



Hawfields
Presbyterian
Church

ONLINE

POSTED BY
SAT. 5PM

IN-
PERSON

SUNDAYS @
10AM & 6PM



W A I T I N G
W I T H
M A R Y

Third Sunday in Advent • Joy • December 14, 2025

Luke 1:39-66

“Waiting with Elizabeth”

Sometimes joy comes just knowing we aren't alone.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

CEL=Celebration Hymnal

GTG=Glory to God Hymnal

HAWFIELDS JAMMERS

"Away in a Manager" arr. Joe Collins
"Still, Still, Still" arr. Kenneth Bullock
"In the Bleak Midwinter" arr. Joe Collins
"Good Christian Men" arr. Ken Bullock
"Silent Night" arr. Joe Collins

OPENING SENTENCE

Luke 1:46-47 (CEB)

Mary said, "With all my heart I glorify the Lord! In the depths of who I am I rejoice in God my savior...."

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" GTG #82

**Come, thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.**

PRELUDE

"Star of the East"
arr. A. Kennedy

WREATH LITURGY: JOY

John and Sam Beaudry

...In the world around us and within us:

**We will serve the Lord with
celebration! We will come before
God with hearts ready to express
joy! Let every living thing praise
the Lord!**

Jesus is coming...(pink candle is lit)

Let us pray:

**Lord God, thank you for teaching
us your songs even in times of
breathless evil. Thank you for
teaching us to have joy that
sustains and empowers. Thank you
for causing joy to be kindled in us.
Help us take heart as the season of
Advent continues. Amen.**

SING

"O Lord How Shall I Meet You"
GTG #104

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us begin with silent prayer...

**Coming Christ, there are causes for joy
all around us. Not shallow, short-lived
bursts of happiness, but the assurances
of your sovereignty and guarantees
your love makes. The constancy of the
sun, the beauty of this earth, the plenty
we have available, the access with
which we are privileged. Even at our
worst we yet possess the ability to heal,
to help, to transform. And most of all,
you, God, still believe in us. There's a
lot to be thankful for. There's a lot to
be joyful about. Teach us to sing, Lord,
if not with our voices then with our
lives. Please, help us not take the
blessings we already have and all that is
coming for granted. Remind us that it
is given. May we come to reflect your
generosity as enthusiastically as we
receive it. Thank you for listening, God.
Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*God's love can change everything, even the
power of our sins over us. And it is God's will
that we have this power:*

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
The Peace of Christ be with you
And also with you.**

SING

"Gloria Patri"

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
And to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning.
It is now and ever shall be
world without end: Amen, amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

*God's Word is a gift. And good gifts are meant to
be opened. Our hearts and minds are gifts. And
good gifts are meant to be opened. God offers to
help us open our presents by God's own Spirit.
Let us take God up on that offer and ask for
help to understand. Let us pray...*

PRAY/SING

"While We Are Waiting, Come" GTG #92, vs. 3
**Come, Savior, quickly come;
Come, Savior, quickly come;
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,
While we are waiting, come.**
*Listen closely to the Word of God to us all and
our ongoing place in God's story...*

READ: Luke 1:39-66 (CEB)

Mary visits Elizabeth and Mary's Song

³⁹ Mary got up and hurried to a city in the Judean highlands. ⁴⁰ She entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴² With a loud voice she blurted out, "God has blessed you above all women, and he has blessed the child you carry. ⁴³ Why do I have this honor, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴ As soon as I heard your greeting, the baby in my womb jumped for joy. ⁴⁵ Happy is she who believed that the Lord would fulfill the promises he made to her." ⁴⁶ Mary said, "With all my heart I glorify the Lord! ⁴⁷ In the depths of who I am I rejoice in God my savior. ⁴⁸ He has looked with favor on the low status of his servant. Look! From now on, everyone will consider me highly favored ⁴⁹ because the mighty one has done great things for me. Holy is his name. ⁵⁰ He shows mercy to everyone, from one generation to the next, who honors him as God. ⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm. He has scattered those with arrogant thoughts and proud inclinations. ⁵² He has pulled the powerful down from their thrones and lifted up the lowly. ⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty-handed. ⁵⁴ He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, remembering his mercy, ⁵⁵ just as he promised to our ancestors, to Abraham and to Abraham's descendants forever." ⁵⁶ Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months, and then returned to her home. ⁵⁷ When the time came for Elizabeth to have her child, she gave birth to a boy. ⁵⁸ Her neighbors and relatives celebrated with her because they had heard that the Lord had shown her great mercy. ⁵⁹ On the eighth day, it came time to circumcise the child. They wanted to name him Zechariah because that was his father's name. ⁶⁰ But his mother replied, "No, his name will be John." ⁶¹ They said to her, "None of your relatives have that name." ⁶² Then they began gesturing to his father to see what he wanted to call him. ⁶³ After asking for a tablet, he surprised everyone by writing, "His name is John." ⁶⁴ At that moment, Zechariah was able to speak again, and he began praising God. ⁶⁵ All their neighbors were filled with awe, and everyone throughout the Judean highlands talked about what had happened. ⁶⁶ All who heard about this considered it carefully. They said, "What then will this child be?" Indeed, the Lord's power was with him.

One: For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us...

All: Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN'S SERMON

"JOY"

ANTHEM

"Gloria Medley"

arr. Bill Shilling

SERMON

"Waiting with Elizabeth"

Rev. David Ealy

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

SING

"My Soul Cries Out With a Joyful Shout"

GTG #100

OFFERING & OFFERTORY

"What Child Is This?"

English Melody Greensleeves

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom

all blessings flow,

Praise God all creatures here below.

Praise God above ye heavenly hosts;

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

BLESSING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: The Lord be with you.

All: and also with you.

Let us pray...

"Come Now, O Prince of Peace" GTG #103

Come now, O Prince of Peace;

Make us one body.

Come, O Lord Jesus;

Reconcile all people.

**...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 debts as we forgive our
debtors. And lead us not into
temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the
power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

SONG OF SENDING

GTG #69

"Here I Am, Lord"

SENDING & BENEDICTION

Let us say together the Benediction...

**Sometimes joy comes just knowing we
aren't alone.**

SING

"Prepare the Way of the Lord"GTG #95

Prepare the way of the Lord. (X2)
And all people will see
The salvation of our God.

POSTLUDE

"Beautiful Star"

arr.A. L Phipps

PRAYER CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

The following are prayer concerns & celebrations given to us through email, Prayer Notebook at the entrance, by phone or word of mouth. Please use this list in your prayers through the week.

- Staff of the month: Jennifer Vicinanza
- Sherry Allen—suffered minor stroke (Lora Melton's aunt)
- The Family of George Bason
- Joe Covington—at home recovering from surgery
- Beverly Doss—health concerns
- James Ealy, Sr.—health concerns
- Janet Lewis—out of ICU at Chapel Hill (sister of Ira Trollinger)
- The Family of John Lewis (brother-in-law of Ira Trollinger)
- Friend of Noah and Lora Melton—stage 4 pancreatic cancer diagnosis
- The Family of Mitch Murphy (a senior at Eastern High School)
- Nanette Pedelty—recovering from carpal tunnel surgery
- Tim Setzer—health concerns
- Jane Shook—complications following appendectomy (Barbara Phillips' granddaughter)
- Helen Thomas—recovering from COVID
- Danny Thompson—that he would feel more comfortable
- Nancy Trollinger—recovering well from knee replacement surgery
- The families of two teenagers who lost their lives in a recent automobile accident in Alamance County
- Weston Young—tonsillectomy on 12/18 (Carol Phillips' grandson)

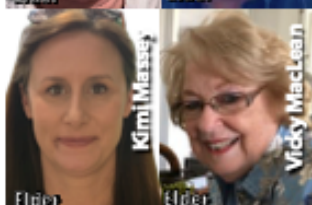
Our prayers continue for:

Cindy Atkins, Ron & Pat Baugus, Rose Boderck (Liberty Commons, Rm #103), Emily Johnson, Susan Loy (Alamance House), Kevin Monroe (White Oak Manor, Rm #306), Betty Sykes & Carol Thompson (Compass Health Rm #A19 & #F15), Helen Thomas (Brookdale Senior Living, #67), Danny Thompson and Pat Webster

JOY DOES NOT EQUAL HAPPINESS. JOY GIVES PEACE, EVEN WHEN YOU ARE IN SADNESS AND SORROW. JOY IS THAT BASELINE SETTLED FEELING KNOWING THAT GOD HAS GOT THIS AND YOU WILL GET THROUGH. HAPPINESS IS MORE OF A TEMPORARY FEELING IN THE MOMENT. HAPPINESS IS ATTACHED TO CIRCUMSTANCES, WHILE JOY IS DEFINITELY NOT. JOY IS KNOWING ROMANS 8:28... ALSO, NOTHING KILLS JOY FASTER THAN WORRY. BUT, JOY AND GRATITUDE ALWAYS GO TOGETHER.

—Erin Layfield, theologian

THE 2025 SESSION



I HAVE PLENTY
IN MY LIFE TO
GIVE ME JOY!

—Jackie Albright, theologian

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DO SOMETHING SILLY!

One of the things about becoming an adult is we forget how to play and be playful. Everything gets serious. This isn't a call to be lazy or to be wanton. But it is a reminder that the ability to laugh, to try new things, to enjoy, is not a childhood thing: it's a human thing. Like other aspects of our faith, the wider culture sometimes teaches us to suppress certain aspects of our faith in polite company. Humbug to that! Instead of doomscrolling, look instead for a joke to share. When you come into good news, obsess about that and gossip about that (really, gossip about something good). Take time to dance, whether or not you have music playing. Play a game. Be silly. Do something you truly enjoy knowing that God wants to enjoy it with you. As you move through the week, pay close attention to the ways you make room for yourself and others to experience joy.

QUESTIONS AS YOU WORSHIP THIS WEEK

- In what do you typically take pleasure?
- How would you define joy? Does your definition match God's, in your opinion?
- Is joy something you choose or something that happens to you?
- What's a question you would have for Mary this week?

WE WELCOME THE HAWFIELDS JAMMERS TODAY!

The Hawfields Jammers started as a small group of dulcimer enthusiasts in 2016 into a community of musicians serving our area year-round. They perform a variety of traditional mountain and gospel music and are capably led by Ted Hanson. We appreciate their ministry in the Traditional Service this Sunday.

POINSETTIAS IN SANCTUARY

The poinsettias are placed by Brittney and Dwayne Straughan and family, in loving memory of James and Geraldine Brafford, Gloria House, Jack and Peggy Straughan, and Jean and Richard Southall.

DIRECTORY UPDATE

The update of our church directory is going well! You can find an update form in the vestibule, Fellowship Hall or online. *Please fill out the complete form*, including your name(s), addresses (college students too!), home and/or cell phone numbers, children or other household members, dates of birth, baptisms, and joining dates. No worries if you don't have all the dates—just fill out what you do have! Please return the completed form to the offering plate, church office, or mail. Also, we're taking photos for the directory. You can arrange to have pictures taken or even submit pictures (of your face(s)!) to the church office. This only works with your participation!

OUR THEME FOR ADVENT 2025

An expectant mother isn't just a bystander or a passive observer of their pregnancy. Waiting on the child to be born means wellness visits, fulfilling cravings, bones and hormones shifting, nesting, changes in clothing, changes in priorities, changes in habits. Waiting on the child can involve self-reflection, changing relationships, periods of discovery, even illness. And hopefully the community surrounding and supporting the mother to be are going through changes as well. We have traditionally called Mary the *theotokos*, "God-bearer." And Mary's journey through Advent is instructive for us. Our theme is *Waiting with Mary!* As we anticipate what God is going to do, is *our* waiting passive or active? Are we making room, making preparations for the grace of God to arrive in our lives? May our own journeys through Advent involve self-reflection, changing relationships, periods of discovery as well. Jesus is coming!

LOVE OFFERING

"And do not neglect to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased." Hebrews 13:16. As we approach the Season of Giving, let us remember the Church employees. We

are blessed with an awesome staff: Tom Bowden, Jennifer Vicinanza, Noah Melton, Danny Yancey, Randa Patterson as well as Mandy and David Ealy all work tirelessly throughout the year to keep our church running. Please show your appreciation by contributing to the "Love Offering". Please put your donations in the offering plate or tithing box, marked clearly for "Love Offering" by **December 14th**.

NURSERY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

We're seeking some volunteers to lend a hand in our nursery! If interested, please reach out to Mandy.

Sunday, December 14th:

AM: 1 - _____
PM: 1 - _____
2 - _____

Sunday, December 21st:

AM: 1 - _____
PM: 1 - _____
2 - _____

THE LONGEST NIGHT

As we get closer to the winter solstice, the nights get longer. In a similar fashion, as we get closer to Christmas, there are many in our community for whom the date brings its own darkness. The Longest Night Service is an opportunity for us as a community to surround and support each other through the contrast of the decorations, music and brightness of the season with the losses, mourning, grieving, missing, and hurts. We do this in partnership with Crossroads Presbyterian and this year Hawfields is the host! Rev. Kate Harper is our guest preacher. The service will be Tuesday, **December 16th**, at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary. A reception will follow.

YOUTH GROUP MEALS FOR WINTER

If you're available to help provide meals for youth group meetings this winter, sign up by entering the link in your browser. Some of our favorite meals include chicken nuggets, pizza, Bojangles, taco bar, and subs.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0D49AEA82EABFA7-58245441-winter>

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

The Christmas Cantata Choir will present *Mary, Did You Know?* at Compass Assisted Living on Wednesday, **December 17th** at 6:45 PM. If you are unable to attend the 10:00 AM service on December 21, you may consider joining us. The program is free and will last approximately 35 minutes.



MARY, DID YOU KNOW?

Our Christmas Cantata will be on Sunday, **December 21st** during the 10:00 AM worship service. Arranged by Russell Mauldin, it is entitled *Mary, Did You Know?* Please plan to attend and embrace the hope to our world represented in the birth of our Savior and King!

SCOUTS POPCORN SALE

I would like to take just a moment and think each and every member of the church for their support and prayers during our major fundraiser of the year. The units together sold \$59,620 worth of popcorn and peanuts. The troop alone sold \$26,654 which is a huge improvement from 2021 when they sold \$1,500. Again thanks to Hawfield's Presbyterian Church for your prayers and support of our units.

LINKING LIVES

We will be taking a pause on the Linking Lives program for the month of January due to Pastor David having surgery. His recovery will limit his time to meet with families for prayer and to record the Linking Lives podcast. We plan to resume the program in February. No families will be skipped, we will pick up with the alphabetical list in February.

THE WEEK AHEAD:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

- 9:00 AMYouth Sunday School
- 9:15 AMCoffee & Treats (F. Hall)
- 10:00 AMTraditional Worship Service
- 11:00 AMYouth—Christmas Party
- 1:30 PMCommunion @ Compass
- 6:00 PMFaith @ Night Service

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

- 7:00 PM“Johnathan & Jesus” Study (Rm 15)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16

- 11:00 AMStaff Meeting & Prayer
- 11:00 AMFitness Strength Training
- 4:00 PMManna Market
- 7:00 PMBoy Scouts Meeting (F. Hall)
- 7:00 PMLongest Night Service

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17

- 10:00 AMBusy Bees Workshop
- 1:30 PMHawfields Dulcimers
- 5:30 PMLinking Lives Prayer Chat
- 6:30 PMCantata Presentation
- 6:30 PMNarcotics Anonymous (Fleming)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 18

- 9:00 AMCoffee & Prayer @ Habit Coffee
- 11:00 AMFitness Chair Dance
- 2:00 PMCommunity Life Committee Mtg
- 6:30 PMAA Meeting (Fleming)
- 6:30 PMSession Meeting

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 19

- 11:00 AMBingo

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

- 9:00 AMWalking Group (church track)
- 10:00 AMCantata Practice

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

- 9:00 AMYouth Sunday School
- 9:15 AMCoffee & Treats (F. Hall)
- 10:00 AMCantata Worship Service
- 11:00 AMYouth—Lunch & Gratitude
- 3:00 PMGirl Scout Meeting
- 6:00 PMFaith @ Night Service

BY THE NUMBERS 12/7/25

Giving Budget 2025	\$346,202.00
Gen. Fund YTD	\$208,036.23
Needed monthly	\$28,850.17
G.F. Month to Date	\$4,580.00
Needed weekly	\$6,657.73
Gen. Fund Last Week	\$4,580.00
Building Fund	\$109.00
Youth	\$302.00
Helping Hands Balance	\$2,087.22

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