



Hawfields
Presbyterian
Church

ONLINE

POSTED BY
SAT. 5PM

IN-
PERSON

SUNDAYS @
10AM & 6PM



First Sunday in Christmas • New Year's Eve • December 28, 2025

Luke 2:25-40
“Jesus Grows Up”

A very human Jesus had to do some very human growing up.
So do we.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

CEL=Celebration Hymnal
GTG=Glory to God Hymnal

OPENING SENTENCE

Luke 2:40-47 (CEB)

The child grew up and became strong. He was filled with wisdom, and God's favor was on him.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG

"O Come All Ye Faithful "

GTG #133

PRELUDE

"Joy to the World"
arr. Melody Bober

CALL TO WORSHIP

Over the depths of the oceans

Over the heights of our spires

Throughout the lands and over borders

In every heart God can find

Jesus is the King who is coming

Jesus' kingdom has arrived

SING

"Once In a Royal David's City"
GTG #140

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us begin with silent prayer...

Holy Jesus, as much as we celebrate your divinity, help us remember and recover your humanity. Help us not forget that you had to grow, had to learn, had to work at being who God called you to be. Forgive us for forgetting we must do all of that as well. 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

"Love Has Come", (verse 1)

GTG #110

Love has a come a light in the darkness!

Love shines forth in the Bethlehem skies.

See, all heaven has come to proclaim it;

Hear how their song of joy arises:

Love! Love! Born unto you, a Savior!

Love! Love! Glory to God on high.

Listen closely to the Word of God to us all and our ongoing place in God's story...

READ: Luke 2:25-40 (CEB)

Prophets and...Jesus Grows Up

²⁵ A man named Simeon was in Jerusalem. He was righteous and devout. He eagerly anticipated the restoration of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶ The Holy Spirit revealed to him that he wouldn't die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷ Led by the Spirit, he went into the temple area. Meanwhile, Jesus' parents brought the child to the temple so that they could do what was customary under the Law. ²⁸ Simeon took Jesus in his arms and praised God. He said, ²⁹ "Now, master, let your servant go in peace according to your word, ³⁰ because my eyes have seen your salvation. ³¹ You prepared this salvation in the presence of all peoples. ³² It's a light for revelation to the Gentiles and a glory for your people Israel." ³³ His father and mother were amazed by what was said about him. ³⁴ Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "This boy is assigned to be the cause of the falling and rising of many in Israel and to be a sign that generates opposition ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of

many will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your innermost being too.”³⁶ There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, who belonged to the tribe of Asher. She was very old. After she married, she lived with her husband for seven years.³⁷ She was now an 84-year-old widow. She never left the temple area but worshipped God with fasting and prayer night and day.³⁸ She approached at that very moment and began to praise God and to speak about Jesus to everyone who was looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.³⁹ When Mary and Joseph had completed everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to their hometown, Nazareth in Galilee.⁴⁰ The child grew up and became strong. He was filled with wisdom, and God’s favor was on 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. “Grow Up”

ANTHEM “King Jesus Is His Name”
arr. Jack Schrader; Soloist: Noah Melton

SERMON “Jesus Grows Up”
Rev. David Ealy

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

SING

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” GTG #121

OFFERING & OFFERTORY

“Angels We Have Heard on High”
arr. Carol Tornquist

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...

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear (verse 4)”
GTG #123

**And you beneath life’s crushing
load, whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way
with painful steps and slow,
Look now, for glad and golden
hours come swiftly on the wing:
O, rest beside the weary road, and
hear the angels sing.**

**...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 #136

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

SENDING & BENEDICTION

Let us say together the Benediction...

**A very human Jesus had to do some
very human growing up. So do we.**

SING

“Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child”
GTG #126

**Jesus, Jesus, O what a wonderful
child.**

**Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek and
mild;**

**New life, new hope the child will
bring,**

Listen to the angels sing:

**“Glory, glory, glory!” Let the
heavens ring.**

POSTLUDE

“Good Christian Men Rejoice”
arr. Victor Labenske

PRAYER CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

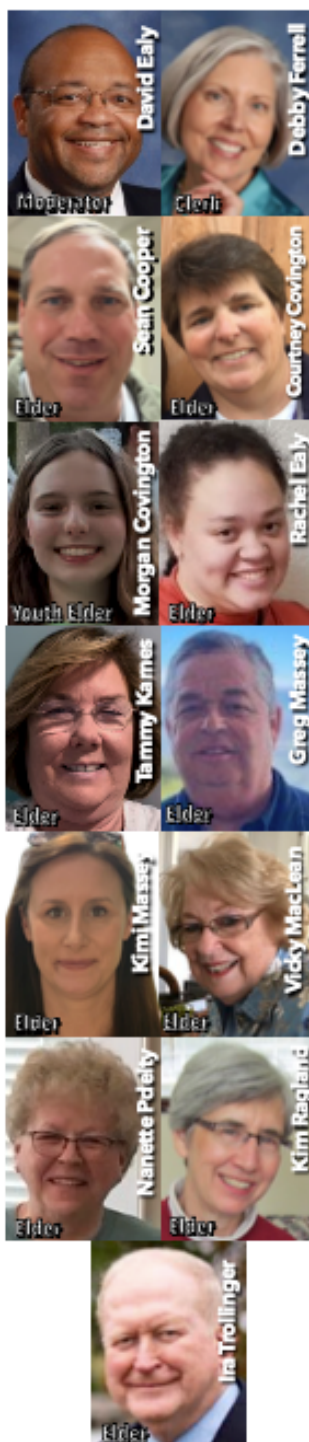
The following are prayer concerns & celebrations given to us through email, Prayer Notebook at the entrance, by phone or word of mouth. Please use this list in your prayers through the week.

- Staff of the month: Jennifer Vicinanza
- The Family of Rev. Amanda Covington Anderson
- Rose Boderck—recovering from recent falls
- The Family of Raymond Burke
- Joe Covington—at home recovering from surgery
- Beverly Doss—health concerns
- James Ealy, Sr.—health concerns
- Holiday travelers
- Janet Lewis—moved to Kindred Hospital in Greensboro (sister of Ira Trollinger)
- Jim Taylor—health issues
- Danny Thompson—that he would feel more comfortable
- Nancy Trollinger—recovering well from knee replacement surgery
- Weston Young—recovering well from tonsillectomy (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

THE 2025 SESSION



I THINK I AM ALWAYS MOST MOVED BY THE HUMANITY OF BABY JESUS. THAT JUST LIKE MY SON, HE HAD EAR INFECTIONS OR CRIED WHEN HE WANTED TO BE HELD OR WAS HUNGRY. I THINK IT IS SO NEAT THAT MARY AND JOSEPH GOT TO HOLD HIM. THAT IS JUST SO COOL TO ME. THAT ALWAYS GETS ME: NOT JUST THAT HE WAS SO PERFECTLY HUMAN, BUT ALSO SO PERFECTLY GOD. IT ALSO MOVES ME THE WAY HE WAS BORN. THAT HE WAS BORN IN A MANGER, INTO A WORKING-CLASS FAMILY AND HE WAS ALSO THE SON OF GOD. THAT PART IS WILD. THE STORY OF BABY JESUS CALLS ME TO REMEMBER NOT JUST THE IMPOSSIBLE, INCREDIBLE, RESILIENT LOVE OF A MOTHER (AND FATHER), BUT ALSO THAT GOD WILL ABSOLUTELY SHOW UP IN ALL OF THE EVERY DAY, WORKING CLASS, MANGERY PARTS OF MY HEART AND MY LIFE.

—Stephanie Herndon, theologian

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EMBRACE CHRISTMAS

The story of the Nativity, of the birth of Jesus, is a remarkable affirmation of our common humanity. Not only has God not given up on us, God has embraced us intimately, with humility and vulnerability. This is NOT a usual position in which we like to live...at all. But nevertheless, God entrusts the Christ Child to us...to all of us. The story of the Nativity (and of all of Jesus' life) is not just meant to encourage us, it's meant to empower us. Y'all, the story has been entrusted to us. What are we doing with it? What do you imagine is God's will for us in giving us this story? In following God's example this week and in the year to come, let us embrace God back by embracing our fellow humanity. And let us do so with intimacy, humility, and vulnerability, in other words, with the true love of God.

QUESTIONS AS YOU WORSHIP THIS WEEK

- Do you think you actively resist growing?
- Why do you think God set us up to have to take time to grow? Why not make faith more instant?
- Do you think you give yourself enough space to grow in your faith? Or are your expectations unreasonable?
- Where do you imagine God thinks you should be in the growth of your faith?

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!

YEAR-END GIVING

Thank you for your faithfulness to Hawfields through your generous giving. As a reminder, all contributions for 2025 must be received by Monday, December 29th. We recommend that contributions be placed directly in the offering plate or made online.

NURSERY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE:

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

Sunday, December 28th:

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

Sunday, January 4th:

AM: 1 - Meggan Monroe
PM: 1 - Sandy Muller
2 - _____

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>

LINKING LIVES IS PAUSING...

We will be taking a pause on the Linking Lives program for the month of January due to Pastor David's having

surgery. His recovery will limit his ability 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. (10am only)

With some feedback we've received, we want to note that each piece of the program (the prayer time, writing and submitting profiles, participating in the podcasts) are all voluntary. Doing one or more pieces doesn't commit you to another. So, for example, if the podcast makes you nervous, don't do it! We do, however, encourage you try all aspects of the program as each piece (in their individual ways) are designed to help us connect with each other.

DAVID'S SURGERY

A complication related to the hardware installed in the Pastor's foot requires further surgery. Let's be clear: David's surgery is not any more important than anyone else's. Yet because of his responsibilities it's important for us to plan. With that, the Session is taking a bit of a high profile with leading our worship services. Since he will not be incapacitated but immobile only, some things will continue as usual. But expect to see different faces in the pulpit in the first several weeks of January. If you wish to help with leading worship, writing liturgy, or specifically with helping with the audio/visual tasks, please do reach out the members of the Spiritual Life Committee (Mandy Ealy, Caroline Massey, Sandy Muller, Tammy Karnes, Sam Beaudry, Rachel Ealy and Alice Ray). The surgery is January 6th.

THE WEEK AHEAD:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

9:00 AMYouth Sunday School
9:15 AMCoffee & Treats (F. Hall)
10:00 AMTraditional Worship Service
6:00 PMFaith @ Night Service

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29

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

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30

11:00 AMFitness Strength Training
7:00 PMBoy Scouts Meeting (F. Hall)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31

6:30 PMNarcotics Anonymous (Fleming)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3

9:00 AM.....Walking Group (church track)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4

9:00 AMYouth Sunday School
9:15 AMCoffee & Treats (F. Hall)
10:00 AMTraditional Worship Service
11:00 AMYouth—Lunch & Movie
6:00 PMFaith @ Night Service

BY THE NUMBERS 12/21/25

Giving Budget 2025\$346,202.00

Gen. Fund YTD\$218,198.23

Needed monthly\$28,850.17

G.F. Month to Date\$14,742.00

Needed weekly\$6,657.73

Gen. Fund Last Week\$6,293.00

Building Fund\$200.00

Youth\$248.40

Helping Hands Balance\$1,687.22

WAYS TO GIVE

In our church, we give in a number of ways. We give of our time through service and mission.

We give of our prayers. We give financially through the tithing box in the worship space entrance, mail, online and at the church office.

We give of ourselves where ever we are.

Leadership & Staff

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