

PSALTER Psalm 146
GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 11:2-11
OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 35:1-10
SERMON *Impossible Dreams?* Dr. Johnson
♦CAROL #145 *What Child Is This?*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES, OFFERINGS AND COMMITMENTS

OFFERTORY *Noël* (L. Daigle) Drew McFayden
♦RESPONSE OF THANKSGIVING #110 *Love Has Come*
♦PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

♦CAROL #123 *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*
♦CHARGE AND BENEDICTION
♦POSTLUDE

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As we near the end of 2022, we remember that our mission here at New Hanover Presbyterian Church is enabled by the power of the Holy Spirit and underwritten by the gifts of God's grateful people... like you! As you plan for the end of the year, please remember to fulfill your pledge for this year and consider what God would have you give for the year to come.



New Hanover

P R E S B Y T E R I A N C H U R C H

December 11, 2022



New Hanover Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and the Presbytery of the James. We welcome you!





New Hanover Presbyterian Church



*We Seek to Nurture Disciples of Jesus Christ to be Active Witnesses in the World
to the Good News of God's Transforming Grace in Jesus Christ Our Lord*

The Lord's Day, December 11, 2022

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

✧ = Please stand in body or in spirit • Unison responses are in **bold print**
Greet each other in the name of Jesus and prepare for worship.
You may use this prayer to assist you in your preparation:

*God of Israel, with expectant hearts we your people await Christ's coming.
As once he came in humility, so now may he come in glory,
that he may make all things perfect in your everlasting kingdom. Amen.*

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Robin Edwards

*Welcome Visitors! Please let us know you were here by filling out
a blue card from the pew rack and putting it in the offering plate.*

PRELUDE

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

The Rev. Dr. Robert Johnson

✧ LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Jeff & Tracey Sigmon

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world;
the one who follows me will not walk in darkness but have the light of life."

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."
Come, Lord Jesus, our light and our salvation.

Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

✧PRAYER OF ADORATION

✧ADVENT SONG

Glory (Let There Be Peace)

CALL TO CONFESSION

Deacon Karen Chandler

CONFESSION OF SIN

**God of salvation,
in Christ you have done great things—
our hearts are filled with joy.
By your power you lifted us out of the wasteland of sin
and brought us with joy and laughter into your kingdom.
Salvation is your gift to us.
But we confess that often we try to replace your gift with our own efforts.
We try to complete what is already perfect;
we try to add to what is already full;
we try to earn what we already have.
Forgive us for our foolishness.
Help us to focus on your grace.
Help us to live grateful lives in return.
For Jesus' sake alone, Amen.
(silent prayer)**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

...And so, with hopeful hearts, we call to Jesus:
**Come now, long-expected Jesus,
come again to rule in our hearts. Amen.**

RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Noël Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël,
Born is the King of Israel**

✧THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

Exchange the peace of Christ with those nearest to you.

THE WORD

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Seminary Intern, Drew McFayden

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION