



December 24, 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

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

HYMN, 234

*“O Come, All Ye Faithful”*

Processional

Verses 1, 3 & 4

### 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 (Elizabeth Chamblee):** When the angel Gabriel visited Mary, announcing God's plan for her to conceive and give birth to the Messiah, “Mary said to the angel, ‘How can this be, since I am a virgin?’” (Luke 1:34) And yet, only a few months later, Mary sings to Elizabeth, My soul glorifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name (Luke 1:46-49).

**Reader 2 (Michael Munn):** We, like Mary, hear God's call to be part of making God's dream for our salvation and flourishing a reality, and we question, “How can this be? I am only...” Yet, like Mary, the “onlys” that make us hesitate are gifts God can and will use as God's love transforms us into bearers of good news.

**Congregation:** We wait as people who have encountered divine Love that disrupts the status quo and ushers us into abundant life marked by mutual love and peace that flows from the flourishing of all people.

**Reader 3 (Gail Luckey):** We light these candles as signs of our shocking hope, our just peace, our fierce joy, and the love that transforms us. May Love grow within us, transforming us into bold witnesses of God's salvation with our voices and our lives. Amen.

*Light the four outer candles of the Advent wreath.*

\*HYMN OF PRAISE, 218

*“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”*

Verses 1, 2 & 4

#### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*“Away in a Manger”*

#### OLD AND NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

2 Samuel 7:1-11 & Romans 16:25-27

#### 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

*“Be Courageous”*

Luke 1:26-38

## 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**

“One King”

Recessional

**Chorus**

One king held the frankincense  
One king held the myrrh  
One king held the purest gold  
(And) one King held the hope of the world

**Verse 1**

Kings of earth on a course unknown  
Bearing gifts from afar  
Hoping praying following yonder star  
Silhouette of a caravan  
Painted against the sky  
Wise men searching for the holy Child

**Verse 2**

A star hangs over Bethlehem  
A journey ends in the night  
Three kings trembling  
Behold the glorious sight  
Heaven's treasure Emmanuel  
Drawing men to bow down  
Tiny Baby born to wear a crown

**Bridge**

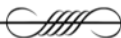
God rest ye merry gentlemen  
Let nothing you dismay  
Remember Christ our Savior  
Was born on Christmas day  
To save us all from Satan's pow'r  
When we were gone astray  
O tiny Baby born to wear a crown

**Ending**

The hope of the world  
The hope of the world  
The hope of the world

“One King” by Gayla Borders, Jeff Borders, Lowell Alexander  
© 1999 Randy Cox Music, Inc.; Grayson Castle Songs;  
Sony/ATV Milene Music; Sony/ATV Tree Publishing  
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 24

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Luke 1:46b-55

Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38

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  
The Parables of Jesus

**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 Szilagy**, 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> Elizabeth Chamblee	<b>COMMUNION PREPARER</b> Danna Griner
<b>COMMUNION SERVERS</b> Dan & Gaye Christmus & Emma Wargel	<b>COMMUNION SERVERS</b> Larry & Danna Griner & Melanie Hafner
<b>SCRIPTURE READER</b> Charlie Henry	<b>SCRIPTURE READER</b> Hannah Cook
<b>PRAYER WARRIOR</b> Gil Johnson	<b>PRAYER WARRIOR</b> Ann Henry
<b>GREETERS</b> George & Karen Evans	<b>GREETERS</b> Danna Griner & Delina Johnson

**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





**Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 24  
"Be Courageous"**

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 Luke 1:26-38, what courageous act does Mary demonstrate?**

- a) Mary shows courage by defying the angel's message.
- b) Mary displays courage by questioning the angel's announcement.
- c) Mary exemplifies courage by accepting the angel's message and embracing her role in God's plan.
- d) Mary's actions in this passage do not reflect courage.

**In Luke 1:26-38, Mary's acceptance of the angel's message is characterized by:**

- a) Doubt and skepticism.
- b) Acceptance and embracing God's plan and purpose for her life.
- c) Indifference to the angel's words.
- d) Fear and hesitation.

**How might the concept of resonance relate to Mary's acceptance in Luke 1:26-38?**

- a) Resonance is irrelevant to accepting divine messages in biblical narratives.
- b) Resonance could signify a deep connection with accepting one's role aligned with divine purposes.
- c) Resonance disrupts the acceptance displayed in biblical narratives.
- d) Resonance has no correlation with acceptance of divine messages.

**How does Mary's courageous response in Luke 1:26-38 serve as an example for individuals seeking to be courageous in their own faith?**

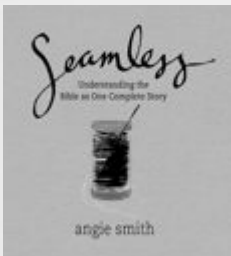
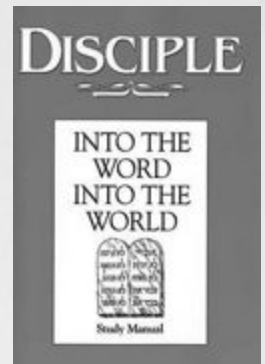


## SMALL GROUP STUDIES

### Into the Word, Into the World

Chastity Cherubin and Brooks Shealy are prepared to lead a Disciple II curriculum, a 32 week study. This study proclaims the transforming power of Scripture while teaching Bible study skills that take participants deeper into the Scripture. The importance of keeping Bible study related to witness is reinforced while participants are encouraged to practice spiritual disciplines arising out of Scripture for the purpose of changing habits and transforming lives.

Study begins Sunday, January 21, 2024 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM.



### Seamless

Charlie Henry will lead a study covering a book called "Seamless." Seamless is a seven-session study that covers major events from the Bible, tying them together into the greater story of all of Scripture. The study provides a good general timeline study of the Bible.

Study begins Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 6:30 PM.

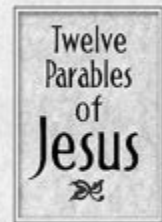
### Twelve Parables of Jesus

Jane Scott will be teaching from the book by Maxie Dunnam.

Many of us have heard the parables of Jesus all our lives, and we might even know them by heart. So why study them again? Why take another look at the parables? As our life experiences accumulate, we bring a fresh eye to the Scriptures. This is especially true of the parables, as they deal with people and life and everyday events. In many ways, reflecting on the parables in light of our own lives can bring us closer to Jesus.

Study begins Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 10:00 AM.

MAXIE DUNNAM



BIBLE STUDY FOR CHRISTIAN LIVING

Signup sheets are located in the narthex.



Also, Elizabeth Chamblee will organize a dinner club to meet monthly at a local restaurant. Dates and time to be announced. Participants may attend as many times as is convenient.



*Merry Christmas*

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
December 24  
5:30 PM

The Church Office will be  
closed December 25 & 26.

But when the kindness and love of  
God our Savior appeared, he saved  
us, not because of righteous things we  
had done, but because of his mercy.

Titus 3:4-5