



The people of  
**Hinton Avenue United Methodist Church**  
*Seek Christ, Serve Christ, Share Christ  
in Belmont and Beyond*

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**December 5, 2021**  
**Second Sunday of Advent**

**Greeting and Announcements**

**Prelude**

“Emmanuel”

Bob McGee, Arr. Gary Bibb

Gary Bibb, Vocal/Piano

**Call to Worship**

A messenger calls, “Prepare the way of the Holy One. Make a pathway for God straight into your hearts.”

**Blessed be the Holy One, who brings light into the deepest shadows.**

A prophet proclaims, “Make way in the desert for the coming of God to live in our midst.”

**Blessed be the Holy One, who comes to live among us in peace.**

Are you ready for the coming Day of God?

**Let us worship the one who calls us into light.**

**Hymn (567)**

Heralds of Christ

Laura S. Copenhaver, 1915. Public Domain. CCLI License # 11159075

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

Mark 1:4

Lindsay and Sandy Walton

*John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.*

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ the Way.

May the Word sent from God through the prophets lead us to the way of salvation. O come, O come, Emmanuel

**Response (211)**

O Come, O Come, Immanuel, stz. 2

**Opening Prayer**

**Redeeming Keeper of Promises, your messengers remind us that you are the source of peace, justice, mercy, and loving kindness. As we prepare for your coming in your Son Jesus, help us shine as the radiant body of Christ, that we may be light for a gloomy, broken world. Amen.**

**First Reading**

Isaiah 60:1-7

**Second Reading**

Matthew 3:1-12

Rev. Lewis

**Sermon**

“Looking the Part”

Rev. Lewis

**Prayers of the People**

## Confession and Pardon

**Lord, hear us this day as we open our hearts and our spirits to you. These times in which we live are often confusing and fearful. We are pushed to make preparations for a season which is supposed to bring hope and peace; yet we crowd it with obligations and stresses and shut the door to your healing love and compassion. We find ourselves being on edge, fretful, wondering if we have done enough, can do enough. You answer our fears with your voice, "Peace, be still". Help us to hear you. Slow us down. Encourage us to take some time to listen rather than shout, to stop and rest rather than run. Cause us to look around at situations and people who are in need and to place our focus on helping them. For it is in helping your people and reaching out in love that we will find true peace. These things we pray, in Jesus' Name. AMEN.**

## Words of Assurance

### Offertory

"While We Are Waiting"

Don Cason

Songleader Bob Braden with Chancel Choir and Congregation: Elizabeth Scribner, Minister of Music

## The Great Thanksgiving

### The 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. Amen**

## Breaking the Bread

### Receiving the Bread and Cup

### Prayer after Communion

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### Hymn (196)

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Charles Wesley, 1744. Public Domain. CCLI License #11159075

## Dismissal with Blessing

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## Announcements

**Welcome to our guests!** We hope that in worship, everyone will be able to experience the warmth of God's love, the power of Jesus' resurrection, and the gift of fellowship in the Holy Spirit. We invite you to visit us as often as you are able and to become part of our church family. We have many opportunities to worship, learn, grow, and serve, and encourage you to find the ones that are right for you. For more information on any of our ministries, or to discuss becoming a member of our church, please speak to our pastor or lay leader.

**Thank you for your generous support of Christ's ministry through the United Methodist Church!** So far, we have paid \$30,837, or 86% of our 2021 Conference and District apportionments. A balance of \$4995 remains for us to be paid in full.

**Rediscover the gift** that comes without packages, ribbons, and bows as we explore the faith themes of The Grinch in our upcoming Advent study, The Heart that Grew Three Sizes. **Meeting Friday at 10:45 am in Rev. Lewis' office at on Zoom at <https://bit.ly/3FIXnLq>**

**Young Adult Small Group** is meeting at the parsonage Sundays at 7pm. Pray for our group and its growth! If you know someone under 40 who might enjoy connecting with others, learning about the bible, and talking about questions and faith, please connect them with Rev. Lewis. We would love to welcome them in person or on Zoom at <https://bit.ly/3FIXnLq>!

**Christmas Poinsettias for the Sanctuary are coming soon!** Please let Frances Marshall know by Dec. 5th if you would like her to order one in honor or memory of a loved one for \$12 each.

**The Service of the Longest Night** honors those who are experiencing grief, depression, or other difficulties at Christmastime. Held on the Winter Solstice (the longest night of the year), this service is quiet and contemplative. It allows us to express grief and pain while reminding one another of the promise of hope Christ brings. We will share this service with the Rev. Jim Bleakley and the Charlottesville Vineyard Church. **7 pm on Tuesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> in the sanctuary and on Zoom at <https://bit.ly/2JAKOGW>**

**We prayerfully ask that you sustain your generosity so that Hinton Avenue can continue to be a blessing to others.** You may want to consider making your offerings to the church through a **periodic automatic draft from your bank account**, as many members have already done. This relieves you of writing and mailing a check (banks will mail it free of charge for you) and assures the church of your ongoing support, even on those times when you cannot be with us in Sunday worship. You may also give via **PayPal** by using the "donate" buttons at <http://www.hintonavenueumc.org> or on our [FaceBook](#) page.

### **Praying for One Another - Dec. 5, 2021**

#### **At Home**

Donald Allen  
Mary Lambert  
Tom Goodman  
Sonny Mawyer  
Edith Coleman  
Lieu Lewis  
Kathy Miller  
John Holmes  
Joanne Burruss  
Frances Walton

Charles & Ruth Bankard  
Neil McLaughlin  
Sandra McLaughlin  
Debbie Stollings  
Vicki Shiflett  
The Wilkinson Family  
Brenda Myers  
Virginia Dorrier  
Frances Marshall  
Judy Durham

David Lapps  
Family of Maureen Collins  
Family of Mike Mowbray

***At Rosewood Village***  
Charlotte Blincoe

***At The Laurels***  
W.E. Pittman

**If you would like a pastoral visit or home communion with Rev. Lewis. Please schedule at 804-852-8476 or at <https://calendly.com/rdlewis75>**

**It is important that we remain gathered in spirit**

*Join us in person, by computer, mobile device, or telephone.*

**You can join us for Worship on Sundays at 11 am**

To join the Zoom meeting, visit <https://bit.ly/2JAKOGW>

or dial 1(646)876-9923 and enter: Meeting ID: 142 714 820# Password: 436770

Or view on Facebook Live: [www.facebook.com/hintonaveumc/live](http://www.facebook.com/hintonaveumc/live)