

Centenary United Methodist Church 2300 W. Friendly Ave. Greensboro, NC 27403 November 27, 2022

**Reverend Kelley Groce, Pastor** 

Anita Trumpler-Rich, Music Director

Welcome friends, family, and visitors. May your hearts be touched by the
Holy Spirit as we join in worship with devotion, songs, and prayer.
Our Mission: To experience God's life-changing love and take God's love into the world.
Our Vision: To be a church where everyone is involved in ministry.

Gathering Music

Pastoral Symphony, from Messiah

Handel, arr.Barnett

**UMH 196** 

Announcements for Missions and Ministry

Choral Call to Worship People, Look East Choir

Call to Worship:

Come, let's turn to the Holy.

We come to worship God our Creator.

Come, bring your hopes, fears, and longing for a better world.

We come to praise the Prince of Peace.

Come, as your whole self – body, mind, and soul.

We come to receive the Spirit who gives us life.

ALL: God, as we attend to you, fill us with peace. Amen.

**Unison Prayer:** 

Holy One, we gather today at the start of this Advent season with expectant hearts. Slow us down, God. Calm our hearts. Still our minds. Help us to be present to your Holy Spirit nudges, so we can witness the unexpected ways you are at work. O Come, O Come, Prince of Peace. Amen.

†Hymn Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Advent Candle Lighting Reading Bianca York

†Hymn Light the Advent candle TFWS 2090 (verse 1)

Joys and Concerns of Congregation and Community

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Anthem All Earth is Waiting Choir

Scripture Isaiah 2: 1-5; Matthew 24:36-44

Sermon Peace Made Possible Rev. Kelley Groce

†Advent Affirmation
We are an Advent people,
a people of hope.
For us, Advent is a time of waiting,
and so we wait.

We wait for the coming of the One who is the fulfillment of God's promise, the fulfillment of hope,

the declaration that we have been redeemed.

Even so, we are not a naïve people.

We know that the world in which we live

will continue to be filled with pain and sorrow.

We know that hatred and violence will continue to exist.

We know that death and separation will continue to be a part of our lives.

But because we are an Advent people,

we know that none of these things will win in the end.

The Holy One is coming,

to make holy once again

all that was, is, and ever will be.

And in our waiting and our hoping,

we work and worship,

pray and play,

in all things hoping that peace, love, and joy will reign

in our lives and in our world,

now and forever.

Submitted by Rev. Rebecca F. Harrison, Transitional Pastor, Spanish Springs Presbyterian Church, Sparks, NV

†Gloria Patri

†Hymn O Day of God, Draw Nigh

UMH 730

We Worship God with God's Tithes and our Offering

Offertory Let There be Peace on Earth Choir

†Doxology

†Hymn We've a Story to tell to the Nations UMH 569 (1&4)

**†Benediction** 

†Postlude O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Arr. Cindy Berry

†Please stand as you are able.

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in celebration of Carolyn Townsend's birthday today by Reid and her family.



As you engage your 'Prayer Life' this week, please remember these prayer concerns: If you have a prayer concern or praise, please contact the church office at 336-299-9643, or call Kelley at the parsonage 336-285-081. Let us know if the concern may be shared with the congregation.

## **Prayer Requests:**

Donnie Stowe. Paul Long. Susan Carrick. Sheridian Wacker. Lori Johnson. Lori Eaton. Nelda King. Peggy Harris. Diane, Jim & Scott Stanley. Anne Murr. Trudy Sillmon. Don & Clara Ellis. Aly Saunders. Cecil Overbey. Al Barnes (Dave and Caryn Hull's friend). Sharry Hastings (Caryn Hull's sister) Claire (Suzy Swindell's cousin-in-law). Rachel Dykes, Sue Rosser (Debbie Robinson's friends). Hilda (Debbie Robinson's Aunt).



November Birthday - Dave Hull, Carolyn Townsend (27).

## Announcements and Calendar of events

November 27- Summerfield-Peace Christmas Store. This year they asked us for books only. You can pick a gift tag off the tree in the narthex and return the gifts back to the church by the November 27<sup>th</sup>. November 30- 2:30 to 7pm – Blood Drive. Volunteers needed. Signup Sheet in Narthex. **December 8- noon to 8pm** – Salvation Army Bell Ringers needed. Signup Sheet in Narthex

Wednesdays at 6:45pm choir practice and bell practice at 7:30pm. All are welcome to join. See Anita if you have any questions.

**Sunday School at 9:45am** – in the Fellowship Hall.

Light Up the Sanctuary Campaign. The sanctuary lights have been in despair for several years. You may have not noticed because you see the lights on, but you do not know what goes on to make this happen. If you would like to contribute to the cause-please gift to **Light Up the Sanctuary Campaign and designate as such**. We would love to have this project completed by our Christmas season services.