



# PAW CREEK

## PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### LESSONS AND CAROLS

December 18, 2022

7400 Mount Holly Road  
Charlotte, NC 28214

PO Box 64  
Paw Creek, NC 28130

(704) 392-0329 • [pawcreekpc.org](http://pawcreekpc.org)

# PAW CREEK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2022

Eleven O'clock

### Welcome into God's House (responsive)

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit are in our midst.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God!**

Leader: Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. In these  
Advent days of expectation as we return to your house, we pray you to bless our waiting until  
the day when you make all things new.

Congregation: **Amen, Come Lord Jesus!**

### Chimes of the Trinity

**Prelude** "The Coventry Carol" arr. Mark Hayes

**Choral Introit**, Hymn 103 "O Prince of Peace"

### Call to Worship (Isaiah 9)

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light:  
they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death,  
upon them hath the light shined.  
For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given:  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder:  
and his name shall be called  
Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God,  
The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.  
Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end.

**\*Hymn 140** "Once in Royal David's City"

### The Advent Wreath and the Creche

#### Prayer of the Day

Leader: By the light of four candles, let us follow Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem.

All: **Stir up our hearts, Lord God, that we too may escape from fear to obedience. May we heed your call to meet you on our life's journey, confident that your Holy Spirit has gone before us to prepare a place, to give us a task, and to provide us the courage to be a part of your Kingdom. Through the one who is to come, even our Savior Christ. Amen.**

Response in Song, Hymn 88

"Rejoice! Rejoice!"

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel**

## Welcome and Announcements

### The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

Riley James Moore

Affirmation of our Baptismal Faith

\*Apostles' Creed

**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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on 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 Ghost, the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## The Service of Lessons and Carols for Christmas

### The Bidding Prayer (concluding with *The Lord's Prayer*)

#### The First Lesson

*Isaiah Foretells the Coming of God's Peace*  
Paul Bradley

Isaiah 11: 1-9

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

#### The First Carol

"Riu Riu Chiu"

Mateo Flecha (1481-1553)

#### The Second Lesson

*Isaiah Promises Comfort to God's People*  
Mary Ellen Edwards

Isaiah 40: 1-5

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

#### The Second Carol

"The First Noel"

arr. Dan Forrest

## The Third Lesson

*Luke Tells of the Angel's Visit*  
Riley Moore

Luke 1: 26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

### The Third Carol

"The Angel Gabriel From Heaven Came"

Gould/Pettman

## The Fourth Lesson

*Luke Tells of the Birth of Jesus*  
Andy Cumbow

Luke 2: 1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

### The Fourth Carol

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"  
For the Congregation

Hymn 121

## The Fifth Lesson

*Luke Tells of the Shepherd's Visit*  
Danny McClure

Luke 2: 8-20

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

### The Fifth Carol

"Gloria in Excelsis"

Andrew Cumbow

## The Sixth Lesson

*Matthew Tells of the Wise Men*

Matthew 2: 1-12

Celia Gray

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

### The Sixth Carol

"As I Went to Bethlehem"

Robert Lay

## The Seventh Lesson

*John Tells of the Word Made Flesh*

John 1: 1-14

Elliott Hipp

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

### The Seventh Carol

"The Word was God"

Rosephanye Powell

## Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

arr. Jack Schrader

Susan Bandel, Flute

\* Doxology

*Old Hundredth*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen.**

Offertory Response

Leader: Blessed are you, God of all creation.  
 Congregation: **Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.**  
 Leader: Accept and use our offerings for your glory.  
 Congregation: **And for the service of your kingdom.**  
 All: **Amen.**

**Christmas Prayer of Adoration** (in unison)

**Great God of power, we praise you for Jesus Christ, who came to save us from our sins. We thank you for the hope of the prophets, the song of the angels, and the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. We thank you that in Jesus you became flesh and dwelt among us, sharing human hurts and pleasures. Glory to you, eternal God; through Jesus Christ, King of kings and Lord of lords forever. Amen.**

**\*Hymn 119**

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude**

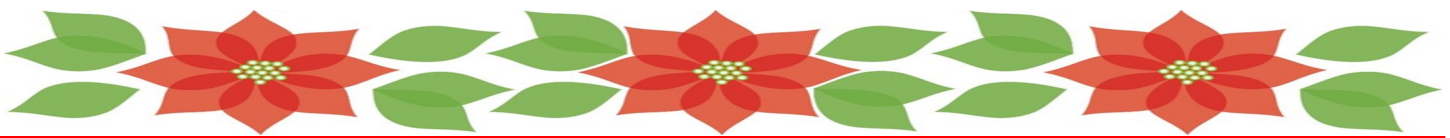
“Carol of the Bells”

arr. Mark Hayes

\*Those who are able, please stand

**Members of the Seasonal Choir**

Andrew Cumbow .....	Director
Mark Burlison .....	Pianist
Donna Hall .....	Soprano
Christine Hawk .....	Soprano
Vickie Joy .....	Soprano
Linda Riggins .....	Soprano
Dina Salvo .....	Soprano
Karen Sisk .....	Soprano
Barbara Ullem .....	Soprano
Mary Ellen Edwards .....	Alto, 2nd Soprano
Susan Bandel .....	Alto
Teresa Painter .....	Alto
Joan Wilson .....	Alto
Todd Corbin .....	Tenor
Neecho Mosby .....	Tenor
Larry Ramsey .....	Tenor
Reid Griffin .....	Baritone
Sam McCord .....	Bass
John Riggins .....	Bass



**The Poinsettias in the Sanctuary Today are Given as Follows:**

**In Memory of:**

Joe Adkins  
John & Flossie Adkins  
Grady Alexander  
Grady Alexander  
Frank, Faye Caldwell  
Jillian Hope Cashion  
Joshua Ray Cashion  
Harold & Margie Caudill  
Jo & Frank Dale  
Susan Gustafson  
Susan Todd Gustafson  
Andy & Doris Harrington  
Glenn & Lorene Hawkins  
Jean Johnston  
Melanie Johnston  
Frank Kapelar  
Price & Shirley Kenley  
Ronald & Susan Kenley  
Kelley C. Longshore  
Flora Mae Love (100<sup>th</sup> Birthday - 12/24)  
Bill & Lib McArver  
Lydia McKay  
Peg & Chuck Overbeck  
Betty Pinkston  
Phyllis & Gene Ramsey  
Elizabeth Rettew  
Richard Rettew  
Libby Stogner  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Joel Todd, Sr.  
Robert Joel Todd, Sr.  
Susan Todd  
Herman & Margie Turner  
David Ullem  
Robert Whitlow  
Jim & Margaret Williams  
Our Parents  
Kids & Grands

**In Honor of:**

Shelby Alexander  
Shelby Alexander  
Andrew, Jenn Caldwell  
Elliott & Nell  
Patricia Echerd  
Nick, Kelly, Kenley & Walker McGee  
Jordan & Morgan Miller  
Edgar Peeden  
Anna Rettew  
Jimmy Stogner  
Sue Whitlow  
Mark, Jennifer, Cassidy Williams  
Our Family  
CCC & Reading Program Volunteers  
In Gratitude for God's Blessings

**By:**

Emily Adkins  
Emily Adkins  
Shelby & Stephanie Alexander  
Joyce & Roger Cloninger  
Tommy Caldwell  
Ann & Tommy Cashion Family  
Ann & Tommy Cashion Family  
John, Jodi, Greyson & Graham Kines  
The Family  
Skip & Jean Todd  
James & Carolyn Summerlin & Family  
Peggy Harrington  
Eddie & Jane McArver  
Hoyt Johnston  
Hoyt Johnston  
Larry & Vicki Ramsey  
The Kenley Family  
The Kenley Family  
Ann & Tommy Cashion Family  
Billie Love, Gloria & Donald Wallace  
Eddie & Jane McArver  
Susan Bandel  
David & Karen Turner  
The Pinkston Family  
Larry & Vicki Ramsey  
The Rettew Family  
The Rettew Family  
Jim Stogner  
James & Carolyn Summerlin & Family  
Skip & Jean Todd  
Skip & Jean Todd  
David & Karen Turner  
Barbara Ullem  
Tommy Caldwell  
The Kenley Family  
Donna & Gene Hall  
Donna & Gene Hall

**By:**

Joyce & Roger Cloninger  
Donna & Gene Hall  
Gloria Caldwell  
Donna & Gene Hall  
Shelby & Stephanie Alexander  
Nana  
Mama  
John, Jodi, Greyson & Graham Kines  
Shelby & Stephanie Alexander  
Donna & Gene Hall  
Gloria Caldwell  
Gloria Caldwell  
John & Linda Riggins  
Gail Bryant  
Tim & Celia Gray

## Welcome to Paw Creek Presbyterian Church!

We are a congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA), two centuries young and committed to living out the Gospel today as we Seek, Serve, Praise and Love Christ. If you are a visitor today, we are especially glad that you are here. We hope that you will leave us a record of your visit by completing a visitor card and placing it in the offering plate. Feel free to contact our pastor, Elliott Hipp, with questions or prayer concerns: deh46@columbia.edu or 704-502-2143. Please come again soon.

## Worshipping On-Line

Our worship service is also streamed live each week, and is available to watch later in the week as well. For Facebook and YouTube links, please visit pawcreekpc.org. When you worship with us from home, you can use an on-line version of our Glory to God hymnal so that you can sing along or follow the words to the hymns. For phone or tablet, search "Glory to God" in your app store. For computer, go to hymnary.org/hymnal/GG2013 and click on the hymn number. Most hymns are available, although there are a few that cannot be displayed due to copyright restriction.

## Paw Creek Presbyterian Church Staff:

Pastor ..... Elliott Hipp  
Music Director ..... Andrew Cumbow  
Pianist..... Mark Burleson  
Administrative Assistant / Webmaster ..... Kim Whittington  
Videography Coordinator ..... Clint Shaw

## Christmas Events at Paw Creek

### • Churchwide Christmas Party

Sunday, **December 18** after Lessons and Carols in the CFC. Heavy hors d'oeuvres provided by the Fellowship Committee.

### • Christmas Eve - Luke 2: 1-20

Saturday, **December 24** at 8:00 pm - After you share time with family, bring them all for candlelight, communion and Christmas carols. About 45 minutes and a great way to sipher in the holiday.

### • Christmas Day - John 1: 1-14

Sunday, **December 25** - No Sunday School this day. Enjoy Christmas festivities in the morning, and then stop by for Christmas carols and a special Christmas Day story.

### Wednesday Bible Study

There will be **NO** Bible Study on **Dec. 21 & Dec. 28**.

Merry Christmas!

We will meet again on Jan. 4.

### Stitches for Missions

The Stitches for Missions group will not meet during December.

Our next meeting will be on **Saturday, January 21st, at 10:30am** in the Parlor.

## Church Calendar

### Sunday, December 18

9:45am Sunday School Classes  
11:00am Worship: Lessons & Carols / Joy Offering  
12:00pm Churchwide Christmas Party

### Tuesday, December 20

9:00am Cardio Fitness  
12:00pm Newsletter Deadline

### Wednesday, December 21

12:00pm Bulletin Deadline for 12/24, 12/25 & 1/1

### Thursday, December 22

\*Newsletter  
6:30am Men's Bible Study  
9:00am Cardio Fitness  
6:30pm Chancel Choir Practice

### Saturday, December 24

8:00pm Christmas Eve Service

### Sunday, December 25

**Christmas Day**  
11:00am Worship

### Monday, December 26

**\*Church Office Closed**

### Tuesday, December 27

**\*Church Office Closed**

9:00am Cardio Fitness

### Wednesday, December 28

**\*Church Office Closed**

### Thursday, December 29

**\*Church Office Closed**  
6:30am Men's Bible Study  
9:00am Cardio Fitness  
6:30pm Chancel Choir Practice

### Sunday, January 1

11:00am Worship / Lord's Supper / 10¢ Hunger