

LESSON FROM THE GOSPELS, PT. 1

Luke 1:26-38

LESSON FROM THE GOSPELS, PT. 2

Luke 1:39-55

SERMON

*Expecting the Right Thing on Christmas Eve*

♦CAROL #128

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

### ***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

OFFERTORY

New Hanover Music Group

*"Make Room in Your Heart" - Casting Crowns*

♦RESPONSE OF THANKSGIVING (on screen)

*Doxology Noël*

♦PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### ***SENDING***

♦ADVENT CAROL #144

*In the Bleak Midwinter*

♦CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

♦POSTLUDE

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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.

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The Lord's Day, December 22, 2024

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

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- ❖ = 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:

It is of profoundest significance to me that the gospel story, particularly in the Book of Luke, reveals that the announcement of the birth of Jesus comes first to simple shepherds who were about their appointed tasks. After theology has done its work, after the reflective judgments of those from the heights and lonely retreats of privilege and security have wrought their perfect patterns, the birth of Jesus remains the symbol of the dignity and the inherent worthfulness of the common person.

Dr. Howard Thurman, *The Mood of Christmas*

### **GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER**

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Debbie Blackburn

*Welcome Visitors!*

PRELUDE

Kayla Jarvis, Music Director

REMEMBERING OUR BAPTISM

The Rev. Dr. Robert Johnson

❖LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

The Diebold Family

Jesus said "I am the Resurrection and the Life."

**We rejoice that God has not abandoned us to death  
But has made us alive with Christ!**

Jesus' first coming filled our hearts with confidence

**And gave us access to the resurrection power of the Spirit!**

Now, we need no longer fear death!

Enable us to live our lives with purpose whatever we face.

**The baby in the manger became the Hope of Humankind.**

Jesus' presence with us now, through the font, table and

the Spirit makes us bold with faith so that we may love

others as Christ did.

**O may we live in the strength of Christ's victory over death !**

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 6*

❖PRAYER OF ADORATION

❖ADVENT CAROL #145

*What Child Is This*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Deacon Karen Chandler

CONFESSION OF SIN

**Our Lord:**

**We are grateful today for the advent of your coming.**

**You loved us, when we were lost in the wilderness,**

**And you brought us to green pastures and still waters.**

**You gave us peace.**

**Teach us to act like You, as we deal with those**

**who are still in the wilderness, and show them**

**the path back to your love.**

**Amen. *(silent prayer)***

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

❖RESPONSE OF PRAISE #132

*Good Christian Friends Rejoice (v.3)*

### **THE WORD**

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

THE GOSPEL LIVES IN HAITI

Pastor Leon Dorleans

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION