

Service of Worship
December 10, 2023 | 10AM
The Second Sunday of Advent



First Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
Wilson, NC

First Christian Church at Worship

December 10, 2023

The Second Sunday of Advent

† *At this sign you are invited to rise in body or spirit.*

CH indicates *Chalice Hymnal* (red hymn book)

CP indicates *Chalice Praise* (purple hymn book)

Gathering in Spirit

Casey Childers, piano

In the Bleak Mid-Winter arr. Mark Hayes

Welcome and Announcements

Theresa Mathis

Chiming of the Trinity

Sharing the Light of Christ

Jeff and Caroline Whitley, Acolytes

Choral Invocation

An Advent Prayer by Hal Hopson

Chancel Choir

† Call To Worship

Charles Cauley

Leader:

Have you heard the news? Rearrange the headlines with words of hope and expectation. Get the poor prepared. Invite them to find their place at table and help themselves to a banquet shared with the rich. Get justice underway. Get busy crushing the darkness and countering the now exposed half-truths of the powerful.

Response:

Get the bread of life baked. Get the wine of truth poured and bring on the advent of God. Let us prepare the way of the Lord!

(adapted from Roddy Hamilton, nkchurch.org)

† Opening Carol

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

CH #150

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord!

Late in time behold him come, off-spring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings,
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

†Praying Together

led by Charles Cauley

**Holy God, We long for your peace, and trust in your
promise; we hear your call to turn toward you, to change
our lives and welcome you in.**

**Meet us here and fill our minds with your wisdom and our
hearts with your peace, that our worship together may open us
to the challenge of your dream of wholeness for all. In the
Name of the One who is coming, we pray. Amen!**

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Litany of the Advent Wreath

Charles Cauley

The Peace of God-With-Us does not come as law and order, or enforcement and control. Peace cannot be imposed from on high. Peace cannot be commanded. The Peace of God-With-Us is chaotic, wild, unruly, unpredictable. The Peace of God-With-Us is collective, liberating us from deadly complicity. Peace is gestating in darkness; it comes unexpectedly. Peace invites our expectation, and demands our participation. Prepare the way, for peace with justice. May Peace be birthed among, within, and through us, this Advent. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel...

Candle Lighters

EJ and Savannah Story

Hymn of Hope

One Candle Is Lit

CH #128 vs. 2

Come quickly shalom, teach us how to prepare
for a gift that compels us with justice to care.
Our spirits are restless till sin and war cease.
One candle is lit for the reign of God's peace.

Children's Moment Jeannette Etheridge
*(Following the children's moment, children pre K—3rd grade are invited
to attend Children's Sunday School in the Education Building)*

Prayer Concerns Todd Brame

Pastoral Prayer Rev. Scott Schieber

Preparing for God's Word Men's Ensemble

In the Bleak Midwinter arr. Childers
In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan.
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone.
Snow had fallen snow on snow, snow on snow
In the bleak midwinter long, long ago.
Angels and Arc Angels may have traveled there.
Cherubim and Seraphim thronged the air.
But only his Mother in her maiden bliss.
Worshipped the beloved with a kiss.
What can I give him? Poor as I am.
If I were a shepherd I would give a lamb.
If I were a wise man I would do my part.
But what I can I give him. Give him my heart.
But what I can I give him. Give him my heart.

Scripture and Response Mark 1:1-8 Charles Cauley
Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

Sermon **Urgent Prayer for Peace** Rev. Schieber

Hymn of Response ***Let There Be Peace on Earth*** CH #677
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our creator, children all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Invitation to Offering

Rev. Schieber

*After the invitation to offering, feel free to bring offerings as you are led
and place them in the offering plates at the front or back of the sanctuary.
Also, feel free to scan the QR code in the bulletin and give online!*

Offertory

Casey Childers, organ

Comfort, Comfort, Now My People arr. Jerry Westenkuehler

†Doxology

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

CH #46

TUNE: Old Hundreth

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!

†Blessing of the Gifts

Rev. Schieber

Invitation to Communion

Rev. Schieber

Communion Prayer

Todd Brame

Music for Communion

For Everyone Born

vs 1 Encounter, vs 2 ALL

Encounter: For everyone born, a place at the table,
for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,
for everyone born, a star overhead,
and God will delight when we are creators of justice
and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
justice and joy!

ALL: For all who share life, a place at the table,
revising the roles, deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,
for all who share life, a system that's fair,
and God will delight when we are creators of justice
and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice,
justice and joy!

Words of Institution

Rev. Schieber

†The Lord's Prayer

led by Rev. Schieber

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. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, and deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

†Hymn of Anticipation ***Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming***

CH #136

Christians all, your Lord is coming, drawing near in holy birth.
Ring the bells and sound the trumpets, let your music fill the earth.
Dance and move to show God's glory; kneel and pause to hear God's word.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Rise and let your songs be heard.

Christians all, your Lord is coming, calling you to serve in deed.
See the ones who hurt and suffer, hear their cry and act with speed.
Set all selfish ways behind you. Purge your hearts of sinful greed.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ in you will meet their need.

Christians all, your Lord is coming, he will rise up from the dead.
Lift the cup, of sin forgiven; bless the host and eat his bread.
Mend the ways where peace is broken, give yourselves to true Shalom.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Dwell as one in church and home.

Christians all, your Lord is coming, hope for peace is now at hand.
Let there be no hesitation, walk in faith where life demands.
Bear the word that God has given; share the birth that stirs your soul.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ will come and make you whole.

†Benediction

Rev. Schieber

†Postlude

Casey Childers, organ

Proclamation on "Wachet auf" arr. Aaron David Miller

"Wake, Awake, the voice is calling."

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In Our Prayers

Vickie Balazsi (Kathy Sandifer's cousin); Jim Boswell; Donahue Bottoms, Jr. (Dalen Bottoms' son); Gena Carter; Win Craft; Allan Daniell; Bobbi Gregory; Nell Griffin; Dean Huiet (mission friend of Wendy Wingrove); LaRue Massey (Kathy Sandifer's friend); Gary Smith (friend of Leslie Kendall); Troy and Leigh Ann Tatum; Kristy Wisniewski (friend of Christy Proctor & Melissa Denton).

Homebound

Peggy Anderson; Jim Boswell; Dalen Bottoms; Sherry Brenner; Hazel Byers; Gena Carter; Gilbert Ferrell; Judy Harris; Doug Ramsey; Anne Sharpe; Lenore Smith; Alice Thomas; Kathleen Ujlaki; A.J. Walston.

Tithes and Offerings are received with thanks and gratitude into the ministry of FCC! These gifts may be left in the offering trays or may be sent to:

First Christian Church of Wilson
PO Box 2702, Wilson, NC 27894
Online: www.fccwilson.org/giving-options
Text FCCWILSON to 73256



Visiting? Welcome!



We are an open and inclusive Disciples of Christ congregation who welcomes all to God's table and service. Let us know you are with us! We will hopefully get a connection card to you, but if we miss you, they are located in the back of the church! Also, feel free to scan the QR code and share info there. We love saying 'welcome' around here!

Welcome to our Minister

We are happy to have Rev. Scott Schieber as our minister this morning. Scott will begin his ministry with us on January 2. We are so happy that he could be with us this morning. He will also be with us on Christmas Eve at our service at 5:00pm.

Church Calendar

Sunday, December 10—Second Sunday of Advent

- 10:00am Worship—Rev. Scott Schieber, Minister
11:00am Disciples Class
11:11am Sunday Morning Small Group
3:00-4:00pm Compassion and Service Team Meeting

Monday, December 11

- 6:00pm Disciples Class Christmas Party
6:30pm FCC General Board Meeting
The Elders will meet immediately following Board Meeting

Tuesday, December 12

- 11:00am Staff Meeting
5:30pm Encounter Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 13

- 12:00pm Advent Concert Series featuring Shelley Maddox, soprano
7:00pm Chancel Choir rehearsal

Sunday, December 17—Third Sunday of Advent

- 10:00am Worship—Alysun Skinner, Guest Minister
11:00am Disciples Class
11:11am Sunday Morning Small Group

Welcome!

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us today in person or online and hope the worship we share will prepare you for the coming week! We would be grateful if you would take a moment to provide contact information and/or feedback by email at officestaff2@fccwilson.org or calling the church office at 252-237-4125.

First Christian Church

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Website: www.fccwilson.org
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Casey Childers *Organist and Minister of Music*
Charles Cauley *Interim Office Administrator*
Connie Farris *Financial Secretary*