



MATTHEWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 8, 2024

**PEACE CANDLE**

*The second candle on the Advent Wreath is called the Bethlehem or PEACE candle. It is a symbol of the preparations being made to receive and cradle the Christ child.*

**UNITED KIDS FAMILY WORSHIP "JINGLE JAM"**

*Next Sunday, Dec. 15th, 9:30am in the Gym*

*Welcome!*

If you're here for the first time, please complete the **Guest Welcome** form at [MatthewsUMC.org/Getting-Started](https://MatthewsUMC.org/Getting-Started) and stop by the Welcome Center to pick up your visitor gift! We would love to connect and help you get plugged into life and ministry of the church. **Children's Praise Packs** are located in the Reception Area & Welcome Center. These special bags are for kids ages 3-6 or kids ages 7-12 and will help them to engage in worship.



**MOBILE CHECK-IN & ONLINE GIVING:** Scan the QR Code to download our **Realm Connect church app** and begin engaging with events, registrations, groups, the church directory and more! Sign in, Sign up, or learn more at [MatthewsUMC.org/Realm](https://MatthewsUMC.org/Realm). Check-In Station also available at the Welcome Center & Attendance Books on each pew for guests and those without a smart phone.

*Get the app!*



**EVENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, & ONLINE BULLETIN:** Access the bulletin and a complete list of ministry opportunities in the [Celebration Newsletter](#). *(Printed copies at the Welcome Center.)*  
*Thank you for helping to conserve paper and waste.*

# TRADITIONAL CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

*December 8, 2024*

*2nd Sunday of Advent*

*8:15am*

## CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

### \*PRELUDE

Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming

Roger Wallace

*MUMC Flute Choir*

## WELCOME

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Congregational Response

O Come Emmanuel, No. 211 (*Refrain Only*)

## *CELEBRATION OF PRAISE & WORSHIP*

### \*OPENING HYMN, NO. 202

People, Look East

BESANCON

### \*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

### TIME OF PRAYER

### PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Gesu Bambino

Pietro Yon

*Mike Horai, Bass; Jan Horai, Piano*

### \*DOXOLOGY NO. 95

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## *THE WORD*

### SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:25-32

### MESSAGE

"A Baby Changes Everything: Expectancy"

*Rev. Paul Craig*

## *RESPONSE TO THE WORD*

### \*CLOSING HYMN, NO. 206

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

HOUSTON

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*POSTLUDE

*Fanfare on In Dulci Jibilo*

Payl Fey

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

## WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Paul Craig; Rev. Corey Milliet

Craig Estep, *Director of Music & Worship Arts*; Eon Malan, *Music Ministry Associate/Organist*; MUMC Flute Choir (*names on back*); Mike Horai, *Bass*; Jan Horai, *Piano*; Joel Mullis, *Worship Production Director*; Chuck DeLong, *Screens*; Susan Chambers, *Worship Coordinator*; The Rizzo Family, *Advent Candle Lighting*

# CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

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*December 8, 2024*

*9:30am*

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## *Welcome & Greeting*

### **\*Musical Praise**

The First Noel

arr. David Crowder Band

Go Tell It On the Mountain

arr. Zach Williams

### **\*Passing the Peace**

### **Lighting of the Advent Candles**

Congregational Response

*O Come Emmanuel, No. 211 (Refrain Only)*

### **Announcements/Prayer/Offering**

### **A Song of Giving**

What Child Is This

arr. Bryant Crisp

## *The Word*

### **Lessons**

Luke 2:25-32

### **Message**

“A Baby Changes Everything: Expectancy”

*Rev. Paul Craig*

## *Response*

### **\*Musical Praise**

It Is Well

DiMarco & Bliss

### **\*Blessing**

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit*

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## **WORSHIP LEADERS**

**Rev. Paul Craig; Rev. Corey Milliet**

**John Biggers, Interim Director of Contemporary Worship; Joel Mullis, Worship Production Director;**

**Donna Balisado, Screens; Susan Chambers, Worship Coordinator/Advent Candle Lighting;**

**Contemporary Praise Team**

# TRADITIONAL CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

*December 8, 2024*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent*

*11:00am*

## CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

### \*PRELUDE

Gesu Bambino

Pietro Yon

*Mike Horai, Bass; Jan Horai, Piano*

## WELCOME

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Congregational Response

O Come Emmanuel, No. 211 (*Refrain Only*)

## *CELEBRATION OF PRAISE & WORSHIP*

### \*OPENING HYMN, NO. 202

People, Look East

BESANCON

### \*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

## ANTHEM

Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming

Roger Wallace

*MUMC Flute Choir*

## TIME OF PRAYER

## PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Some Children See Him

arr. Jay Rouse

*Sanctuary Choir; Suzanne Harmon, Cello; Julia Sain, ASL Interpreter*

### \*DOXOLOGY NO. 95

OLD 100TH

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## *THE WORD*

## SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:25-32

## MESSAGE

"A Baby Changes Everything: Expectancy"

*Rev. Paul Craig*

## *RESPONSE TO THE WORD*

### \*CLOSING HYMN, NO. 206

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

HOUSTON

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*POSTLUDE

*Fanfare on In Dulci Jibilo*

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Rev. Paul Craig; Rev. Corey Milliet

Craig Estep, *Director of Music & Worship Arts*; Eon Malan, *Music Ministry Associate/Organist*; MUMC Flute Choir (*names on back*); Mike Horai, *Bass*; Jan Horai, *Piano*; Julia Sain, *ASL Interpreter*; Suzanne Harmon, *Cello*; Sanctuary Choir;

Joel Mullis, *Worship Production Director*; David Wilkinson, *Production Assistant*; Tom Amann, *Screens*; Susan

Chambers, *Worship Coordinator*; Grace & Aaron Jordan, *Acolytes/Advent Candle Lighting*

# WELCOME FROM THE PASTORS AND CONGREGATION!

All are welcome here ... and we do mean all. We take these words seriously. We strive to be a community as diverse and hospitable as God's kingdom. We don't all look or act alike; God knows we don't all think alike. We don't all read the Bible the same way. We bring different questions and carry different burdens, but every Sunday, we worship together as one. Our nearly 150-year-old church is filled with some traditional and inspiring untraditional ways. We study the teachings and actions of Jesus. We sing modern songs and old hymns. Yet, in our preaching and prayers, we wrestle with the challenges of the modern world. We hope your heart will hear something personal and relevant — a word of comfort, a spur to action, a call to a deeper relationship with God. **After the service, please stick around. Introduce yourself to one of our pastors or someone at our Welcome Center. We have lots of programs and community groups to feed your soul and expand your spirit. Try one out. You never know – you just might be home!**

## OUR PRAYERS

*In care and sympathy, we lift up:*

Family and friends of Cathy Stewart, upon her death.  
Steve Price upon the death of his brother.

**Prayers for a Neighboring House of Worship**

Let us pray that **Matthews Church of God** will flourish, and that God might richly bless their ministry.

*Please remember in your prayers all those in our Church family with special needs and concerns.*

## CLOSED CAPTIONING—*Live During Worship!*

To access the live closed captioning service, first be sure you are connected to WiFi or to a data plan that allows for browsing on your personal device! Next, scan the QR code below on your device (tablet or smartphone) for your respective worship service (8:15, 9:30, or 11:00), and a session will open in your browser. Here, you will be able to personally customize the font size & color, as well as background color for your closed captioning experience.



### 8:15 Service



### 9:30 Service



### 11:00 Service



## COME AS YOU ARE: Sunday Mornings

8:15 (Traditional), 9:30 (Contemporary); 11:00 (Traditional),  
9:30 (United Kids Family Worship 2nd Sundays in the Gym);  
12:30 Centro Cristiano Hosanna (Servicio en Espanol)

9:30 & 11:00 Services Livestreamed at [MatthewsUMC.org](https://www.MatthewsUMC.org)

# MUMC FLUTE CHOIR

*Sue Demick, Janice Mangum, Deborah Morrison, Leslie Niessner*

## COMMUNION SERVERS NEEDED

*All Christmas Eve Services!*

If interested, sign up at the Welcome Center or contact  
Susan Chambers at 704-361-3001.



# MERRY CHRISTMAS

## ADVENT AT MATTHEWS UMC

*A Baby Changes Everything: Worship Series*

**ADVENT STUDY *The Christmas Letters***  
WOMEN'S STUDY Begins DEC 2 & GROUP for ALL Begins DEC 4

**CLASSY VS TACKY YOUTH GROUP**  
SUNDAY, DEC 8, 6:00 PM IN THE GYM

**MELODY MAKERS COMMUNITY CHOIR CONCERT**  
TUESDAY, DEC 10, 11:00 AM - LUNCH AFTER, RSVP REQUIRED

**COLLEGE-AGE & YOUNG ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
SATURDAY, DEC 14, 7:00 PM

**JINGLE JAM KIDS & FAMILY WORSHIP**  
SUNDAY, DEC 15, 9:30 AM IN THE GYM

**"THE LIGHT OF CHRISTMAS" CONCERT**  
SUNDAY, DEC 15, 7:00 PM - SANCTUARY CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

**RAINBOW EXPRESS LIVE NATIVITY**  
DEC 15 & 16, 5:30-7:30 PM WHITE HOUSE-FULLWOOD

**YOUTH VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS PARTY**  
SUNDAY, DEC 15, 6:00 PM IN THE GYM

**CAROLS AFTER WORK**  
DEC 18-20 (WED-FRI) DROP IN 5:30-6:15 PM, SANCTUARY

**NATIVITY SERVICES**  
SUNDAY, DEC 22 DURING 8:15, 9:30, & 11:00 AM WORSHIP

## CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

**1:00 PM - Kids & Family Worship**

**2:30 & 4:30 PM - Kids & Family Worship**  
Kids Worship in Gym with Live Nativity Only AFTER 1pm Service

**6:00 PM - Contemporary**

**9:00 & 11:00 PM - Traditional**  
Nativity with live animals in the Courtyard at Midnight

**7:30 PM - CCH Servicio en Español** \*  
*Candlelight Services with Communion*

**ONE Combined Worship Sunday, Dec 29 at 9:30 AM** \*  
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Details at  
MatthewsUMC.org

