



December 17, 2023

10:00 Worship Service



**Welcome to NEUMC!**

We're glad you're here! Thank You for joining us today!

**Our Mission is to Know Jesus and Make Him Known**

# A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE

## Third Sunday of Advent

HYMN, 240

*“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”*

Processional

Verses 1-3

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

#### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING LITANY

**Reader 1 (Bill Hoesly):** When God's people were surrounded by hardship, suffering, and grief, Isaiah proclaimed, The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit (Isaiah 61:1-3a).

**Reader 2 (Pat Hoesly):** We come today as people who are also surrounded by suffering and grief. And yet, the Spirit hovers among us, tending and anointing, inspiring freedom where there is captivity, declaring blessing in places the world has cursed, and igniting fierce joy where mourning and heartache prevail.

**Congregation: We wait as people who experience hardship and pain, yet we are called to witness to the persistent joy that sustains our life as God's people.**

**Reader 1 (Bill Hoesly):** We light these candles as signs of our shocking hope, just peace, and fierce joy. May our lives shine with the fierce, tenacious joy of the Light who lives in our hearts as we wait and work for the coming of God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

*Light three candles of the Advent wreath (Include the pink or rose candle).*

\*HYMN OF PRAISE, 211

*“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*

Verses 1-3

#### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*“Lamb's Corner”*

#### OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

Psalm 126 & 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

#### SONG

*“Sanctuary”*

Sing Twice

Lord prepare me  
To be a sanctuary  
Pure and holy  
Tried and true  
With thanksgiving  
I'll be a living  
Sanctuary for You

*“Sanctuary”* by John W. Thompson & Randy Scruggs  
© 1982 Full Armor Publishing Company  
(Admin. by Peermusic III, Ltd.)  
CCLI License # 1114061

#### SERMON AND INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Pastor Antoinette

*“Testify”*

John 1:6-8, 19-28

## CALL FOR OFFERING

### OFFERING

There are 4 ways to give. See back of bulletin.

## HOLY COMMUNION

Wine and grape juice are used for communion. The chalices have wine.

Grape juice and gluten free bread are available in the center.

## CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.**

**We have failed to be an obedient church.**

**We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love,  
we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy.**

**Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*All pray in silence.*

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners, that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you,

Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you,

Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the high**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ,  
redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,  
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE UNITED METHODIST HYMNAL, Book of United Methodist Worship,  
Copyright © The United Methodist Publishing House, Large Type Edition, 1990 All rights reserved.

**\*CHARGE**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*HYMN**

*“Blessed Be Your Name”*

Recessional

**Verse 1**

Blessed be Your name  
In the land that is plentiful  
Where Your streams of abundance flow  
Blessed be Your name

**Verse 2**

Blessed be Your name  
When I'm found in the desert place  
Though I walk through the wilderness  
Blessed be Your name

**Pre-Chorus**

Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll  
Turn back to praise  
When the darkness closes in Lord  
Still I will say

**Chorus**

Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your name  
Blessed be the name of the Lord  
Blessed be Your glorious name

**Verse 3**

Blessed be Your name  
When the sun's shining down on me  
When the world's all as it should be  
Blessed be Your name

**Verse 4**

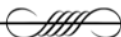
Blessed be Your name  
On the road marked with suffering  
Though there's pain in the offering  
Blessed be Your name

**Bridge**

You give and take away  
You give and take away  
My heart will choose to say  
Lord blessed be Your name

*“Blessed Be Your Name”* by Beth Redman & Matt Redman  
© 2002 Thankyou Music  
CCLI License # 1114061

\* Please stand as you are able.



We are delighted that you have joined us in worship!  
We hope your experience at NEUMC was  
enjoyable and encouraging. Please join us for  
*Cookie Time* fellowship following the service.



Lectionary Devotional Readings  
for the week of December 17

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Psalms 126

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28

END OF YEAR  
*Giving*

Donate before December 31  
to count towards your 2023  
giving tax deductions.

Contributions will continue to be accepted for 2023 through December 31. To receive credit for your 2023 donations they need to be turned in on or before this date. Any contributions received after December 31 will be posted to your 2024 giving statement. Annual statements will be sent by email to the email address that is listed in the church database around the second week of January 2024. Please make sure your email address is up-to-date. Members without e-mail addresses will have their statements mailed. Any questions, please contact Dale Purvis, Financial Secretary at the Church Office.

Let's learn and grow together!

*Sunday*  
**SCHOOL**

**TIME 9:00AM**

**EDUCATION BUILDING**

4000 HARD SCRABBLE RD, COLUMBIA 29223

MORE INFORMATION 803.736.6386

A COMMUNITY OF HOPE  
**NORTHEAST**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
*To Know Jesus and Make Him Known*

**Overcomers (Room 212)**

Instructor: Brooks Shealy

Life of David

First & Second Samuel

**Pairs & Spares (Room 214)**

Instructor: Tammie Sloop

Bible Stories for Grown-Ups by Josh Scott

**Proverbs 17 (Room 208)**

**Older Kids & Youth**

Instructors: Heather Cook & Bianca Brazell

Lessons in the Bible

**Preschool & Young Kids**

Instructors: Pat Hoesly, Mary Anne Lockard & Sharon Shealy

Lessons in the Bible

## MINISTRY AND PRAYER NEEDS

- **Jim Wheeler**, for his health and healing.
- **Tanya Organ** of Covington, GA, undergoing gallbladder chemotherapy.
- **Franklin Holmes** of Troy, NY, recovering from addiction.
- **Chris Coxson, in Pennsylvania**, who is paralyzed from the waist down as a result of a surgical procedure.
- **Catherine, Suzy and Charlie**, who are in difficult circumstances.
- **Pat Stevenson**, friend of Pat Christiansen, who has a mass on her brain.
- **Teddy Szilagyi**, who suffered another heart attack and is currently waiting for a transplant.
- **Those going through cancer treatment: Tracie Glumm, Scott Schuch, Mark Seeley, Courtney Cox-Manser & Julie Smith**
- **Lee Chandler**, who has been diagnosed with stage 4 cancer.
- **The family of Hazel Lockard** for strength and guidance.
- **Owen Markham**, grandson of Larry & Dianne Markham, recovering from a skiing accident in Colorado.
- **Mattia Hilmer**, pray for her overall health.
- **Anita Cook**, Mike Cook's mother, who needs prayer.
- **Larry Markham**, for continued strength and recovery.
- **Johnathan Moss**, for continued strength and recovery.
- **John Lockard**, for continued strength and recovery.
- **Ernst Cousin**, brother of Fred Cousin, for continued strength and recovery.
- **Our military and first responders.**
- **Our missionaries:**
  - Tom & Emma Henry:** Appalachian Mountain Leadership
  - Matt & Jenny Williams:** Athletes in Action Cru
  - Steve & Stephanie Bredesen:** Nakalanda, Uganda
  - Ben & Jenny Reyes**

## BLESSING BOX PRAYER REQUESTS

- **Latory, Donovan, and Latory's children**
- **Damaryan Hunter**, a sailor going to Israel.
- **Stefka and Antonio**, in the midst of divorce with a 7 year-old child. Better job for food and bills.

## HOMEBOUND AND ELDERLY

We are a family and we encourage anyone who feels led by God to visit those who are sick or homebound. Following are our homebound:  
 Lee Chandler   George Eberhardt   Sandra Miller   Sabra Stewart

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry Team create shawls and other items for you to share with those who need encouragement. When you give a shawl away, you are sharing the love and prayers of NEUMC. The prayer shawls are kept in the Prayer Center if one is needed. Prayer Shawl Ministry Team

## PRAYER REQUEST

*I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people.*

*1 Timothy 2:1*

Please write your request(s) here and place this card in the offering plate.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

- Pastor Only
- Prayer Chain
- Bulletin
- I would like someone to contact me to pray over a more confidential matter.



Want to receive our emails or update your mailing choices? Please take a moment to fill out this form with your choices. Place the form in the offering plate or turn it in at the Church Office.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**(NAME)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**(EMAIL ADDRESS)**

.....

**EMAILS**

- Prayer Concerns  
(these go out as needs arise - several each week)
- General information and appeals from NEUMC  
(a few each month)
- Sunday Bulletin

**ACOLYTE**

Youth

TODAY	NEXT WEEK
<b>COMMUNION PREPARER</b> Karen Evans	<b>COMMUNION PREPARER</b> Elizabeth Chamblee
<b>COMMUNION SERVERS</b> Hannah Cook, C.J. Miro & Karen Evans	<b>COMMUNION SERVERS</b> Dan & Gaye Christmus & Emma Wargel
<b>SCRIPTURE READER</b> Stephen Crowell	<b>SCRIPTURE READER</b> Charlie Henry
<b>PRAYER WARRIOR</b> Charlie Henry	<b>PRAYER WARRIOR</b> Gil Johnson
<b>GREETERS</b> Dave & Pat Christiansen	<b>GREETERS</b> George & Karen Evans

.....

**There are 4 ways to give:**

- (1) as offering is collect
- (2) mail a check to the church
- (3) setup recurring giving online: [neumc.com/give](http://neumc.com/give)
- (4) use the QR Code to give online

Scan to Give Online



.....

**CONTACT US**

NORTHEAST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
 4000 HARD SCRABBLE ROAD  
 COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29223-8548

(803) 736-6386 | [northeast@neumc.com](mailto:northeast@neumc.com) | [neumc.com](http://neumc.com)



[facebook.com/neumcsc](https://facebook.com/neumcsc)



[instagram.com/neumcsc](https://instagram.com/neumcsc)



**OFFICE HOURS**

8:30 AM - 4:00 PM: MONDAY - FRIDAY





## Third Sunday of Advent, December 17 "Testify"

Please complete the multiple choice and short answer questions. This is simply an opportunity to recall and reflect on where you've been and where you are in your faith journey during this season of Advent. Some of the answers may be shared anonymously next Sunday as we seek to grow and learn from one another.

**In John 1:6-8, what role does John the Baptist play in testifying about God's story?**

- a) John the Baptist denies any testimony about God.
- b) John the Baptist serves as a witness, sharing his experience as part of God's larger narrative.
- c) John the Baptist keeps silent about his connection to God.
- d) John the Baptist has no role in testifying about God.

**How might the concept of testifying in John 1:6-8 be understood as telling our individual stories within God's larger narrative?**

- a) Testifying is unrelated to sharing our personal stories within God's story.
- b) Testifying involves acknowledging our unique experiences as part of the grander narrative of God.
- c) Testifying means keeping our personal stories separate from God's overarching story.
- d) Testifying has no significance in understanding our connection to God's narrative.

**Have you ever shared your personal story (testimony of God working in your life) with others? If so, how was that experience for you?**



**JOIN US THIS SEASON OF ADVENT AT NEUMC**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**

**10:00 AM**

**Blue Christmas Service, The Longest Night  
Thursday, December 21**

**5:30 PM**

**December 24**

**Be Courageous - Luke 1:26-38**

**Christmas Eve, Candlelight Service**

**Sunday, December 24**

**5:30 PM**



**4000 Hard Scrabble Road, Columbia, SC 29223**

**[www.neumc.com](http://www.neumc.com)**