

A BABY CHANGES EVERYTHING

"Playing With Fire"

MATTHEWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 24, 2024

CHRIST CANDLE

The **CHRIST** candle reminds us that Christ has come to save ordinary people like us. Let us return to our homes with joy and praise remembering the birth of our Savior.

Welcome!

If you're here for the first time, please complete the **Guest Welcome** form at 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. 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.

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

December 24, 2024

Christmas Eve

6:00pm

Gathering Music *What Child Is This* arr. Lauren Daigle

*Welcome & Greeting

*Musical Praise *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* arr. Jeremy Camp
O Holy Night Adolphe Adam

*Passing the Peace

Advent Candle Lighting

Christmas Prayer & Offering

A Song of Giving *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day* arr. John Biggers

Our Christmas Eve Offering will support Global Impact Mission Partners: Matthews HELP Center, Home2Home Ministries and Western NC Conference Disaster Ministries. Contribute until Dec 31 by indicating "Christmas Eve Offering" in your check memo line, on the envelope, or in the drop-down menu online.

Scripture Luke 2:8-16

Message "A Baby Changes Everything: Playing With Fire"
Rev. Dr. Charles (Chuck) Wilson, II

Holy Communion

Music During Communion

A Baby Changes Everything Faith Hill

Lighting of the Christmas Candles

*Musical Praise *Silent Night, Holy Night (verses 1, 3, 4)* STILLE NACHT

At the conclusion of "Silent Night", please extinguish your candle and place it in the basket as you leave the Sanctuary. The Light of Christ is taken out in to the World.

*Blessing

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Charles (Chuck) Wilson, II; Rev. Paul Craig

John Biggers, Interim Director of Contemporary Worship; Joel Mullis, Worship Production Director;
Tom Amann, Screens; Jonnie Hildreth, Worship Coordinator, Communion Steward;
The Contemporary Praise Team; Advent Candle Lighting: The McGrath Family

TRADITIONAL CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

December 24, 2024

Christmas Eve

9:00pm

+PRELUDE

In Dulci Jubilo

Zsolt Gardonyi

Eon Malan, Organ

Sonata No. 1

Antonio Vivaldi

Jill Fung, Cello; Eon Malan, Organ

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear
Stumptown Brass

Richard S. Willis/arr. Bruce Greer

Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming
The Joyful Ringers

arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

Angels From the Realms of Glory
Stumptown Brass

Henry T. Smart/arr. Eddie Fargason

Angel's Carol

arr. Sondra K. Tucker

The Joyful Ringers

PROCESSIONAL CAROL

Once in Royal David's City

arr. Lee Dengler

Lily Crowgey, Soloist; Jill Fung, Cello

WELCOME

*OPENING CAROL NO. 238

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Congregational Response: "Rejoice! Rejoice!"

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

Some Children See Him

arr. Jay Rouse

Sanctuary Choir; Jill Fung, Cello; Julia Sain, ASL Interpreter

*SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:8-16

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

"A Baby Changes Everything: Playing With Fire"

Rev. Dr. Charles (Chuck) Wilson, II

WE CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Music at Communion

O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam

Ashley Broome, Soprano

LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES

*Closing Carol No. 239

Silent Night (verses 1, 3, 4)

STILLE NACHT

(At the conclusion of "Silent Night", please extinguish your candle and place it in the basket as you leave the Sanctuary. The Light of Christ is taken out into the World.)

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Flourish on Joy to the World

arr. Robert H. Hobby

The Joyful Ringers, Stumptown Brass, Eon Malan, Organ, David Smith, Timpani

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

TRADITIONAL CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

December 24, 2024

Christmas Eve

11:00pm

+PRELUDE

In Dulci Jubilo

Zsolt Gardonyi

The First Noel

Gert Van Hoef

God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen & Carol of the Bells
Eon Malan, Organ

Gert Van Hoef

WELCOME

*OPENING CAROL NO. 238

Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Congregational Response: "Rejoice! Rejoice!"

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

All Is Well

arr. Ronn Huff

Sanctuary Choir; Shannon Remley, Alto

*SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:8-16

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

"A Baby Changes Everything: Playing With Fire"

Rev. Dr. Charles (Chuck) Wilson, II

WE CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Music at Communion

O Holy Night

Adolphe Adam

Don Remley, Tenor

LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLES

*Closing Carol No. 239

Silent Night (verses 1, 3, 4)

STILLE NACHT

(At the conclusion of "Silent Night", please extinguish your candle and place it in the basket as you leave the Sanctuary. The Light of Christ is taken out into the World.)

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Please proceed to the courtyard where this service of worship will continue at the live nativity

WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Charles (Chuck) Wilson, II; Rev. Paul Craig

Craig Estep, *Director of Music & Worship Arts*; Eon Malan, *Music Ministry Associate/Organist*;
Sanctuary Choir; Joel Mullis, *Worship Production Director*; David Wilkinson & Tom Amann, *Screens*;
Susan Chambers & David Bigham, *Worship Coordinators*

9:00 Service

Lily Crowgey, *Soloist*; Ashley Broome, *Soprano*; Stumptown Brass (Tim Goforth, David Brewer, David Mickus, Wes Broome, Max Mensing); Mike Horai, *Associate Conductor of The Joyful Ringers*;
The Joyful Ringers (Mellie Friend, Robin Havican, Susie Verrill, Maxine Starner, Julie Harris, Chrissie Hackett, Tina Fincher, Lee Cornell, Leslee Mabee, Annette Clary, Liz Mockler, Sarah Sheffield, Julie Knafelz, Tom Amann); Jill Fung, *Cello*; Julia Sain, *ASL Interpreter*; David Smith, *Timpani*;
Will Wallace, *Acolyte*; The Klotz Family, *Advent Candle Lighting*

11:00 Service

Don Remley, *Tenor*; Shannon Remley, *Alto*; The Little Family, *Advent Candle Lighting*

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.



6:00 Service



9:00 Service



11:00 Service

OUR PRAYERS

In care and sympathy, we lift up:

Family and friends of those who have lost loved ones.

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

YEAR-END GIVING

If you plan to give check or cash, you may place them in the offering plate during worship. Through December 31, you may place your gifts in the designated lockbox on the Admin. Hall door at the Church Office (please enter through front doors by the exterior mailboxes between 9am – 5pm.)

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING

Our Christmas Eve offering will be sent to 3 of our Global Impact Mission partners:
Home2Home Ministries – which provides furniture for those in need. They pick up and deliver furniture and make sure everyone has the comforts of “home”.
Matthews Help Center – provides short-term assistance for those in crisis within our community.
Western NC Conference Disaster Ministries - Aid the people in western NC that were devastated by Hurricane Helene and lead relief and recovery efforts throughout our state.

December 29, 2024—One Combined Casual Service at 9:30am in the Sanctuary

After your holiday celebrations, come as you are in casual attire!

COMING UP IN JANUARY

- JAN 12** Meet the Pastors: Membership Interest Gathering
3PM - SANCTUARY RECEPTION AREA
- JAN 24** Community Bingo Night
5:30-7:30PM, GYM. \$30 for two or more participants, \$10 for single ticket.
Register online by Jan. 22nd!
- JAN 25** Leadership Connection 2025
8:30AM - 12PM - THE COMMONS. Register online by Jan. 19th!
- JAN 5, 6,
12, 15** Kenya Mission Trip: Interest Meetings
Check the event online for times and locations!
MISSION TRIP is SEPTEMBER 9 - 18, 2025

Events at [MatthewsUMC.org](https://www.MatthewsUMC.org)



MATTHEWS UNITED METHODIST

THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, WE WILL TRANSFORM THE WORLD, ONE LIFE AT A TIME.

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)

801 S. Trade Street, Matthews, NC 28105 | 704-847-6261
www.MatthewsUMC.org | social @matthewsumc