



Expecting the **UNEXPECTED**

ADVENT AT HAYES BARTON

December 8, 2024 | 11 am

GATHERING AND PRAISE

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Prepare the Royal Highway

arr. Timothy Shaw

*CALL TO WORSHIP

A voice cries out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord!"
Every valley will be filled and every mountain will be leveled.
The rough and rocky ways will be made smooth.
All will see the salvation of God. See the light from on high.
The dawn is breaking. The Lord is coming!
Let us worship the Lord!

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway

See Insert

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Sarah-Butler & Stahler McKinney

On each Sunday of Advent, we light a candle, a sign of hope in a world full of shadows. When all four candles are burning brightly, we know that it is time to begin the Christmas season of joy and light.

We light this candle to remember God's Word, which promises to upend us, surprise us, and move us always toward healing and new life. We light this candle to remember all those who have waited with expectation for God's surprises: to find what is lost, to bring peace in division, to make whole what is broken. We light this candle, praying for the trust to believe that God will surprise us, too, and is using us even now to be unexpected signs of love in the world.

Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

*MUSICAL RESPONSE:

In Him there is no dark - ness at all, the night and the
day are both a - like; The Lamb is the light of the
cit - y of God, shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Malachi 3:1-4

NRSV

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like washers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord, as in the days of old and as in former years.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

*GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 3:1-18

NRSV

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

And the crowds asked him, “What, then, should we do?” In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none, and whoever has food must do likewise.” Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

So with many other exhortations he proclaimed the good news to the people.

SERMON

A Baptism of Repentance

Pastor David

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

*RESPONSE HYMN

I Need Thee Every Hour

Hymn #397 (vs. 1, 2, 5)

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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Sutton June Nagy
daughter of Kasey and Austin Nagy

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND FOR THE WORLD

To submit a confidential or shared prayer request to the clergy, please email prayer@hbumc.org.

PRESENTATION OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

Please pass the attendance register. Visitors, please share your contact information.

To offer your tithes and offerings, visit **hbumc.org/give**
or mail checks to: HBUMC, 2209 Fairview Rd, Raleigh NC 27608.

OFFERTORY

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day
Chancel Choir

John Gardner

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day; I would my true love did so chance
To see the legend of my play, to call my true love to my dance;

Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love, this have I done for my true love.

Then was I born of a virgin pure, Of her I took fleshly substance.
Thus was I knit to man's nature to call my true love to my dance.

In a manger laid, and wrapped I was so very poor, this was my chance
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass to call my true love to my dance.

Then afterwards baptized I was; The Holy Ghost on me did glance,
My Father's voice heard I from above, to call my true love to my dance.

SENDING FORTH

*CLOSING HYMN

Heralds of Christ

Hymn #213

*BENEDICTION AND CHIMES

POSTLUDE

Toccata on Sleepers Awake

Paul Fey

*Stand as you are able. CCLI License # 2367044

PRAYER CONCERNS & WORSHIP LEADERS

BIRTHS

Annie Rae Dellinger, born 10/26/24,
daughter of Cammie & Luke Dellinger,
granddaughter of Cheryl & David Dyer.

DEATHS

Deas Capehart Linville, mother of
Cameron Lowe

PRAYER CONCERNS

Zack Anstett
Dorothy Ashworth
Laura Deprill
Judie Edwards
Doug Gill
Steve Gill
Mary Lou Goodrich
Pat & Bud Gore
Gilbert Hay
Boo Lambeth
Tony Lambeth
Fred Misenheimer

Becky Perry

John Pyburn

Jim Riggins

Gladys Rose

Nancy Stamey

Theresa & Dick Stevens

Gini Tharrington

Nick Wagner

Sandra Wagner

Our Government Leaders

Those Affected by Natural Disasters

Our In-Crowd Members

Peace in Palestine, Israel, Haiti, and
Ukraine

Hurricane Helene Recovery

OUR CHURCH LEADERS

Pastors David, Molly, Laura,
Sarah, and Schylar
District Superintendent Chris Brady
Bishop Connie Shelton

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS

The altar flowers are given to the glory
of God and in loving memory of Owen
Fitzgerald by his wife, Mary-Owens, his
children, Frank & Anne, their spouses,
Kersten and Ian, and his grandchildren,
Owen and Chapman.

USHERS

Frank Burney, Captain
David Butts, John Callaway, Leah
Callaway, Ken Jesina, Bill Murr,
Justin Starks

GREETERS

Leah Callaway

MUSIC

Mike Trexler,
Director of Creative Arts
Stephen Aber, Organist

Joint Adult Sunday School

Join us for a heartwarming gathering for "all the Whos down in Whoville" during the Sunday School hour in Advent, **Sundays throughout December, beginning Dec. 1.** Contact Pastor Molly (mwhite@hbumc.org) for more information or to get the book *The Heart That Grew Three Sizes: Finding Faith in the Story of the Grinch* by Matt Rawle.

the POETRY of ADVENT

We're sharing the Poetry of Advent devotional to help you carve a bit of sacred space out of this busy holiday season. Even if you don't regularly read poetry, you will find beauty in Mary Oliver's easy-to-understand poems. Pick up a copy at the welcome center by the front desk, and join Pastor Molly for Monday morning prayer that follows along with the devotional on Monday mornings at 7:30 in the Chapel beginning on December 2nd!

PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT AND ELEMENTARY CHRISTMAS STORY

SUNDAY DECEMBER 15
PRESCHOOL 10AM
ELEMENTARY 3:30PM
CASPER HOLROYD HALL



Holiday Giving: Supporting the Pastor's Discretionary Fund



HBUMC's Pastor's Discretionary Fund provides financial assistance to members of our community who are in need of support (this includes rent and utility assistance, as well as other unplanned community requests prayerfully determined by the pastors). Thanks to the generosity of this congregation, we were able to use our PDF fund abundantly throughout 2024. This means that we are currently in a season of rebuilding the PDF balance so that we can give generously throughout the coming year. Your donations are greatly needed and appreciated!

Go to hbumc.org/give and select "Pastor's Discretionary Fund" from the drop-down menu.

Keyboards at Christmas

December 15th at 5pm
in the Sanctuary

featuring

Allen Coleman, Amanda Honea, Carmen Stewart,
David Worters, Deanna Drescher, Diane Covington,
Diane Petteway, Elizabeth Epstein, Lanier Murr,
Marion Deerhake, Michelle Hile, Miranda Yeager,
Susan Lohr, & Stephen Aber

Made possible the generous support of the ACC Sunday School Class

BEAUTIFUL LIGHT A WALKING MORAVIAN LOVE FEAST

DEC. 21 | 5:30PM

On the longest night of the year, we will gather to carry the light of Christ as we pray throughout our neighborhood. Our time together will end with a Moravian Love Feast.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

The Music of Christmas

8:30 AND 11 AM
CHANCEL CHOIR
CHILDREN'S CHOIRS
STRING QUARTET
HANDBELLS

Advent Sponsorship Opportunities

Add to the spirit and warmth of Advent and Christmas Eve by sponsoring a **poinsettia** or **luminary**.

The purchase of poinsettias helps Soroptimist International of Mid-Atlantic with their "Live your Dream" program to help end violence against women and girls. The purchase of a luminary supports youth missions.

Visit hbumc.org/advent to purchase these items.