

## **WORSHIP NOTES**

**Leading worship:** Kathy Beach, pastor, Holly Bannan, Director of Discipleship, Dave McCollum, Director of Music, Eric Luke, accompanist, Janie Beach-Verhey, Maggie Cheves, Miller Hankins, readers,

Ushers: Mike, Becky and Thomas Steele, Ryan Beach-Verhey, Caroline Beach-Verhey  
Lighting the advent candles and the Christ candle: Caroline Beach-Verhey, Ryan Beach-Verhey, Emma Liesegang, August Carter, Will Kirkland, Molly Kirkland.

**Welcome to all** who gather this evening to celebrate the birth of Jesus here at the Rumble Memorial Presbyterian Church. From far and wide we have come, but we are one in faith as we gather around the manger. We pray that this service may be the centerpiece of your Christmas season, bringing you close to Jesus who comes to bring God's love to all.

**The bulletin cover** was drawn especially for this worship service by Maggie Cheves, a 6<sup>th</sup> grader at Blowing Rock Elementary School and an active part of Rumble Memorial Presbyterian Church family. All children are encouraged to color the picture as they worship tonight. If your child did not pick up a bag of crayons, they are located in a basket at both entrances of the sanctuary.

**Tonight's offering** will be divided equally to support two local ministries: Blowing Rock CARES (Children Are Really Extra Special) food pantry, which is housed at Rumble, and WeCan (Watauga Crisis Assistance Network), an emergency financial assistance program through the Hospitality House in Boone. Blowing Rock CARES operates each Monday morning from 9-12. (It will be closed on 12/31 and open again on 1/7/19.) Anyone with a Watauga County address is welcome to receive food from the pantry each and every week of the year. WeCan operates Monday- Friday from 10-12 at the Hospitality House, 338 Brook Hollow Road, and provides assistance with utility bills, medications, and rent in an effort to help prevent homelessness.

**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 who we know in Jesus Christ. The four outer candles represent the four Sundays we spend in Advent, 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 even 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.

**Rumble Memorial Presbyterian Church invites you to return** and worship here on Sunday mornings, at 11:00 a.m., in the sanctuary. Childcare is provided for children 5 and under and children's worship education is provided for children K-1st grade during worship. Sunday school is offered each Sunday morning from 9:45-10:45. KICKS and Fusion, our Christian education and music program for elementary and middle school youth, is offered each Wednesday afternoon from 2:30-4:30. To find out more visit the church website, [www.rumplechurch.org](http://www.rumplechurch.org) or our facebook page, call or email Holly, Director of Discipleship, [rumplediscipleship@gmail.com](mailto:rumplediscipleship@gmail.com), 828.295.7675 ext. 12.

Christmas Eve 2018  
4:00 p.m.  
Rumple Memorial Presbyterian Church

PRELUDE

*Please join in singing these Christmas carols.*

#123 It Came Upon A Midnight Clear  
#132 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice  
#136 Go, Tell it on the Mountain

WELCOME

+CALL TO WORSHIP

On this most silent night,  
**We come, our hopes and dreams  
joining those of Mary and Joseph.**

On this holiest of nights,  
**We come, joining the shepherds  
who are amazed by wonder.**

On this nights of carols and candlelight,  
**We come, our glad songs joining  
with the choirs of angels.**

+CAROL  
Text and Music: John Francis Wade

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

No. 133  
Tune: ADESTE FIDELES

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES AND THE CHRIST CANDLE  
We join our voices with the angel choirs singing praise to our God!  
**Jesus Christ is born. Joy to the World.**

+PRAYER OF ADORATION

**O Holy God, you came to us and met us as the baby Jesus.  
Meet us again tonight, we pray, as we celebrate his birth.  
Help us to walk in his light both tonight and every night.  
Show us how to share his love with all the world.  
Give us voices to sing your praises to the farthest corners of the earth,  
as we join the choirs of angels saying,  
"Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace and goodwill to all. "  
All praise and glory be to you, Lord God, for Emmanuel, God is with us. Amen.**

THE PROPHECY

Isaiah 9:2-7; p. 600

THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Luke 2:1-20; p. 54

SPECIAL MUSIC  
Written by Sandra McCracken

“Come Light Our Hearts”

Solo

COME LIGHT OUR WORLD: THE STORY OF CHRISTMAS

*All children will be invited, at the end of the story, to come and place their star over the manger scene. Please remain seated and join in singing one verse of the following carols during the story:*

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"  
"What Child is This"  
"Away in a Manger"  
"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"  
"We Three Kings of Orient Are"  
“Joy to the World”

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY “The Birth of a King” Emily Leonard, soloist  
Words and music by William Harold Neidlinger, arr Bob Krogstad

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

+SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST John 1; p. 86

+CAROL “Silent Night, Holy Night” No. 122  
Text: Joseph Mohr Music: Franz Xaver Gruber Tune: STILLE NACHT

**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright ‘round yon virgin mother and child!  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing “Alleluia: Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born!”**

**Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light radiant beams from thy holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing  
Alleluia to our King: Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.**

+BLESSING

POSTLUDE “Go Tell It on the Mountain” Mark Hayes

+Indicates those who are able may stand.

Bold font indicates all say together.

*At the conclusion of the service please extinguish your candle and place the candle holder in the pew rack in front of you.*