

Order of Worship



December 3, 2023 1st Sunday of Advent 10:30 a.m.

Entrance

Gathering
Greeting and Announcements
Prelude William Elliott
*Call to Worship “Emmanuel, Emmanuel” Chancel Choir
*Opening Hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (verses 1-4) UMH 211
Hanging of the Greens
Advent Candle Lighting Jack and Pam Brewster
Anthem “Will We Know Him?” Chancel Choir

Proclamation and Response

Scripture Mark 13:24-37
Sermon “Our Shocking Hope” Rev. Billy Kurtz
*Hymn of Invitation “Grace Alone” FWS 2162
*Affirmation of Faith “Apostles’ Creed” UMH 881
*Gloria Patri “Glory Be to the Father” UMH 70

Sharing of Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer Rev. Billy Kurtz

Receiving of God’s Tithes and Offerings

Offertory William Elliott
*Doxology “Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH 95

Thanksgiving

Invitation to the Table
Confession and Pardon
Great Thanksgiving Prayer
Lord’s Prayer
Breaking of the Bread, Pouring of the Cup
Giving the Bread and Cup

Sending Forth

*Closing Hymn “Love Came Down at Christmas” UMH 242
*Dismissal with Blessing Rev. Billy Kurtz
*Choral Benediction “A Christmas Blessing” Chancel Choir
Postlude William Elliott
Going Forth

(*Please stand as you are able.)

ILLNESS

Charlotte Childers (Carol Hash’s Sister)
Cindy Elliott
Kathy Farley (JC Higginbotham’s sister)
Katie Franklin (Dean Coon’s Niece)
Millie Hartsock
Tom Hodge (Shelby Clendenen’s brother)
Joyce Keith (Chemo)
Bryan Little (Darlene Little’s Son)
Larry Mahood
Janet Moore
Sally Rash (Shelby Clendenen’s sister)
Sherri Sparks (surgery in Charleston)
Elliott Spencer (8 years old - Eye surgery at Duke)
Pam Spracher
Ben and Sue Young

MILITARY

Lucas Graham
Garrett Houck
Laken McKinney
Nate Owen
Ryan Shott
Jeremy Woody
All those serving our Country.

HOMEBOUND

Lila Atkins
Rudy Austin (Vera Lee Austin’s brother)
Jimmy Jones
Gerry Stowers

If you have someone you would like to put on the prayer list, please call the church office at 276-326-1466 or email info@bluefieldfumc.org.

Memorials for November 2023

To: General Fund
In memory of Ethel Earls
By: J C and Susan Higginbotham Alexandra Earls
Elle Earls James Earls
Mr. & Mrs. Daviid W. Gwyer

The GHS Project Graduation Committee is asking for donations for the 2024 Project Graduation. Your donation can be mailed to Graham High School, 210 Valleydale, Bluefield, VA 24605 Attn: Project Graduation. All donations are greatly appreciated.

Martha Circle is collecting peanut butter for the Union Mission.
There is a box at the Tazewell Avenue entrance and in the Narthex.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, December 4

Finance Committee Meeting 6:00 pm

Wednesday, December 6

Choir Practice 7:00 pm

Sunday, December 10

Sunday School 9:30 am

Worship Service 10:30 am

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us on **Sunday, December 3** from **5:00 to 6:00 pm** for a **cookie exchange**. Bring 2 dozen of your favorite cookies to share. We will fellowship and and enjoy some holiday music while we select a variety of cookies to take home and enjoy. If you have questions, please contact Mary Jeffries or Karla Kurtz.

Crèche sharing (french for nativity scene) **Sunday, December 3 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm**. Please bring one or more of your favorite **crèche** scenes to display. This will be a relaxed gathering to view the different **crèches**, fellowship, and hear some favorite Christmas tunes. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join us.

Note: Choir Practice will be at 7:00 instead of 6:00 on Wednesday, December 6.

A church wide **Christmas Party**, hosted by the **Seekers Sunday School Class**, will be in Palmer Hall on **Friday, December 8th** at **6:00 pm**. Bring your favorite finger food to share and a small gift (\$15 to \$20) to exchange.

The **Ladies Ministries Christmas Brunch** will be held on **Saturday, December 9 at 10:00 am** at the home of Pam and Jack Brewster, 114 Penn Street, Bluefield, VA. Please RSVP to Pam Brewster (276) 245-6630 on or before December 3, 2023. All ladies in the church are invited. You may bring your favorite dish but this is not required. We hope everyone will be able to join us for a good meal, great fellowship, and a merry start to this holiday season.

The **Woolwine Class** Christmas party will be on Saturday, **December 9** from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in Palmer Hall.

HOLIDAY CALENDAR

Sunday, December 3

Women's Cookie Exchange 5-6 pm

Creche Sharing 6-8 pm

Friday, December 8

Seeker's Class Party 6:00 pm
(Palmer Hall)

Saturday, December 9

Ladies Christmas Brunch 10:00 am
(Jack & Pam Brewster's house)

Woolwine Class Party 6-8 pm
(Palmer Hall)

Sunday, December 24

Worship Service 10:30 am

Christmas Eve Service 6:00 pm

First United Methodist Church

Sunday, December 3, 2023



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