

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS



Laurinburg Presbyterian Church

December 15, 2024

11:00 a.m.

11:00 am—Worship Service

Prelude "Greensleeves" arr. Charles Callahan
Jane McLaurin, flute
Lee Harris, organ

Welcome & Announcements

Minute for Mission Christmas Joy Offering Emily Womble

Lighting of the Joy Candle The Bartholomew Family

Call to Worship

Leader: We come from a world of darkness

People: Into Christ's world of light.

Leader: We come from a world of weariness

People: Into God's strength and hope

Leader: We come from a slumbering world

People: Strengthened by the Spirit, we come to awaken our souls and watch for the coming of Christ.

The Prayer of Invocation

Time for Children

The First Lesson Isaiah 9: 2b-7 Dr. Edna Ann Loftus
*The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light.*

Congregational Hymn # 129 "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"
vs. 1&2

The Second Lesson Luke 1:26-45 Chris Rhue
*In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy,
God sent the angel Gabriel*

Congregational Hymn #82 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

The Third Lesson Luke 2: 1-7 Susan Williams
*Caesar Augustus ordered a census
to be taken throughout the Empire*

***Congregational Hymn #128** "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"
v. 1

The Fourth Lesson Luke 2: 8-20 Emily Womble
There were shepherds abiding in the fields.

***Congregational Hymn #113** “Angels We Have Heard on High”

Invitation to Give

Offertory Music “A Christmas Pastoral” arr. Charles Callahan
Jane McLaurin, flute

Doxology

The Fifth Lesson Matthew 2: 1-12 Bill Purcell, II
*The Wise Men arrived
in Jerusalem from the East*

***Congregational Hymn #151** “We Three Kings”
Vivienne Rhue, violin
vs. 1-4

The Sixth Lesson Isaiah 11: 1-9 Alex Medlin
A green shoot will sprout from Jesse’s lineage

Musical Reflection “Breath of Heaven”
Monica Hall, soprano

Reception of New Members and Baptism

Kaia Kalani Nalewaja, Rachel Elizabeth Nalewaja and Mark Steven Nalewaja JR

***Congregational Carol #134** “Joy to the World”
vs. 1-4

Charge & Benediction

Postlude “In Dulci Jubilo” Dale Wood
Lee Harris, organ

2024 Laurinburg Presbyterian Church

Clerk: Bob Dyer
Moderator: Rev. Rebekah Carpenter

ELDERS

<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>
Clifton Buie	Brian Bounds	Bob Dyer
Debi Hobbs	Martha Fulton	Mike Edwards
Jacque O'Neal	Bear Hughes	Bill Purcell II
Matt Sessions	LeGette McLean	Emily Womble

DEACONS

<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>
Barbara Bateman	Heather Bounds	Katherine Campbell
Becca Hughes	Katie Clark	Carol Edwards
Kim Liles	Wayne Hobbs	Phil Eshleman
Scott Sellers	Louise Mabry	Chip Wells
Poppy Bounds-Youth (2024)		

Presbyterian Women

Moderator: Angela Purcell
Vice-Moderator: Open
Secretary: Holly Albrecht
Treasurer: Delia Muse
Historian: Dawn Sellers
Moderator of Search Committee: Leslie Sellers

We will collect the Christmas Joy Offering next Sunday, December 22

The prophet Isaiah gives those listening to him a very particular task to prepare the way for the coming Messiah, the person we know as Jesus. Isaiah proclaims that to prepare the way is to make highways easily navigable, fill in valleys, flatten hills, level the ground, make the earth smooth. Then, and only then, will God's glory be revealed, and this will cause all humanity to see that God has spoken to us.

Your gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering combine with gifts from thousands of congregations throughout our denomination to do our part to repair the world and to ensure our siblings have the tools they need to flourish. Your gifts prepare the way for the God we know in Jesus Christ, the child whose birth we celebrate.

Thank you!...for your energy, creativity and support in promoting the Christmas Joy Offering. For those of us gathered together in Advent expectation, we know that the only perfect gift ever given was the one we received in Jesus Christ — a perfect gift from a gracious God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING:

- Sunday 12/15** GRACE Groups Meeting- See Below
Tuesday 12/17 Church office Closed for Staff Christmas Lunch
5:45 pm BEG Committee Meeting
Wed. 12/18 3 pm PW Circle 3 2nd Floor Living Room at Scotia Village
5:30 pm Session Meeting
Sunday 12/22 9:45 am Sunday School For All
11 am Worship
Wed. 12/24 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Service

The Sellers' GRACE Group will NOT meet tonight.

GRACE Group meetings tonight:

- **The O'Neal GRACE Group** will be meeting at the O'Neal home, 404 Bundy Lane at 6 o'clock. Please bring an hors d'oeuvre to share
- **The Dyer-Eshleman-Dean GRACE Group** will meet December 15th at 6 pm 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.

We celebrate the birth of Charles "Charlie" Purcell Thompson, born on December 7th to Eleanor and Drew Thompson. Proud grandparents are Nick and Lucy Sojka

Stewardship Update

Budgeted Pledges 2024	\$342,575
Total Pledges Received Thru 12/01/24	\$321,992
Pledge Difference Thru 12/01/24	\$20,583
Percent Received	94%

2025 Stewardship Planning

Actual 2025 Pledges received to date	\$414,080
Other 2025 Budgeted Other Income	\$49,000
Total 2025 Budgeted Income	\$463,080
Total 2025 Budgeted Expenses	\$492,076
Additional 2025 pledges needed to balance the budget	\$28,996

Actual pledges received in 2024	86
Actual 2025 pledges received to date	81

SAVE THE DATES!! For new members especially but all members are welcome.

January 12,19,26-Three new member classes will be held after worship, Noon to 1:30 PM
*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. Lunch will be provided for the children too.

DECEMBER VOLUNTEERS

Deacon Greeters/Visitors:

December 8-14 Phil Eshleman
December 15-21 Katherine Campbell
December 22-28 Chip Wells
Dec. 29-Jan. 4 Carol Edwards

Bus Drivers:

12/15 Jamie Sutherland
12/22 Chip Wells
12/24 Boyd McLaurin
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

Prayer List

- **Charles Gibson "Gib" Buie, III**, brother of Clifton Buie, facing serious health concerns. The entire family would appreciate your thoughts, prayers, and love as they walk through this challenging season together.
- **Sam "Tinsley" Snowden**, at Morrison Manor. Tinsley is accepting visitors with the password "Tinsley". Please keep his family in your prayers.
- **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.
- **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, Jean Clansky

Scottish Pines: Jim "Sunbeam" Sutherland