

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

LESSON FROM THE PROPHETS

Isaiah 9:2-7

FIRST LESSON FROM THE EPISTLES

Hebrews 1:1-14

SECOND LESSON FROM THE EPISTLES

Eph 2:11-22

SERMON

Celebrating God's Solution

♦ADVENT CAROL #93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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

(Donations for the PC/USA Cents-Ability offering will be collected today)

OFFERTORY

Winter Snow (Assad & Tomlin)

♦RESPONSE OF THANKSGIVING (on screen)

Doxology Noël

♦PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

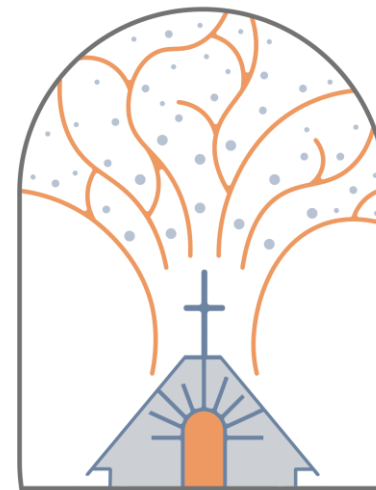
♦ADVENT CAROL #105, v. 1,2&5

People, Look East

♦CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

♦POSTLUDE

This week's liturgy written by The Rev. Dr. Eric Douglass, New Hanover's Covenant Pastor for Adult Education. All copyrighted words/music not in the hymnals is covered under CCLI License #401787 or One License A-733402. This week's cover art was generated by Canva AI.



New Hanover Presbyterian Church



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

Our Vision: Make Jesus Christ's life, death and resurrection relevant today

Our Mission: As a welcoming community of believers in Jesus Christ, we will unite our faith and works to share God's love

Our Values: Based on our understanding of the Bible, New Hanover Presbyterian Church believes that love, acceptance, inclusion, redemption, mercy and equity are values Jesus Christ taught and demonstrated.

The Lord's Day, December 15, 2024

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 reading to assist you in your preparation:

"Advent" means coming or arrival. This word has a double significance, as in Advent we celebrate Christ's coming into the world and look with longing for his coming again. The season of Advent begins with an emphasis on final things (eschatology). We watch and pray with expectant hope for the establishment of God's justice and the return of the Prince of Peace. As the weeks of Advent progress, the focus shifts to thanks and praise for the birth of the one who has already come—Jesus Christ our Savior.

The Presbyterian Church (USA)'s *Book of Common Worship*

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stan Parcell

Welcome Visitors!

PRELUDE

Kayla Jarvis, Music Director

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

The Rev. Dr. Robert Johnson

❖LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

The Ulrey Family

Jesus said "I am the Good Shepherd."

**We rejoice in God's determination
that we not be lost in our sin.**

Jesus first coming filled our hearts with joy

And gave us access to the guidance and comfort of the Spirit!

Now, as we live our lives, we understand

We need not be afraid for God's Good Shepherd for us
Is, truly, *for us*, so that none may stand against us.

The baby in the manger became the Light to the Nations.

Jesus presence with us now, through the table and the Spirit
Makes us bold with faith so that we may love as Christ did.

O Good Shepherd, guide our souls this day!

As we await your Second Advent, help us to be faithful.

O Lord, we await the blessed reunion. Come quickly!

We will sing O Come Emmanuel #88 vs 5

❖PRAYER OF ADORATION

❖ADVENT CAROL #110

Love Has Come

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Terry Nathan Diebold

CONFESSION OF SIN

Our Lord:

You have called us to:

"Prepare the way for the Lord.

To make his paths straight."

Yet we have not prepared our hearts

for your coming, and our paths are crooked.

Forgive us.

Teach us to "do justice, to love kindness,

And to walk humbly with our God."

Then Christmas will truly come,

And our hearts will be at peace.

We ask this in the mighty name of the risen Christ, Amen.

(silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

❖RESPONSE OF PRAISE #132

Good Christian Friends Rejoice (v.3)

THE WORD

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN