

Ninth Lesson Hebrews 1:1-4; 4:14-16 (NRSV)

Reflection
“The Go-Between”
Rev. Jeremy Troxler

^Closing Hymn
O Come All Ye Faithful, UMH #234

Next Steps & Benedictions
Rev. Jeremy Troxler

Postlude
We Wish You a Merry Christmas

^ = *Please stand as you are able.*
Our worship services may be recorded and/or live streamed to YouTube, Facebook, and the church’s website. Should you need a hearing device, please ask an usher for assistance.

Instrumentalists:
Carmen Eby, Clarinet
Elizabeth Mosher, Flute
Bonnie Bach, Harp
Richard Dunn, Violin 1
Ueli Schweizer, Violin 2
Rebekah Carlson, Viola
Evan Richey, Cello
Randy Mintz, Bass
Joseph Umes, Percussion
Robyn Martin, Organ

Nicky Lazzara, Oboe and English Horn
Bri Fanning, Bassoon
Rob McConnell - Trumpet
Sudduth Alexander - Trumpet
Maria Serkin - Horn
Brian Meixner - Euphonium
Mike Robinson - Tuba
Danny Frye, Timpani
Hattie Frye, Percussion

FOR NEW FOLKS:

WELCOME TO GUILFORD COLLEGE UMC!

We are so glad that you chose to worship with us this morning. GCUMC is a place for all who long to grow closer to God and others. You are loved and accepted here. **Please take a moment to fill out our attendance pad with your name and contact information and leave it in the pew.**

WE LOVE CHILDREN

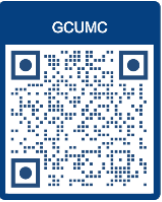
If you brought the kids with you, please know that the noises children make are music in our, and God’s, ears. You are welcome to keep your children with you in worship. We also have child care available for infants through age 4 in Room C8 on the first floor of the children’s building during the 11:00am worship service, and a separate children’s worship experience at 11am that begins after the children’s message for children in grades K-6.

JOIN US FOR “COFFEE WITH THE PASTORS”

Join us in the parlor, just down the hall from the sanctuary, after the worship service **TODAY** for “Coffee with the Pastors.” This informal gathering with Pastors Jeremy and Susan will help you get to know them, meet other newcomers, learn more about our church, ask questions, and talk about how you might become more involved.

PLEASE VISIT US ONLINE

To learn more about us, please visit us either at our website, guilfordcollegeumc.org, through our YouTube Channel, or on our Facebook Page (just search “Guilford College UMC” for each). You may also use your phone’s camera or QR app to scan the QR code to the right:



*Check out our church website for information on all of GCUMC’s Advent and Christmas events.

GIVE

MAKE AN OFFERING
TO THE WORK OF GOD’S CHURCH

- 1 - Text GiveGCUMC to 73256. Then click on the link provided to give.
- 2 – Visit our website www.guilfordcollegeumc.org to use your credit card or to set up an automatic draft. Immediate receipts are available. You can even use the GCUMC QR code in this bulletin.
- 3 – Log into your REALM account to give through your profile’s giving page.
- 4 - Checks can be made out to “Guilford College UMC” and placed in the offering plate and cash is always a good form of giving.

GCUMC Financial Report		
2025 Operating Budget surplus/deficit analysis:		
Amount received for budget as of 11/30/25:	\$	1,052,785.13
Expenses as of 11/30/25:		<u>1,076,331.76</u>
Difference:	(\$	23,546.63)

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE:

Thank you to everyone who made a pledge to help us get closer to our pledged budget goal for 2026. If you haven’t already, please take a moment to turn in your 2026 pledge card or submit your pledge online. Every Heart Matters, Every Gift Counts!

<u>2026 pledge update</u>	<u>as of December 9th</u>	<u>Target</u>
Pledges Received	190	212
Pledge Dollars	\$1,021,538	\$1,085,000

2025 CHRISTMAS EVE SPECIAL OFFERING

GCUMC’s Christmas Eve offering benefits an international and local mission project. Please note "Christmas Eve Offering" in the memo line of your check or give online or Text "GIVEGCUMC Christmas2025" to 73256 to give using your mobile device.

- The offering this year will be equally divided for the following:
- Kenya: for water and electrical infrastructure at the Bio Intensive Training Center and the Methodist Treatment Center.
 - Greensboro: for Sanctuary House for the purchase and installation of commercial grade appliances and facility repairs.

HONOR CARDS

Beautiful Christmas Honor Cards to send to your friends and family are available for a donation of \$5 (each card) to benefit both Greensboro Urban Ministry and Community Housing Solutions. Look for them in the Information Center after worship services.

CONNECT

LAS POSADAS TONIGHT

Join us Dec. 14 at 5:00PM for our Las Posadas celebration, a Mexican Advent Tradition. This celebration commemorates the nine months Mary carried Jesus. Bilingual, Room C1, Children’s Building. All are invited.

MORAVIAN LOVE FEAST

On Wednesday, Dec. 17 at 6:30PM join us in the Sanctuary for this delightful service in the Moravian Tradition of song, scripture, sweet buns, coffee, and candles. All are welcome. *No nursery for this service.

QUIET CHRISTMAS SERVICE - DEC. 18, 6:30PM

This is a service planned for those who may not feel that they are ready to experience joy and cheer during the Christmas holidays. We will have a service which offers a space for reflection, and that offers healing and hope during our time of struggle.

BREAKFAST WITH MARY & JOSEPH

Saturday, December 20 – 8:30-10:00 a.m., Second Floor, Children’s Building – Enjoy breakfast with Mary and Joseph along with a Christmas story and fun activities!

LONGEST NIGHT WORSHIP

Join with our Missional Network on Sunday, December 21 at 6:30pm at Zion Hill UMC for a collaborative worship experience.

PRAY

AMONG THOSE WE ARE PRAYING FOR TODAY:

Within Our Church Family: **Those who are Grieving:** all those who have lost a loved one; **Healing:** Carla Sutton; Bryan Cobb; Gayle Class; David Long; Vicki Kidd; Scott Blackwell; Kathy Graham; Suzy Padgett; Dave Wasserboehr; **Strength & Faith:** Dot Brogan; Helen Phillips; David Ward; **Surgery or Tests:** David Saunders (12/15 hip surgery); Marilyn Radley (hip surgery 1/9); Marjorie Liles (MRI results, surgery pending); **Those With Cancer:** Tom Jenkins; Greg Matthews; Lisa Hodges; **Sustaining and Guidance:** Harold Eagle; Harold Proctor; Doris Linker; Patsy Wyatt; Nancy and Jim Baity; Bill Blyshak; Tina Bell Midgett; Terri Hastings; Y’Josue M’lo (military service in Germany); our immigrant community

Extended Church Family: **Grieving:** The Family and Friends of Jerri Ramsey; **Cancer:** Tim Vail; Wayne Sykes; Carol Andrews Little; Nancy Carver; Tammy Smith; Emily; Harrison Henry Brooks; Billy Carey; Jim Cashman; Joanne Burgener; Ron Moser; Debra Rutt; Shilah George; Shannon Wilson; Sammy Williams; Azalea Marbury; Judy Journey; Tammy Strickland; **Surgery and Awaiting Test Results:** Jim Eldrett; Oliver Burns; Joel Ritter; **Healing:** Victoria Pigford; Lorraine Sandknop (Jim’s mother who had a fall); Nick King; Heather Taylor; Beth Morgan; Scott Elson (bad burn); Pat Whitt (Marjorie Liles’ sister); Tom Winger (Cheryl Bullard’s brother); Peggy Conaway; Alannah Romano; **Strength and Guidance:** Christy Lloyd; Kathy Williams; Kenneth Briggs (hospice); Christopher Blyshak; Y’Suan Mlo and H’Lai, H’Jina, H’Sally, Bunlim and Darwin Leng; our ministry partners in Kenya; **Missionaries:** Liz and David Gamble; **World:** all who suffer from war, famine, drought and natural disasters; all those who are recovering from Hurricane Melissa

SERVICE NOTES

Today in worship we continue with our year-long series called “The Bible Year,” in which we are reading the Scriptures, from cover to cover, from Genesis all the way through Revelation. Today also marks the 3rd Sunday of the Christian season of Advent. The word “Advent” means “Coming.”

Advent is a season of four Sundays in which we prepare for the “coming” of God to us in Christ on Christmas, and look forward to the eventual “coming” of Christ’s final victory. Today, as we continue in The Bible Year and in Advent, we are sharing an Advent mini-series called “The Christmas Letters.” As we read through the Epistles that make up the last part of the New Testament, we are noticing the ways in which these letters point to the themes of Advent – and also to the birth of Jesus. Today’s Letter comes from the Book of Hebrews in the Bible, and describes Jesus as the great mediator between God and human beings.

Today’s Scripture:
Hebrews 1:1-4; 4:14-16(NRSV)
KEY VERSES:

“Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³ He is the reflection of God’s glory and the exact imprint of God’s very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. . . . ¹⁴ Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who, in every respect, has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

THIS WEEK’S READINGS FOR “THE BIBLE YEAR”:		
Day 348	Sunday, December 14 th	James 3:1 – 5:20
Day 349	Monday, December 15 th	I Peter 1:1 – 2:25
Day 350	Tuesday, December 16 th	I Peter 3:1 – 5:14
Day 351	Wednesday, December 17 th	II Peter 1:1 – 2:22
Day 352	Thursday, December 18 th	II Peter 3:1-18
Day 353	Friday, December 19 th	I John 1:1 – 3:24
Day 354	Saturday, December 20 th	I John 4:1 – 5:21
Day 355	Sunday, December 21 st	II John 1:1-12

GCUMC STAFF

Jeremy Troxler, Lead Pastor
Andrés Pérez, Student Assoc. Minister
Randy Wall, Dir. of Youth & College Min.
Shelby Hallquist, Dir. Pre- & AfterSchool
Ginny Williamson, Accompanist
Carol Ingram, Administrative Assist.
Christina & Michael Hull, WNO Coordinators

Susan Suárez Webster, Pastor
Donna Ford, Dir. of Christian Education
Laurin Allred, Young Adult & Connections
Melanie Crump, Director of Music
Amy Wall, Church Administrator
Gloria Brown, Financial Director

THIS WEEK’S SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 14 – 3rd Sunday of Advent
NO 8:30am Worship Service this day
Various Learning Groups at 9:45am (No Children’s Sunday School)
NC Brass Band prelude in the Sanctuary at 10:45am
Worship in the Sanctuary and Livestream Broadcast at 11:00am
Coffee with the Pastors in the Parlor after Worship
UMYF (Grades 7-12) in Room C11 from 5:00 -7:00pm
Las Posadas in Room C1 starting at 5:00pm

Monday, December 15
Scouts in the Children’s Building in the evening
NA in the Sanctuary at 7:00pm
Messy Bun Book Club offsite at 7:00pm

Tuesday, December 16
Girl Scout Troop 30018 in Room C10 at 6:00pm
Church Council in Room A4 and via Zoom at 6:30pm

Wednesday, December 17
New Direction Nar-Anon Family Group in Room A2 at Noon
Mid-week Prayer Time in the Parlor at Noon
Love Feast in the Sanctuary at 6:30pm
Kenya Team cinnamon roll sale in the Parlor after Love Feast
Choir Rehearsal in the Choir Room at 7:30pm

Thursday, December 18
SnYP Christmas Party offsite at 6:00pm
Quiet Christmas in the Sanctuary at 6:30pm
NarAnon in Room A2 at 7:00pm

Saturday, December 20
Breakfast with Mary and Joseph, 2nd floor children’s bldg., 8:30am

Sunday, December 21 – 4th Sunday of Advent
Worship in the Sanctuary at 8:30am
SnYP & College meet at Panera at 9:45am
Various Learning Groups at 9:45am
Worship in the Sanctuary and Livestream Broadcast at 11:00am
UMYF and SnYP Progressive Caroling meet in back parking lot, 3:30pm
Longest Night Service at Zion Hill UMC at 6:30pm

CONTACT US

Guilford College United Methodist Church
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Phone: 336-292-5833 / Website: www.guilfordcollegeumc.org
Email: welcome@guilfordcollegeumc.org

Guilford College United Methodist Church December 14, 2025 – 11:00am

Prelude by North Carolina Brass Band

Chiming of the Hour

Greetings, Welcome and Opening Prayer
Rev. Susan Suárez Webster

^Fellowship Greeting and Opening Hymn
Hark the Herald Angels Sing, UMH #240

Offering
Laurin Allred

Offertory
Now Sing We, Now Rejoice
Robyn Martin

First Lesson Genesis 3: 8-15, 17-19 (NRSV)
O Come, O Come Emmanuel, UMH #211

Second Lesson Genesis 22: 15-18 (NRSV)
Come Thou Long Expected Jesus, UMH #196

Third Lesson Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7 (NRSV)
Lighting of the Advent Candles with Donna Ford
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Fourth Lesson Isaiah 11: 1–10 (NIV)
Do You Hear What I Hear

Fifth Lesson Luke 1: 26-35, 38 (NRSV)
Angels We Have Heard on High, UMH #238

Sixth Lesson Luke 2: 1-7 (NRSV)
Silent Night, UMH #239

Seventh Lesson Luke 2: 8-16 (NRSV)
It Came Upon a Midnight Clear, UMH #218

Eighth Lesson Matthew 2: 1-11 (NRSV)
The First Noel, UMH #245