

# Union United Methodist Church

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Rev. Randy Perdue, Pastor

Norma Jean Harbin, Organist

Rev. Dr. Mark D. Conforti, Yadkin Valley District Superintendent

**Bulletin – November 30, 2025**

***Signs & Times***

**First Sunday of Advent 2025**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Opening Prayer**

**Advent Candle Lighting – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**



Reader #1: The prophet Isaiah calls to us from the past to imagine the future when 2 reign will be fully realized and recognized throughout creation. When that time comes, God “shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. “

**All: Today, we choose to live in hope, believing that the time of God’s reign has come and is coming among us.**

Reader #2: We light this candle of hope as a sign of our promise to follow the Light as we answer God’s call to transform our hope into reality today and in the days to come.

**\*\* Light the first candle of the Advent wreath \*\***

**Call to Worship**

**\*\* P – Pastor    Bold – C: Congregation responds \*\***

P: Beloved, once again, we embark on the Advent path that points us to the coming of Jesus.

**C: We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.**

P: We remember the signs and the times that heralded the arrival of

the baby Jesus, God Incarnate.

**C: We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.**

P: We tell the stories once again as we learn how to discern the signs and the times, watching for glimpses of God's here-and-not-yet kingdom among us.

**C: We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.**

P: Come, let us worship God who shines a light to guide us on the path to peace and flourishing for all creation.

**All: Come, let us worship as we journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.**

**Our Statement of Faith – The Apostles Creed** p. 881 UMH

**\*\* All to recite in unison \*\***

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;  
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

**The Gloria Patri** p. 70 UMH

*Glory be to the Father  
and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, Amen!*

**Opening Hymn** – O Come, O Come, Emmanuel p. 211 UMH

**Sharing Our Praises & Prayers**

**Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer**

**Offering** – Ushers come forward

**Doxology** p. 95 UMH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise him, all creatures here below;*

*Praise him above, ye heav'nly host,*

*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**Old Testament Reading** – Psalm 122 (CEB)

<sup>1</sup> I rejoiced with those who said to me, “Let’s go to the Lord’s house!”

<sup>2</sup> Now our feet are standing in your gates, Jerusalem! <sup>3</sup> Jerusalem is built like a city joined together in unity. <sup>4</sup> That is where the tribes go up—the Lord’s tribes! It is the law for Israel to give thanks there to the Lord’s name, <sup>5</sup> because the thrones of justice are there—the thrones of the house of David! <sup>6</sup> Pray that Jerusalem has peace: “Let those who love you have rest. <sup>7</sup> Let there be peace on your walls; let there be rest on your fortifications.” <sup>8</sup> For the sake of my family and friends, I say, “Peace be with you, Jerusalem.” <sup>9</sup> For the sake of the Lord our God’s house I will pray for your good.

**Hymn** – Come, Thou Long - Expected Jesus p. 196 UMH

**Gospel Reading** – Matthew 24:36-44 (CEB)

<sup>36</sup> “But nobody knows when that day or hour will come, not the heavenly angels and not the Son. Only the Father knows. <sup>37</sup> As it was

in the time of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Human One. <sup>38</sup> In those days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark. <sup>39</sup> They didn't know what was happening until the flood came and swept them all away. The coming of the Human One will be like that. <sup>40</sup> At that time there will be two men in the field. One will be taken and the other left. <sup>41</sup> Two women will be grinding at the mill. One will be taken and the other left. <sup>42</sup> Therefore, stay alert! You don't know what day the Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup> But you understand that if the head of the house knew at what time the thief would come, he would keep alert and wouldn't allow the thief to break into his house. <sup>44</sup> Therefore, you also should be prepared, because the Human One will come at a time you don't know.

## **Sermon – Signs and Times**

**Closing Hymn:** O Day of God, Draw Nigh                      p. 730 UMH

## **Benediction & Commission**

Advent people, go from this place in the blessing of God who journeys with us, guiding our path as we wait, watch, and work for the day when we beat swords into plowshares and follow the path of peace until God's kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven. Amen!

## **Lectionary Readings beginning December – 2nd Sunday of Advent 2025**

- Isaiah 11:1-10
- Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
- Romans 15:4-13
- Matthew 3:1-12

## Announcements

- A gift has been given to the glory of God and in memory of Frances V. Gough by Sylvia Russell.

## Prayer List

### Church Family

Wayne Bumgardner  
Frank Dalton  
Sherry Doub  
Wanda Needham

Barbara Perryman  
Frances Sisk  
Peggy Willard

### Church Friend / Extended Family

Tommy Bost  
Tammy Seats Boyd  
Jimmy & Deborah Branch  
Jane Bullin  
Leisha Carpenter  
Joe Dean  
Mack Edwards  
Mary File  
Garry Harbin  
Kathy Harbin  
Lynda Harper  
Ronald Howell  
David Joyner  
Charles Kurfees  
Kevin McBride

Kevin McDaniel  
Mark Megela  
Ronnie Mudd  
Jay D. Prevette  
Vivian Royal  
Hal Seats  
Phillip Seats  
Mary Ellen Smith  
Kim Triplette  
Mark Wall  
Ann Wallace  
Robert and Susan Warren  
Jeremy Wilson  
Savannah Wooten



## December Birthdays

John Hogg	3	Glenna Thompson	22
Gabriel Pitts	4	Nicholas Lineberry	26
Monica Keaton	15	Crystal Southern	28
Ann Wallace	15	Will Disher	29
Cameron Hogg	19	Mike Williard	30

## Wesley Covenant Prayer

I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee, or brought low for thee. Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal.

And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen!



## SERMON NOTES

- Where did you hear God speaking to you in today's message?
- What main thought(s) can you use this coming week?
- Did you hear anything new and/or different from the scripture or the message today?
- What reaffirmed or challenged you?
- Additional thoughts and/or ideas?