

RUMPLE: CALLED TO WORSHIP AND EMPOWERED TO SERVE

**Third Sunday Christmas Lunch** is today immediately following worship. There is plenty of food so please plan to stay even if you did not bring a dish. All guests and visitors are encouraged to stay for lunch and enjoy this time of fellowship and get to know more about Rumble.

**Winter Salt Shakers** sign-up has begun! This dinner Fellowship group meets monthly to enjoy a meal at a member's home, February through May, and is a great way to meet folks in the Rumble family. Please sign up on the forms in the friendship pads by December 24, or email Marion Thorn at [marionthorn@bellsouth.net](mailto:marionthorn@bellsouth.net).

**Alternative Christmas Gift Ideas** at Rumble today: The Missions Committee is selling Hospitality House Cookbooks and the Youth have hand-made Christmas ornaments for sale. Get some great Christmas gifts and support Hospitality House and youth mission trips and retreats in 2018.

**Blowing Rock C.A.R.E.S.** is a local food bank, housed at Rumble and open Monday mornings 9-12. The items needed for the month of December are fruit in natural juice, pinto beans, toilet paper, and feminine products. A shopping cart is located in the office reception area where these items and any other donations may be placed. They will be closed Monday December 25 and Monday January 1, 2018.

**Rumble is grateful for the generosity of members and friends throughout 2017.** In this season in which we celebrate God's greatest gift to us, we are each mindful of how much we have to be grateful for. If you would like to make a year end gift or complete your pledge to Rumble for 2017, please be sure your gift is postmarked by December 30 or placed in the offering plate on Sunday, December 31. All gifts received after Sunday morning December 31 will be credited for 2018.

**Rumble Memorial Presbyterian gives thanks** for the individuals and families who have made an estimate of giving for 2018. Rumble has so much to be grateful for and with your gifts Rumble will be able to continue to grow in mission and ministry in 2018. As of Tuesday, December 5, Rumble has received 87 "estimates of giving" for 2018 for a total of \$247,085. The Session was able to pass a balanced budget for 2018 and its stated meeting on November 27, with increased funding for missions and church programs. It is not too late to make an estimated gift! Additional "estimate of giving" cards are available at the entrances to the sanctuary and in the church office.

**The Church office** will be closed Monday December 25 and Tuesday December 26, and Monday January 1, 2018 so that the staff can observe the Christmas and New Year's Holiday. If you have a pastoral emergency during the Christmas holiday, please call the church and connect to extension 11. The message will tell you how to get in touch with the elders on call.

**Please keep in your prayers  
Rumble members**

The family of Carol Woodall who died 10/29 in Hawaii; Drew Dunn, Roger Broeker, recovering from a fall in FL; Camille Suttle, recovering from surgery; Erin Tobin, Darby Teander, Bill and Pat Magruder, Patty Alexander, Recie Craig, Brenda Lentz, Natasha Schoonover, preparing for ordained ministry

**Family and friends of Rumble**

Martha Best Lawson, failing health; Mark Johnson's parents, Buck and Betty; Phil Gurkin, brother of Charles; Tasha, Evan Adair's mother; Joyce Rodriguez, sister of Carolyn Nelson; Stanley Coffey, son of Betty Coffey, Phyllis Foster, friend of Wes Thompson, Nathan Miller Jacobs, cousin of Evan Adair; the Christian churches in Egypt; Ellen and Al Smith and their mission in Russia

Please contact Hazel in the church office if you have other prayer concerns to add.

**Sunday December 17**

11:00 Christmas Cantata  
12:00 Christmas Lunch (FH)  
1:00 Youth Committee (L)

**Tuesday December 19**

7:00 a.m. Youth Breakfast (YC)

**Wednesday December 20**

11:00 Staff Meeting  
12:00 Staff Lunch  
7:00 Sanctuary Choir Party

**Sunday December 24**

9:30 Reformation Class (ACU)  
9:45 Sunday School  
11:00 Worship  
5:00 Family Friendly Worship  
7:00 Worship with Communion and Candlelight

YC—Youth Cottage  
FH—Fellowship Hall  
ACU—Adult Classroom Upstairs  
RH—Rumble House  
KMC—Keys Music Center

**Rumple Memorial  
Presbyterian Church**

The Order of Service for the Worship of God  
December 17, 2017  
Third Sunday of Advent

**Go Sing It  
on the  
Mountain**

**WE ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME**

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jesus Christ, the Savior of the World is coming.  
**We rejoice and give thanks!**

CHORAL INTROIT

"Guide Us, Lord"  
KICKS Choir

Mark Patterson

LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

*Musical response Hymn 470 refrain*  
*Choir first time, congregation second time*

John the Baptist

**There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us. There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in you, our God.**

+HYMN OF PRAISE

"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"  
Text: James Montgomery Music: Henry Thomas Smart

No. 143

Tune: REGENT SQUARE

+ADVENT PRAYER

**Holy God, who is with us, may we lean into every moment of our days to redeem this Advent time, to make the most of our every moment. May we prepare the visible Body of Christ, our community, to receive your eternal approach and your loving embrace. With our faces turned to you, we await your holy descent, and ask, Lord, that you hear our prayer offered in humility:**

**That despite the roar of our days, our hearts might grow still.**

**That glimpsing the quiet cove, we may seek you in that stillness.**

**That resting in your presence, our hearts might be prepared to hear you.**

**That the angel of God might say to us, "Rejoice."**

**That we might hear, and truly respond in joy.**

**That the angel of God might say to us, "Receive."**

**That we might respond, "Let it be with me, as you say."**

**As the season of Incarnation approaches, as we prepare to receive Life himself, may we taste and see how our own lives, the life of the world, and our very breath, all flow to us from God made flesh, Emmanuel.**

**O Lord, hear our prayer this Advent. Amen.**

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**Church Staff**

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Cassidy Nooner  
Youth Intern  
Heather Sigmon  
Custodian

**Session Members**

Class of 2017  
Audrey Gurkin  
Brenda Lentz  
Bill Thorn  
Class of 2018  
Barbara Julien  
Danny Kirkland  
Mary Lentz (Clerk)  
Mike Rhyne  
Class of 2019  
Davis Hankins  
Misty Mayfield  
Kim Rogers  
Cullie Tarleton

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

Kathy Beach

*The children are invited to bring their own offerings forward with them and place them in the offering basket.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and 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.**

THE WORD IN MUSIC

“Go Sing It on the Mountain”

Pepper Choplin

Narrators - Kathy Beach and Maurice Ewing

*The offering will be received during the Cantata.*

+CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Bold font indicates all say or sing in unison

+ Indicates those who are able may stand.

If you would like to recycle your bulletin, there are baskets at both of the entrances to the sanctuary.

**Advent Christmas Cantata**

**Go Sing It on the Mountain**

“Go Sing It on the Mountain,” is the title of the **Christmas Cantata**. The new cantata by North Carolina based composer, Pepper Choplin, features traditional Christmas Carols along with some original settings of the timeless birth narrative. Employing a highly inventive mixture of mountain melodies, folk hymns, spirituals, familiar carols, and original music that is sure to surprise and delight, "Go Sing It on the Mountain" proclaims the good news from the prophet Isaiah's proclamation, "Comfort, O comfort my people!" to the final exuberant celebration: "Joy to the world! Christ is born!"

We welcome our Guest Musicians for today.

Ergun Bicer—Guitar and Mandolin

Joe Karmazyn—Guitar and Banjo

Dr. Adam Booker—Bass

Miranda Stone—Percussion

***Angel Tree***

**Many thanks** to our church family for your continuing generosity in helping provide Christmas joy to those children and families who are in such special need of our love and care. God has blessed us richly and we have been able to share those blessings with others.

Rumple members and friends bought gifts for thirty-nine children and young people and gave food gift cards to the twenty-three families of these children. Susan and Teresa gratefully accept, on your behalf, the tearful thanks and hugs from the parents when the gifts are picked up this week. A special thanks goes to the Missions Committee for funds to supplement our giving through the *Angel Tree*. All gifts and food cards are due today.

**WORSHIP NOTES**

**Leading worship:** Kathy Beach, Liturgist; Kenton McCollum, John the Baptist; Dave McCollum, Director of Music, Sanctuary Choir; Eric Luke, Accompanist; Ushers and Greeters: Mike and Becky Steele, George Sudderth, Charlie Travis

**Large Print Hymnals and Assistive Listening devices** for worship are available on a table in the back of the sanctuary. If you would like to use a “Sound Mate” while in worship, please see Kent Leonard (at the soundboard) or an usher for assistance.

**Today’s Advent Prayer** is adapted from a prayer by Scott Cairns in the book God With Us: Rediscovering the Meaning of Christmas, p. 49, Second Sunday of Advent.

The **Advent Wreath and Chrismon Tree** are the focal points of our Advent worship. The wreath's evergreens and circular shape remind us of the unending love of God which we know in Jesus Christ. The four candles represent the four weeks we spend in anticipation of and preparation for Christmas. The white center candle is the Christ candle which is not lit until Christmas Eve. The candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world and that his light shines in the darkness. The Chrismon tree gets its name from a combination of Christ and monogram. The tree is to focus our attention on Jesus. The decorations on the tree are only white and gold which are the liturgical colors for Jesus. Each of the ornaments is a symbol or monogram for Jesus.

**Christmas Joy Offering:** Each year during the Advent and Christmas season, we celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. In giving to the Presbyterian Church (USA) Christmas Joy Offering, you honor this gift by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related ethnic schools and colleges. Special envelopes will be in the pews beginning this morning.

**Child care** is provided for children ages infant through 5 years old during worship in the Keys Church Nursery area downstairs. Please ask an usher to direct you to the nursery.

**Children kindergarten through second grade are invited to remain in the sanctuary today** for the Cantata. Special worship sheets and a basket of Advent and Christmas books are available in the back entrance of the sanctuary (narthex.) All elementary age children will enjoy these sheets and there are books for a variety of reading levels. Rumple offers Children's Church most Sundays for children K-2nd grade. The children leave with their leaders after the Time with the Children.

**Welcome to all** who have come to worship God at the Rumple Memorial Presbyterian Church this morning. If you are a guest or a visitor, this church family welcomes you. We invite you to fill out a visitor card or leave your contact information on the fellowship pad. The Rumple family would love to get to know you and share information about the ministries and missions of Rumple with you. If you have questions, please speak to our pastor, Kathy, or to one of the ushers and greeters.

**Would you or someone you know like to become an affiliate member of Rumple?** If you are only a part-time resident of Blowing Rock, did you know that you can keep your full membership in your church back home and still officially become a part of the Rumple family too? Affiliate members retain their membership in their home church but “affiliate” with Rumple. Interested in affiliating with Rumple, please call or email Kathy, pastor@rumplechurch.org. Rumple will host another Welcome Class early in the new year for those who would like to join as full members or affiliate members.

**Sunday December 24 at Rumple**

December 24 11:00 Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship—Baptism of Lilly Kaye Stanley

December 24 5:00 p.m. Family Friendly Christmas Eve Worship with Candlelight  
7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship with Communion and Candlelight