

Worship Notes

We extend a warm welcome to our guests this morning!

We are very happy that you are in worship with us. Your presence has made this day more meaningful!

If this is your first time at Millbrook Baptist, or if you are a regular visitor, please sign the lavender welcome card located in the pew card rack and include the requested information so that we may welcome you more personally and provide you with information about our church. You may fold the card and place it in the offering plate when passed, or hand it to an usher.

A Word about Advent and Beyond:

During the seasons of Advent-Christmas-Epiphany (sometimes referred to as a "cycle"), we move theologically from expectant hope to realized joy. Advent, the beginning of the church year, is normally marked by the four Sundays preceding Christmas Eve and focuses our attention on the promise of a Messiah, the Messiah's actual coming and the coming of Christ at the end of time. The Christmas season (or Christmastide) consists of twelve days that begins with the "lessons, carols and candles" of Christmas Eve and ends with Epiphany. On Christmas Eve and the Sundays of Christmastide, we light the Christ Candle to signify the birth of Jesus of Nazareth. Epiphany (which means "manifestation" or "appearance") is January 6. The season of Epiphany continues until Ash Wednesday, which is the beginning of Lent. Epiphany celebrates the appearance of Jesus to the wise men from the East as well as Jesus' baptism and his early ministry.

Liturgical Color: Blue

Blue is the color of hopeful expectation and royalty and is, therefore, appropriate to symbolize the general Advent theme: The Christ is coming.

Today's Revised Common Lectionary Readings:

Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:47-55; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

Christmas Wreaths:

All exterior Christmas Wreaths were given by Dru McClelland in loving memory of Julie McClelland

Children's Worship:

Our preschoolers will be sharing a song about God's love in worship and hearing the Christmas story.

Children's Church for K-2nd grade is located on the 2nd floor in the Education wing.

Today's leader is Brent Jones.

The children will be learning about Micah's prophecy regarding the type of leader Jesus would be (Micah 5:2-5).

Wee Worship bags are available in the vestibule. Please return them after the worship service.

DVDs of the Worship Service:

DVDs are available on loan from the church library. If you'd like a personal copy, at no cost, please email or call the church office.

Please silence all cell phones and pagers during the worship service.
Please do not bring beverages into the sanctuary.

Calendar

Sunday, December 20th

Sunday School for All Ages 9:30 am - 10:30 am
Chancel Choir Gathering 10:30 am - 11:00 am
Worship Service 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Tuesday, December 22nd

No Bible Study, resumes January 5, 2016

Wednesday, December 23rd

No dinner or activities, resumes January 6, 2016

Thursday, December 24th

4:30 pm - Pre-Service Instrumental Music
5:00 pm - Candlelight Christmas Eve Service & Reception

No Sunday School 12/27

Church Office Closed

December 25-29
and New Years Day 2016

Deacon of the Week

If you are in need of prayer, comfort, or assistance,
please do not hesitate to contact **Celia Driver (919) 876-1321**

MBC Staff - Every Member Ministering

Franka Hawkins, Administrative Assistant office@millbrookbaptistchurch.org
Ron Heckman, Accompanist accompanist@millbrookbaptistchurch.org
Suzanne Holleman, Preschool Director preschool.director@millbrookbaptistchurch.org
Andrea Dellinger Jones, Pastor pastor@millbrookbaptistchurch.org
Patti Lingafelt, Minister of Music & Organist music@millbrookbaptistchurch.org
Katelyn McWhorter, Youth Director youth@millbrookbaptistchurch.org
Rebecca Hewitt-Newson, Minister with Children children@millbrookbaptistchurch.org
Molly Shoulta, Interim Associate Pastor molly@millbrookbaptistchurch.org

The Millbrook Mission



Millbrook Baptist Church shares God's love by being an open and inclusive community of faith, developing Christian disciples through spiritual growth, and serving the world through mission and ministry.

Millbrook Baptist Church 1519 E. Millbrook Rd. Raleigh, NC 27609
919-876-1519 MillbrookBaptistChurch.org



Millbrook Baptist Church

December 20, 2015

Fourth Sunday of Advent

We Worship Our Lord



Nalini Jayasuriya
The Words in Mary's Heart

And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour,
for he has looked with favour on the lowliness
of his servant. Surely, from now on all
generations will call me blessed.'

Luke 1:46-48

WELCOME

GATHERING

Ringing of the Hour

Greeting and Community Life Rebecca Hewitt-Newson

Christ, the Light of the World, is coming:
Let every heart prepare him room.

**O come to our hearts, Lord Jesus;
there is room in our hearts for thee.**

ENTERING INTO WORSHIP

Prelude *My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord* J.S. Bach

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle: The Gift of Love

Choir: Light of peace, calm our despair. Light of hope,
lift us up when we fall. Light of joy, brighten our days;
Light of love, teach us your ways.

Responsive Litany *The Gift of Love* Marlene Ingham

Love is more than a flicker within the human heart.

Lord, reveal your love, and make us new.

In a hurried world with little time for others, Advent calls us to remember that...

Love is patient.

In a world where often we become consumed by our own interests, Advent calls us to remember that...

Love is kind.

In a world where often we are quick to anger and slow to forgive, Advent calls us to remember that...

Love is not easily angered, and through love we come to forgive.

This Advent let us behold the love of God embodied in our Savior's birth.

God is love. Whoever lives in love, lives in God, and God in them.

Candle Lighting

Congregation:

Light of life, Mak-er of day, gath-er our
sha-dows and cast them a-way. Bea-con of
truth, gleam-ing and bright, shine in our
hearts, shat-ter our night.

Prayer

†Hymn of Love 11 VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?

(All are invited to bring gifts of warmth and place them under the tree.)

†Passing of the Peace Molly Shoulta

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Morning Prayer 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil;

for thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever.

Amen.

Words of Assurance

PROCLAIMING

Hebrew Bible Lesson Micah 5:2-5a (*OT p.865) Bethany Collins

This is the gift of Holy Scripture.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Invitation to Gather Hurst

Holy Baby, Holy Child, we await your coming now.

You bring us hope, you bring us peace, you bring us joy, you bring us love.

Holy Baby, Holy Child, come to us now.

A Message from Our Children Rebecca Hewitt-Newson

†Hymn 44 *O Little Town of Bethlehem* ST. LOUIS

*(Kindergarten-2nd Grade will go to the Sonshine Room,
2nd floor, Education Building for Children's Church.)*

Worship in Giving

†Offertory Prayer Celia Driver

Offertory *O Little Town of Bethlehem (FOREST GREEN)* Manz

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

(Signing of the Attendance Register may be done at this time.)

†Doxology GREENSLEEVES

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

This, this is Christ the King,

Whom Shepherds guard and angels sing;

Haste, haste to bring Him laud,

the Babe, the Son of Mary!

†Gospel Lesson Luke 1:39-55 (*NT p.57) Celia Driver

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Solo *Magnificat* Newson

Ryan Newson

Sermon *The First Disciple* Andrea Dellinger Jones

Discipline of Reflection

(The Discipline of Reflection is a brief, quiet time for personal reflection.)

GOING FORTH

Anthem of Response *Night of Silence* Kantor/arr. Ferguson

*The congregation is invited to sing the first stanza of "Silent Night"
as directed.*

*Cold are the people, winter of life, we tremble in shadows this cold
endless night, Frozen in the snow lie roses sleeping, Flowers that will
echo the sunrise, Fire of hope is our only warmth, Weary, its flame will
be dying soon.*

*Voice in the distance, call in the night, On wind you enfold us, you speak
of the light, Gentle on the ear you whisper softly, Rumors of a dawn so
embracing, Breathless love awaits darkened souls, Soon will we know of
the morning.*

*Spirit among us, shine like the star, Your light that guides shepherds
and kings from afar, Shimmer in the sky so empty, lonely, Rising in the
warmth of your Son's love, Star unknowing of night and day, Spirit, we
wait for your loving Son.*

**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.**

†Blessing

"We, the light of Christ, return to the world."

†Postlude *O, Joyfully!* Berry

* Pew Bible

† Please stand as you are able.

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If you desire membership in our church,
or would like to make a public profession of faith,
we invite you to present yourself during the Hymn of Response.
The ministerial staff is available for consultation and would
welcome your inquiry.