

# The Promise of Great Joy



And the angel said  
to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you  
news of great joy that will be for all people."

—Luke 2:10

## Mint Hill Presbyterian Church

*"...that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ."*

*- 1 Peter 4:11*

Preparing our hearts for worship...

**"In the house of God there is never ending festival; the angel choir makes eternal holiday;  
the presence of God's face gives joy that never fails."**

~ Saint Augustine

**December 14, 2025**

# Sunday Morning Worship

## December 14, 2025

### Preparing Our Hearts for

*O Come All You Unfaithful*

O come, all you unfaithful, come, weak and unstable—come, know you are not alone  
O come, barren and waiting ones, weary of praying, come, see what your God has done!

(Chorus)

Christ is born, Christ is born—Christ is born for you!

O come, bitter and broken, come with fears unspoken—come, taste of His perfect love  
O come, guilty and hiding ones, there is no need to run—see what your God has done! (chorus)

(Bridge)

He's the Lamb who was given, slain for our pardon. His promise is peace for those who believe (repeat)

So come, though you have nothing, come, He is the offering, come, see what your God has done! (chorus)

### Welcome and Announcements

Butch Bigham

### \*Call to Worship

*Psalms 59:16-17*

Rev. Pedro Polloreña

**But I will sing of your strength; I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning.**

**For you have been to me a fortress and a refuge in the day of my distress. O my Strength, I will sing praises to you, for you, O God, are my fortress, the God who shows me steadfast love.**

### Invocation

### \*Opening Song of Praise

*Angels From the Realms of Glory*

Angels from the realms of glory wing your flight o'er all the earth, Ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth

(Chorus)

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King!

Shepherds in the field abiding watching o'er your flocks by night. God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light (chorus)

Sages leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar. Seek the great Desire of nations—ye have seen His natal star (chorus)

All creation join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son! Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One (chorus x 2)

### Advent Scripture Reading

*Luke 2:10*

Rev. Jeff Morrison

And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."

### Lighting of the Advent Candle

*The Candle of Joy*

Alex and Anne Depaoli

### \*Confession of Sin

Donn DeHart

**Lord Jesus Christ, at Your birth the angels gave glory to God in the highest heaven, and offered peace on earth to all humankind. We struggle to follow the heavenly host. All too often we focus on giving glory to ourselves, trying to impress our friends, coworkers, and family. We make no move to further peace in our polarized world; we forget that You have called us to be ambassadors of Your peace and reconciliation. Forgive us for these and all our sins, and strengthen us to join the angels' song. Hear us, O Lord, as we pray. In the name of Jesus our Savior, Amen.**

### Scriptural Assurance of Pardon

*Micah 7:18-19*

"Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love. He will again have compassion on us; he will tread our iniquities underfoot. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea."

\* Please stand if you are able.

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Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.

**\*Prayer of Dedication for Tithes and Offerings**

Butch Bigham

**Worship Through Giving**

**Offertory**

*Emmanuel, God With Us*  
(We invite you to sing and worship with us!)

Go tell it on the mountain, the one that we've been waiting for, the King of our salvation born on this day, our savior Christ the Lord  
Go tell it on the mountain over the hills and everywhere That we can be forgiven, the weight of all our sin He came to bear!

(Chorus)

Emmanuel, God with us, Emmanuel, King Jesus—The Savior of the world is born!  
Emmanuel, God with us, Emmanuel, King Jesus—The Savior of the world is born!

Go tell it on the mountain, humbly in a manger lay. Mercy sent from Heaven—the angels fill the sky with highest praise  
Go tell it on the mountain this baby born of virgin birth The ruler of all nations, the Glory of our God has come to earth! (chorus)

**\*Doxology**

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

**Pastoral Prayer**

Steve Smith

**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 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.

**New Testament Scripture**

*Luke 2:1-14*

Rev. Jeff Morrison

**Proclamation of the Word**

*"The Grand Interruption"*

Rev. Jeff Morrison

**\*Song of Response**

*He Has Come For Us (God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen)*

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 power when we were gone astray—O, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O, tidings of comfort and joy

(Chorus)  
He has come for us this Jesus He's the hope for all mankind. He has come for us—the Messiah, born to give us life

From God, our heavenly Father a blessed angel came, and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same  
How that Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name—O, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O, tidings of comfort and joy  
(chorus)

(Bridge)

All the angels sing "Hallelujah! "Jesus Christ is born!" All the children sing "Hallelujah! "He is Christ the Lord!" (repeat chorus x 2)

**\*Benediction**

\* Please stand if you are able.

**Mint Hill Presbyterian Church**  
**Associate Reformed Presbyterian**  
8528 Brief Road, Mint Hill, NC 28227  
Phone: 704-545-5199

**Congregational Officers**

Moderator  
Chairman  
Treasurer

Rev. Jeff Morrison  
Steve Tarrant  
Barbara Porter

**Session**

Class of 2025, Fellowship & Outreach  
Class of 2028, Worship Chair  
Class of 2029, Education Chair

Butch Bigham  
Steve Smith  
Sam Hanes

**Diaconate**

Class of 2025  
Class of 2027  
Class of 2028

Tom Vehue  
Sue Johnson  
Alex Depaoli

**Women of the Church**

President  
Vice-President  
Treasurer  
Secretary

Gloria Bigham  
Anne Depaoli  
Mary Stokes  
Linda Shelden

**Officers of the Month: December**  
**Butch Bigham, Tom Vehue**

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*If you would like to know Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior, we invite you to speak to the pastor or one of our elders after the worship service. If you are in need of prayer, please don't hesitate to speak with the pastor. We are happy to pray with you.*

**Announcements**

**Welcome to Mint Hill Presbyterian!** As our guest, if you have any needs or questions, please feel free to ask, and we will be happy to help. We also invite you to fill out a guest card in the lobby and give it to one of the greeters at the back or drop it in the offering plate.

**This morning Pastor Jeff brings us the Proclamation of the Word from the Gospel of Luke.** We look forward to the word the Lord has given him!

**Sunday School: The Adult Sunday School Class is on break until January.** More details forthcoming about our next study in Sunday School.

**The WOC Bible Study group is now on break until the first of the year.** More details will be forthcoming as to what scripture we will study when we resume in January. All women are welcome!

**The WOC Christmas gathering will be held at the home of Gloria Bigham TODAY immediately following worship.** We will find out who our secret sisters are at that time. If you are not part of the secret sister program, please come! There will be a gift for everyone. Please bring a festive dish to share (*come anyway if you aren't prepared with a dish!*) and get ready for wonderful fellowship with your sisters!

**The next Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday, January 3 at 8:00 a.m.** All the men of the church are welcome! Come and be fed on the Word and a great breakfast!

**Thank you to all who came out for Meal and Movie last night! We had a good time and great food! Our next Meal and Movie night will be Saturday, January 10 at 6:00 p.m.** Our menu is TBA. Come out a be fed on the Word, good fellowship and good food!

**Mark your calendars now for our Christmas Eve Service on December 24 at 7:00 p.m.** This is a beautiful worship service and a wonderful time to invite friends and family to celebrate our Savior's birth!

**Also mark your calendar that there will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, December 28 immediately following worship.** We will elect new officers and review the budget.

**A reminder that Pastor Jeff is available on Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.** If you need to see him, please let him know so he can schedule a time to meet with you. His phone number is 704-804-1921.

*Mint Hill Presbyterian Church exists to glorify God by seeking the lost, making disciples,  
and worshiping the Savior.*

[www.minthillarp.org](http://www.minthillarp.org)