face of all that is discouraging, for we gather in the name of Hope made flesh,

Jesus Christ, your promise and our desire. Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sins and the sins of this world. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

***Congregational Response #581** *“Glory Be to the Father”*

***Passing of the Peace** “May the peace of Christ be with you.”
“And also with you.”

Time with Children

Dr. Hillary Sessions

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Scripture Jeremiah 33:14-16

***Hymn of Worship #83** *“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”*

New Testament Scripture Luke 21:25-36

Commentary on The Word *“Advent Shock”* Rev. Dr. Roderic P. Frohman

Anthem *“Come Jesus, Holy Child”* setting by Healey Willan

Pastoral Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

An Invitation to Give

Offertory *“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”* Paul Manz

***The 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.

***Prayer of Dedication**

***The Apostle’s Creed** (pg 35 in front of the hymnal)

***Hymn of Parting #102** *“Savior of the Nations, Come”*

***Charge and Benediction**

(Why we sit for the Postlude: We have been blessed with wonderful organists over the years, so it has become a tradition at Laurinburg Presbyterian to remain seated for the Postlude and continue to worship and listen for God through music. If you need to leave before it ends, we do not mind if you exit reverently.)

*Those who are able are requested to stand

Save the dates!!

January 2025 Three New Member Classes

*After worship Lunch*and Learn Opportunity*

Noon to 1:30 PM

For new members especially but all members are welcome

Child Care provided*

January 12, 2025 - Noon

“What’s so unique about being a Presbyterian?”

Revs Rebekah Carpenter and Roderic Frohman will lead a presentation/discussion on “Reformed” theology, emphasizing the distinguishing marks of being a Presbyterian vs. the traditions of our Baptist, Lutheran, Catholic, etc. sisters and brothers in the faith.

January 19, 2025 - Noon

“What’s so unique about Laurinburg Presbyterian Church?”

We have a rich tradition in Scotland County among all congregations. Some of our member-historians will lead us in a presentation/discussion of the highlights of our past and our unique role in Laurinburg as a catalyst of the development of significant institutions including St. Andrews University, Church Community Services and, most recently, Family Promise of Scotland County.

January 26, 2025 – Noon

“What is church membership all about?”

This class will highlight what it means to commit to being a church member spiritually and through stewardship of time, talents, service and finances. Charles Bounds will offer a transparent look at how we handle finances at Laurinburg Presbyterian Church.

*Lunch and Child Care: Please call Lisa Adams in the Church office, 910 276 0831, to reserve your lunch spot and/or need for child care. Yes, lunch will be provided for the children too.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING:

Today 12/1	4-6 pm Advent Workshop
Monday 12/2	7 pm PW Circle 1 Meeting in the Fellowship Hall
Tuesday 12/3	3 pm PW Circle 2 Meeting in the Fellowship Hall
Wednesday 12/4	5 pm Worship Committee Meeting
Sunday 12/8	9:45 am Sunday School For All 11 am Worship (Christmas Cantata)

Advent Workshop

The Advent Workshop is this afternoon, 4:00-6:00 pm. Make an advent wreath and banner. Take a family nativity photo. Enjoy dinner with your church family. Birdfeeders, ornaments, Christmas cookies, and lots more!

The Sellers' GRACE Group will meet December 15th from 5-7 pm at the home of the McQueen's. Bring hors d'oeuvres to share.

The Dyer-Eshleman-Dean GRACE Group will meet December 15th at 6pm at the Dyer-Eshleman Home.

HO HO HO!!!

Please bring your Christmas Spirt & Christmas voice to our next Grace Group Gathering. On Sunday December 15th at 4:00 pm, we will meet at Bradley & Sarah Williams' home and load up in a LPC Bus to go Christmas Caroling to LPC Shut-Ins. After our singing tour, we will return to the Williams house for pizza and salad. Please RSVP by December 8th. Hope everyone will be able to join us for fun and fellowship. -Bradley & Sarah Williams

Stewardship Update

Budgeted Pledges 2024	\$342,575
Total Pledges Received Thru 11/17/24	\$309,294
Pledge Difference Thru 11/17/24	\$33,281
Percent Received	90%

2025 Stewardship Planning

Actual 2025 Pledges received to date	\$410,480
Other 2025 Budgeted Other Income	\$49,000
Total 2025 Budgeted Income	\$459,480
Total 2025 Budgeted Expenses	\$492,076
Additional 2025 pledges needed to balance the budget	\$32,596

Actual pledges received in 2024	86
Actual 2025 pledges received to date	78

The Fun Adult Sunday School Class

- Debi Hobbs will continue her series of three classes on The Poetry of Mary Oliver: A Celebration of God's Creations on and December 1 and 8.
- The Fun Adult Sunday School Class invites the congregation to attend a Carol Sing on Sunday, December 15, at 9:45 in the Fellowship Hall. A devotional will be led by Dwight Williams. We hope you'll join us!

Christmas Cheer is Here!

There are still some tags on the Christmas Cheer Tree, located outside the Sanctuary in the hall.

Please take some, shop for gifts for these families, and have the gifts back to the church office by December 9, with the original tree tags attached. As they have done the past couple years, the Deacons will hold a luncheon for the families on December 14, where they will take their gifts home. This is an exciting time of the year and the Deacons look forward to your help!

DECEMBER VOLUNTEERS

Deacon Greeters/Visitors:

December 1-7	Louise Mabry	12/1	Earl Bowling
December 8-14	Phil Eshleman	12/8	David Carmichael
December 15-21	Katherine Campbell	12/15	Jamie Sutherland
December 22-28	Chip Wells	12/22	Chip Wells
Dec. 29-Jan. 4	Carol Edwards	12/24	Need Volunteer
		12/29	
		David Herr	

Sanctuary Committee:

*Sis Thomas Sharlene McLaurin
 Angela Purcell Susan Wentz

Usher Team 2:

*Brian Bounds Charles Bounds
 David Bounds Turner Bounds
 Walt Bounds Eddie Carmichael
 Bob Dyer Jim Mason
 Boyd McLaurin Randy Miller
 Ed O'Neal Kevin Patterson
 Bill Purcell, II Chip Wells

Bus Drivers:

Prayer List

- **Sis Thomas**, in healthcare at Scotia Village after a hospital stay.
- **Clint Willis**, recovering, at home, from a hospital stay.
- **Jane Somerville**, receiving Hospice routine home care.
- **LeGette McLean**, dealing with health concerns.
- **Elijah**, son of Kristi, Executive Director of Family Promise, fighting to recover from a terrible car accident.
- **Betsy Massey**, recovering after a small stroke.
- **Meredith Bounds** appreciates continued prayers.
- **Fletcher Kendall** of Atlanta, 7-year-old grandson of Paul and Judy Rush, diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia
- **Sammy Townsend**, friend of the congregation, at Liberty Commons Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Sanford.
- **Beth Newbold**, continuing health concerns.
- **Sara Tezzi**, granddaughter of Sammy and Linda Simmons; continuing concerns.
- **Barbara Salzlein**, continuing health concerns.

Scotia Village Skilled Nursing: Mackey McCormick, Anne Ramsay Melton, Marie Love, Doug Hix, Elizabeth McIntosh

Scotia Village Assisted Living (Heather Glen): Daphne Gaw, John and Henrietta Carmichael, Norma McKeithan

Scottish Pines: Jim "Sunbeam" Sutherland