

Ardmore Moravian Church

December 14, 2025

WATCH WORD FOR THE WEEK:

Be strong, do not fear! Here is our God.

Isaiah 35:4

James 5:7-10

⁷ Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹ Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Luke 1:46b-55

⁴⁶ And Mary said,
“My soul magnifies the Lord,
⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
⁴⁸ for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant.
Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,
⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name;
⁵⁰ indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones
and lifted up the lowly;
⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴ He has come to the aid of his child Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

ARDMORE MORAVIAN CHURCH

Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025

Prelude “Voluntary On Savior Of The Nations, Come”
Charles Callahan

Call to Worship

(Please Stand, as you are able.)

Sing, O heaven, and be joyful, O earth, for the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken it!

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem; behold, your King comes to you; he is just, and brings salvation.

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” MBW # 263

Hail to the Lord’s anointed!

Great David’s greater son!

Hail in the time appointed,

his reign on earth begun!

He comes to break oppression,

to set the captive free,

to take away transgression,

and rule in equity.

He comes with rescue speedy

to those who suffer wrong,

*to help the poor and needy
and bid the weak be strong,
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.*

*He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
And love, joy, hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth;
Before him on the mountains
shall Peace, the herald go;
And righteousness in fountains,
from hill to valley flow.*

Greeting One Another in Hope, Peace, and Joy

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting the Advent Candles of Hope, Peace, and Joy

Paige Thomas

Liturgy for Advent

(Standing.)

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and
redeemed his people, and has raised up a horn of salvation

for us in the house of his servant, David, as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets, who have been since the world began.

That we should be saved from our enemies, and from the hand of all who hate us.

To perform the mercy promised unto our ancestors, and to remember his holy covenant:

That he would grant unto us that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life.

“Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” Truro RH # 63
*Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple set apart
from earthly use for heaven’s employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.*

*Redeemer, come; I open wide
my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me thine inner presence feel,
thy grace and love in me reveal.*

*So come, my Sovereign enter in;
let new and nobler life begin;
The Holy Spirit guide us on,
until our glorious goal is won.*

(Sitting.)

Behold, his tabernacle shall be with men; yes, he will be their God, and they shall be his people.

**Justice and judgment are the habitation of your throne,
O God: mercy and truth shall go before your face.**

Blessed are the people who know the joyful sound: they shall walk, O Lord, in the light of your countenance.

**A bruised reed he will not break, and the smoking flax
he will not quench: he will bring forth judgment unto
truth.**

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, “Be strong and fear not. Behold, your God will come and save you.”

**He shall feed his flock like a shepherd. He shall gather
the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom.**

The voice of the herald cries: “Prepare ye the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.”

“Come, O Long-Expected Jesus” MBW # 262

*Come, O long-expected Jesus,
born to set your people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
O, in you our rest shall be.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope to all the earth impart,
dear desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.*

*Born your people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever,
now your gracious kingdom bring.
By your own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by your all-sufficient merit
raise us to your glorious throne.*

Therefore, rejoice in God, your Savior! For he who is mighty has done great things, and holy is his name.

Through the tender mercy of our God, the Dayspring from on high has visited us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.

*“How Shall I Meet My Saviour?” Rejoice 151 I RH # 60
Love caused thine incarnation,
love brought thee down to me;
thy thirst for my salvation
procured my liberty;
O love beyond all telling,
that led thee to embrace,
in love all love excelling,
our lost and fallen race.*

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

“Star Of Advent”

Pepper Choplin

Response

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” MBW # 282

*How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive Him still,
the dear Christ enters in.*

Prayer

Scripture Lessons

Isaiah 35:1-10

James 5:7-10

Luke 1:46b-55

“Veiled In Darkness Judah Lay” MBW # 276

*Veiled in darkness Judah lay,
waiting for the promised day,
while across the shadowy night
streamed a flood of glorious light,
heav'nly voices hailed Christ's birth,
“Peace, good will to all on earth.”*

*Still the earth in darkness lies.
Up from death's dark vale arise
voices of a world in grief,
prayers of those who seek relief;
to our voices bring new birth,
"Peace, good will to all on earth."*

*Light of light, we humbly pray,
shine upon your world today;
break the gloom of our dark night,
fill our souls with love and light,
give your blessed word rebirth,
"Peace, good will to all on earth."*

Sermon

"Waiting Patiently"

Rev. Joe Moore

Closing

Eternal God, Ruler of all ages, graciously you come to us in order that we might come to you, through the merit of Jesus Christ, strengthened by the Holy Spirit.

Help us and all your children to respond to the call of your gospel with faith, love, and hope.

God of faith, you created humanity to serve and praise you; and even when we rebelled against you, you promised to send a Savior to redeem us from our sins:

**Strengthen our faith in your saving work through Christ.
As you chose the people of Israel to hear the promise of
redemption through the prophets, may people today
believe in your good will for all that you have made.**

God of love, you fulfilled your promise of a redeemer in the
life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ:

**Grant us the gifts of the Holy Spirit that we may share
your love with the sick and the afflicted, with the poor
and the homeless, with the victims of injustice and
discrimination, and with all who are experiencing times
of trouble.**

God of hope, you comfort us through our Savior's promise to
return in glory at the end of time:

**As we await the coming of the Prince of Peace, let us
not despair. We long for you to inspire all the nations
and peoples of the world to turn to cooperation and
nurture, rather than to hatred and destruction.**

God of faith, love, and hope, to you and to you alone we pray:
For you are our God, the only God, forever and ever. Amen.

(Please stand, as you are able.)

"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" MBW # 256

*Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing,
and darker night is near.*

*The bridegroom is arising
and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
at midnight comes the cry.*

*The watchers on the mountain
proclaim the bridegroom near;
go forth as he approaches
with alleluias clear.*

*The marriage feast is waiting;
the gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory;
the bridegroom is at hand.*

*Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, O Sun so longed for,
o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted
we look, O Lord, to you
for all the earth's redemption,
creation made anew.*

Benediction

Blessed be thou who dwells between the cherubim, and graciously regards them of low estate! Praise the Lord, for he is good, and his mercy endures forever.

To him be glory and power, from everlasting to everlasting. Amen.


Regent Square MBW # 34

*Praise to thee, O Lord, we render,
for thy love in Jesus shown;
May that love, so strong and tender,
bind us fast to him alone;
Now and ever, now and ever,
gather us among thine own. Amen.*


Please be seated and use this time to listen to the Postlude and reflect upon how God is calling you to live, to love, and to serve in the week to come.

Postlude “Life Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates”

Wilbur Held



The Advent Wreath is given to the glory of God in loving memory of Ira Kiger and Rita Kiger by Beth Kiger Mabe. The White Candles are provided in memory of Ruth Duggins Lee, a longtime member of our congregation.





The lovely poinsettias are placed in the Sanctuary this morning to the glory of God:

In Honor Of:

Mary Alspaugh

Thomas & Beeva Alspaugh

Kaye Brookshire

Ella & Libby Saint

By:

The Family

The Family

Her Secret Sister

Their parents

In Loving Memory Of:

Lucille Crouse

Maude Peery

Robert Peery

Lillian & Richard Redding , Sr.

Richard Redding, Jr.

Al Spach

By:

Barbara Blazer

The Family

The Family

The Family

Jo Spach



OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, December 14 – Third Sunday of Advent

9:30 AM Sunay School Classes

10:30 AM Worship Service – Rev. Joe Moore

Wednesday, December 17

5:30 PM Meal

6:15 PM Bible Study

7:00 PM Choir Practice

Thursday, December 18

8:30 AM Men's Breakfast @ Café Arthurs

Sunday, December 21 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:30 AM Sunay School Classes

10:30 AM Worship Service – Rev. Joe Moore

Immediately following the worship service, the Joint Board will meet followed by individual Board of Elders and Board of Trustees meetings.

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

For congregational and community fellowship

December 18 – 8:30 AM Men's Breakfast @ Café

Arthurs

December 24 Christmas Eve Lovefeast & Candle Service

Services at 2:00 PM and 5:00 PM

December 25 Christmas

PEOPLE FOR WHOM WE ARE PRAYING



Members

Cindy Clore
Beverly Dillon
Fanchon Funk
Julie Johnson
Adam Lefevre
Mike Meritt

Alice Pierce
Carolyn Spainhour
Polly Story
Frances Walker
Donna Ebert Williams

Friends

Dr. Bill J. Beason
Lizanne Butner
Dwayne Jones
Wanda Jones
Ray Shelton
Larry
Juan

Ann M^cCurdy
Terry Moore
Allison Murray
Marlyn Schauss
Jerry Seivers
Steven Starling

****Please contact the church office to add or remove individuals from the prayer list.***



Minister: Rev. Joe Moore

Director of Music/Organist: Chris Heckman

Address: 2013 West Academy Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27103
336-723-3444
office@ardmoremoravian.org

Online: ArdmoreMoravian.org
Facebook Instagram @ArdmoreMoravian

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