



11090 South Highway 226 :: Spruce Pine, NC 28777

Church: 828.765.7446

Pastor Rick: 704.604.1888 cell

Suzanne: 704.604.2429 cell

Web: [www.sprucepineumc.org](http://www.sprucepineumc.org)

Email: [sprucepineumc@gmail.com](mailto:sprucepineumc@gmail.com)

Alternate Email: [spumc3@bellsouth.net](mailto:spumc3@bellsouth.net)

Pastor Email: [rev.rick.schilling@gmail.com](mailto:rev.rick.schilling@gmail.com)

November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022 – 9 & 11 am

First Sunday of Advent

Kathey Hollifield, Music Director  
Bruce Ikard, Worship Technician

Kathy Miller, Organist  
Rick Schilling, Pastor

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP!** THE WORD “WORSHIP” COMES FROM THE OLD ENGLISH WORD FOR “WORTHY.” WHEN WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD, WE ARE DECLARING THAT GOD ALONE IS “WORTHY” OF OUR LIVES AND OUR PRAISE.

## GATHERING OF THE CONGREGATION TO WORSHIP

Chiming of the Hour

Announcements

Prelude

“Greensleeves”

Vernon Coulter & Band

## OFFERING OUR PRAISE AND PRAYERS

^Greeting/Call to Worship

Dwight Willett

Make ready a pathway for our God.

**Clean out the debris in our hearts.**

Clear out a space in our calendars.

**Put aside any sense of unworthiness,**

and focus on the One who comes to love us.

**Prepare a place in our homes and hearts.**

Set the table and light the candles,

**for Christ is coming.**

^Opening Hymn

*“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”*

UMH 196

^Opening Prayer / Blessing of Hope

Dwight Willett

With hopeful hearts, let us pray together...

**God of glory, we know that you are coming at an unexpected hour. Come to us now, in spirit and truth. Take us up into your presence, and make us ready for your reign of peace. Amen.**

**...and may the hope of Christ be with you now!**

**...and also with you!**

# PROCLAIMING AND HEARING GOD'S WORD

## Decoration of the Chrismon Tree

(All are invited to come forward, take a Chrismon, and place it on the tree. After we are finished, we will join together in the following prayer)

**Holy Lord, we come with joy to celebrate the birth of your Son, who rescued us from the darkness of sin by making the cross a tree of life and light. May this tree, arrayed in splendor, remind us of the life-giving cross of Christ, that we may always rejoice in the new life that shines in our hearts. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Maria Douglass & Valeriy Usov (9:00)  
The Willett Family (11:00)

*Reader:* "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'"

**All: Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that we may learn God's ways and walk in God's paths.'"**

*Reader:* We light this candle as a sign of our joyous hope that we can be restored – our faith, our strength, our confidence, and our lives – as we watch and wait with all God's people for the promise to be fulfilled.

(Maria will re-read the last portion in Russian and Valeriy will light the first candle)

## Sung Response

"Kindle this flame of hope. May it burn bright and true.  
Lighting the way that is of God, the journey we pursue."

## Children's Message

Beverly Greene

*(Following the children's message, parents of small children may choose to escort their little ones to our church nursery: our nursery volunteers will meet you in the welcome center just outside the sanctuary.)*

## Choral Anthem

## "Advent Hymn"

Chancel Choir

## Scripture Reading

## Isaiah 2:1-5 CEB

CEB 836

## Proclamation of the Word

## "Expect a Miracle"

Rev. Rick Schilling

# RESPONSE TO THE WORD

## Offertory Prayer and Doxology

*Praise God from Whom All Bounteous Blessings Flow*

Tune: **UMH 211** *Veni Emmanuel*

"Praise God from whom all bounteous blessings flow;  
Praise Him all creatures dwelling here below.  
Praise Him above all heavenly hosts;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! His praises now we sing  
And ask His blessings on these gifts we bring."

## Pastoral Prayer

^If able, Please Stand

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS****IF YOU'RE NEW HERE . . . WELCOME!**

We're glad you could join us, whether you're new to the community, new to our church, or if you might be new to this whole “church” thing altogether. We hope you won't be nervous. It doesn't matter who you are, what you've done, what you're wearing, what you believe, or what you don't believe – you are welcome here. You are among friends, and we hope you feel at home in this place of grace.

**DECEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS****See insert****WORSHIP LEADERSHIP SCHEDULE:**

(If you are unable to serve on the date scheduled, please exchange dates with someone and let the church office know.)

DATE	LECTOR	CHILDREN'S TIME	GREETERS
12/4/22	Meredith Hoilman	Tracy Carroll	Framton & Danna Gibson
12/11/22	TBA	TBA	Margarett McGraw & Freddy Jones
12/18/22	Matt Hollifield	TBA	Lloyd & Nelle Glenn
12/25/22	Sharon Drum	Sharon Drum	Tom & Eva Jobin

**REGULAR MEETINGS**

GROUP	DAYS	LOCATION	CONTACT
Blue Ridge Bridge Club	Mondays, 9:30 am	Fellowship Hall	Ed Banta
SPUMC Book Club	1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 10 am	Parlor	Margarett McGraw
UMW Nightingale Circle	2 <sup>nd</sup> Monday - 3 pm	Welcome Center	Sharon Drum
Care and Fellowship	2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday, 10 am	Fellowship Hall	Danna Gibson
Choir Practice	Wednesdays - 6:00 pm	Sanctuary	Kathay Hollifield
Finance	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday	Fellowship Hall	Stan Cook
Trustees	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thursday	Fellowship Hall	Don Abele
Small Group Study	Thursdays – 6:30 pm	287 Longview Dr. Bakersville	Andy Palmer

**OUR COMMUNITY COVENANT**

When a person becomes a professing member of the body of Christ at Spruce Pine United Methodist Church, he or she covenants to participate faithfully in the ministries of the congregation and in life in the world by their prayers, their presence, their gifts, their service, and their witness.

**THANKS, PRAISES & CELEBRATIONS** – To Lloyd Glenn, who helped with the Chrismon Tree, Everyone who helped with Trunk or Treat; Celebrating our new member Debby Misicka, those preparing for the Beacon Center, those involved in the youth group.

**GENERAL PRAYERS:** For all who do not know the love of God in Christ Jesus the Lord; for the well-being of our community; for local, state, national, and world leaders; all who have COVID and those who are recovering; Skyler and Andrew Stewart; Cooper Foster (*Don & Bobbi Abele's Grandson*)

**SUSTAINING PRAYERS:** Our homebound members; Brian Center & Mitchell House Residents, Staff, and Families; June Wilson; for those in addiction: for recovery and sobriety in 2022; *Sandra Woodard*; Wayne Lemzoni; Jacquelyn Taylor; Faye Vickers family; Susan Hoeg, Virginia, Charlie & William; those with mental health issues; Hannah Blanton; Mike Lewis; Ron & Linda Cromarty; Dori Ann; Ann Butler & family; Andy Grindstaff; Bob Cook; Jaden Pernell; Doris Deyton (health); Shane Heath (isolated & lonely); Hal Harrison; James Thomas; *Lucy Murphy*; Jessie Wray; Anna Chambers (*Jack Chandler's Cousin*); Robert McKenzie; Joyce (*Martha Long's sister*); Jennifer Miller; Jane Waggoner, Jennie Johnston, Kris Butterwek; Alexis (medical issues); *Jack Chandler*; *Randy Hembree*; Charles Sproles

**FOR THOSE WHO MOURN:** the family of Justin Redden; *the family of Laura Haberneck*; the family of Cole Ibrom (*grandson of Diane & Bert Sheeley*); the family of Frank Baskin's sister Barbara Stovall; *the family*

of Johnny Pendley (brother of Mary Robinson); the family of Mark Butler (Niki Jones' brother); the family of Randy Virnelson

**FOR THOSE PREPARING FOR/RECOVERING FROM TESTS OR SURGERY:** Wayne Hoilman; Mary Woodfrey (hip); Dean (Judy's cousin, transplants); Catherine Andre (hip replacement); Tommy Phillips, (*Starli McDowell's* dad); *Jim Sockwell*; *Barbara Henline (at home)*; *Pastor Lynda Briggs (recovery)*; *Marcia Dunn (Fall & Hip replacement)*; Cynthia Nash (recovery); *Lila Baskin (recovery)*; *Bruce Ikard (recovery)*; *Tim Drum (tests)*

**FOR THOSE WITH CANCER:** Holly (brain tumor); Ava Hollifield; Janet Ward Slaughter; Gloria Smith (lung); Danny Gortney; Erin (brain cancer); Todd Fleenor; Lawrence Glenn; Raymond Mayberry; Shirl Phillips; Lee - Susan Davis' brother; Wayne Ledford & Billy Ledford; Caleb Watson (8 y/o with cancer); Tessie Miller (Leukemia); James Acuff (chemo); Ann Kernahan; Peggy Grantham (bladder cancer); Jackie Cook; Tommy Collis; James Ouzts; Bailey Yearout (21 year old with stage 4 cancer); Rick Phillips; Julie Phillips (cancer); Weston Atkins (8 month old / cancer)

**FOR THOSE LIVING WITH PAIN, ILLNESS OR INJURY:** Wanda McClellan (lupus); Mary Kay Thompkins (MS); Sandra Glenn; Louise Weeks (rehab); Keith Renfro (accident); Ann Butler; Josh (muscular dystrophy); Wendy Beaver (knee); Louise Merkel (fall); Jesse Wray (*Mary & Scott Wray's* son, hospital); Jasper Fidler (friend of Chloe Cook (fall), *Bill Haberneck (blood pressure)*; Frank Gurley (breathing issues); *Nelle Glenn*; Aaron Young (Tractor Accident); Nathan Buchanan (recovery); Chris Askeland (blood clots); *Tim Hollifield (Lyme disease)*; *Glen DeVos (broken foot)*

**FOR SURVIVORS OF INJUSTICE, DISASTER, OR TRAGEDY:** Survivors of sexual abuse/harassment; Survivors of child abuse; Separated children & families; Victims of human trafficking; solutions to gun violence; Earthquake victims in Haiti; the people of Afghanistan; flood victims of Haywood County; flood victims of Waverly, TN; Tornado victims in Kentucky, People of Ukraine; Flood victims in Kentucky, victims of Hurricane Ian; victims of gun violence in Virginia and Colorado

**FOR AREA CHURCHES & MINISTRIES:** Toe Valley UMC Charge (Mt. Zion - Pine Grove); Bakersville UMC, Red Hill-Deyton Bend UMC; Newdale UMC Charge (Celo-Martin's Chapel-Windham); SPUMC (Pastor, Staff & Members); M-Y Parish Food Bank; Lamplighters Children, Families and Staff; Shepherd's Staff; Peter Constantian

**FOR THOSE TRAVELING, ON MISSION, OR IN THE MILITARY:** Lindsey Potter (Army National Guard); Josh Swindler (Navy); Karen (Istanbul); Ben Potter (Army)

*We want to join with you in prayer for your concerns and needs. Simply contact Pastor Rick or the church office and tell us about your prayer concern. Please submit names to the church office by Thursday morning to be included on the weekly list.*

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK						
11/27 – Sandy Singleton	11/30 – Woodrow Buchanan	12/1 – Joe Campbell	12/1 – Sam Deyton	12/2 – Larry Hutchinson,	12/2 – Andrew Shock	12/3 – Jim Dunn
<b>PRESENCE:</b>		<b>Sunday, November 20, 2022</b>		<b>Attendance: 9-21, 11-54 Total: 75</b>		
<b>GIFTS</b>	<b>11/20/2022</b>	General Fund – \$3,605.70		2022 Weekly Budget Need - \$5,132.00		
		Year to Date - \$218,091.12		YTD Budget Need - \$236,254.00		
		Change Offering – High Country Prison Min. - \$12.48		Change Offering – Centro Latino - \$12.48		
		Community Assistance - \$3,050.00		Shepherd's Staff Food - 43		

*The Spruce Pine UMC would like to thank everyone who so generously contributed to Community Assistance last week.*

**SERVICE:** Thanks to those who are serving in special ways throughout the past week and today ...

Lector: Dwight Willett      Greeters: Jon & Melanie Jirka      Children's Time: Beverly Greene  
Special Music – Chancel Choir      Prelude: Vernon Coulter & Band

**WITNESS:** WE ARE CHRISTMAS PEOPLE. AND WE ARE EASTER PEOPLE. AND... WE ARE PENTECOST PEOPLE. WE ARE GREATLY IMPACTED BY OUR CREATOR COMING UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL, RESURRECTED INTO NEW LIFE ALONG WITH CHRIST, AND WE PARTICIPATE IN THE MIRACULOUS UNIFYING EVENT THROUGH THE SPIRIT. WE ARE NOW IN "ORDINARY" (ORDINAL) TIME IN THE CHRISTIAN CALENDAR YEAR. THE PARAMENT COLORS WILL BE GREEN (THE COLOR OF LIFE AND GROWTH) UNTIL WE REACH CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY. LET US LIVE INTENTIONALLY DURING THIS TIME AND NOT FALL INTO "ORDINARY" PATTERNS. LET US REMEMBER WHO AND WHOSE WE ARE.

**\*\*Next Week's Scriptures – November 27, 2022\*\***

Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Romans 15:4-13; Matthew 3:1-12