

Prayer Concerns

Ruth Elium; Mike Deal; Ann Prentice;
Rick Prentice; Chip; Jeremy Watson;
Chuck Farmer: Jason Everhart; James
Honeycutt; Etta Morris; Arthur Nance;
Ronnie Kiefer; Betty Culp; Richard Young

Assisted Living & Nursing Home

Ruth Wooten; Ralph Holland; Susan
Everhart

Pastor: Sybil J. Perrell
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Director of Music
Jennifer Crawford

Accompanist
Tina Grubb

Business Administrator
Susan Eddleman

Sunday School - 10am
Worship - 11am

Advent Bible Study – 10am Wednesdays

December 15, 2024

Central United Methodist Church

“Connecting Hearts to God’s Love”

200 Fourth Street (PO Box 203)

Spencer, NC 28159

704-636-4101

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WELCOME VISITORS!!!

We are delighted you have joined us as we worship God. We hope the warmth of our service, the ministry of God’s Word, and the love of our people will encourage you to come again.

Please let us know who you are and if you’d like our pastor to contact you:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Order of Worship
11am Worship Service
3rd Sunday of Advent
Liturgical Color: Purple (preparation,
repentance, royalty)

Prelude: Tina Grubb

The Light of Christ Enters:

Welcome and Announcements:

***Gathering for Worship:** #211, v. 3 “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

O Come, o come, great Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times once gave the law in cloud and majesty and awe.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

***Opening Prayer:**

***Hymn of Praise:** # 203 “Hail to the Lord's Anointed”

Children's Time: Marsha Wood

Lighting of the Advent Wreath:

Jarrell family: No matter what troubles overwhelm us today, Isaiah reminds us that in all of our preparation and passionate pursuit of God's coming kin-dom, we must not forget that God's salvation has come and is coming. “With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation” (Isaiah 12:3).

With joy you will remember that God's salvation is already present among us.

Congregation: Faced with the troubles and the suffering of the world, we choose to live in joyful presence to God and one another. We will not turn away from the pain and the hurt in our world, and we will not stop rejoicing in God, whose salvation fills us to overflowing that God's love might flow through us and flood our troubled world with hope, peace, and joy.

Jarrell family: We light this candle of joy as a sign of our commitment to be present to ourselves, our friends, our families, and our neighbors that in sharing our vulnerable lives we might share in the glorious joy of God's salvation together.

Light the pink candle and 2 purple candles of the Advent wreath.

Anthem: “Come and Worship”

Scripture: Luke 3:7-18 CEB

⁷Then John said to the crowds who came to be baptized by him, “You children of snakes! Who warned you to escape from the angry judgment that is coming soon? ⁸Produce fruit that shows you have changed your hearts and lives. And don't even think about saying to yourselves, Abraham is our father. I tell you that God is able to raise up Abraham's children from these stones. ⁹The ax is already at the root of the trees. Therefore, every tree that doesn't produce good fruit will be chopped down and tossed into the fire.” ¹⁰The crowds asked him, “What then should we do?”

¹¹He answered, “Whoever has two shirts must share with the one who has none, and whoever has food must do the same.” ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized. They said to him, “Teacher, what should we do?” ¹³He replied, “Collect no more than you are authorized to collect.” ¹⁴Soldiers asked, “What about us? What should we do?” He answered, “Don't cheat or harass anyone, and be satisfied with your pay.” ¹⁵The people were filled with expectation, and everyone wondered whether John might be the Christ. ¹⁶John replied to them all, “I baptize you with water, but the one who is more powerful than me is coming. I'm not worthy to loosen the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷The shovel he uses to sift the wheat from the husks is in his hands. He will clean out his threshing area and bring the wheat into his barn. But he will burn the husks with a fire that can't be put out.” ¹⁸With many other words John appealed to them, proclaiming good news to the people.

Message: “Filled With Expectation”

***Affirmation of Faith:** #881 “The Apostles' Creed”

***Sung Response** #70 “Glory be to the Father”
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.

Sharing of the Peace of Christ

Joys & Concerns, Pastoral Prayer

Offering of Tithes & Gifts

***Doxology** # 95

***Offertory Prayer:**

***Hymn of Dedication:** #221 “In the Bleak Midwinter”

***The Light of Christ Goes into the World**

***Blessing:**

Postlude:

** Please stand in body and/or Spirit.*

Serving in Worship

Head Usher for Dec: Mark Wooten

- Dec. 15** Kelly Kiefer & Devan Purvis
- Dec. 22** Steve Miller & Marsha Wood
- Dec. 29** Mark Wooten & Tommy Honeycutt

Children’s Time

- Dec. 15** Marsha Wood
- Dec. 22** Brooklyn Smith
- Dec. 29** Joan Wooten

Announcements

Advent daily devotions: [Daily Advent devotions: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love | UMC.org](#)

Advent Bible Study: “Angels of Christmas” by Susan Robb will be our study book, Wednesdays at 10am. Before this week’s session, please read Matthew 1:18-25 and if you purchased the book read chapter 3.

Birthday party for Jesus: Today! (12/15)
Soup, sandwiches and cake for lunch. Crafts for the children.

Christmas Eve Service: 3pm at Coburn, 5pm at Central. Come to the one that works best for you and your family.

Deal celebration: The Deal Family would like your presence at a covered dish meal 12/29, immediately after worship to celebrate Laura’s life. Come and share stories and memories of Laura.

Choir Practice: Mondays at 6pm

Bell Practice: Mondays at 7pm

December Birthdays

- 12/5 Joan Wooten
- 12/7 Jewell Holland
- 12/8 Rick Prentice
- 12/10 Neal Purvis
- 12/12 Betty Julian
- 12/31 Lynne Purvis

December Anniversaries

- 12/26 EJ & Donna Miller
- 12/29 Ralph & Jewell Holland
- 12/30 Mark & Joan Wooten

Gifts given in Memory of Laura Deal by

Millie Thompson.
Tommy and Ginger Honeycutt

To meet our budget, we need **\$1830/week (or \$7320/month)** in offerings. Please find below how we did in November. As you can see, we fell short of what is needed for the month.

Deposits for November:		B & M	Thompson
Budget	2405.03	800.00 (700 rent)	
Nov 3	995.00	1550.00	334.00
Nov 10			5992.00 port a pit
Nov 17	2180.00		148.00
Nov 25	1265.00		
TOTALS	6845.03	2350.00	6474.00