

WELCOME to FOREST HILL!

We are so glad you are worshiping with us today!

Families with children are encouraged and welcomed to worship together. Nursery and Preschool classes are offered each Sunday in the Education Wing: Birth-2 years, Room 12, Preschoolers 3-4 in Room 14. Greeters are available at the Welcome Center for directions and to answer any questions you may have about our church.

Learn more about the ministries at Forest Hill at www.foresthillumc.org or call the church office at [704-782-1109](tel:704-782-1109).



As a community following Christ,
we know and live God's Love,
strive to Grow in faith and discipleship,
and are compelled to Serve others near and far.



Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2016
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Sunday 11:00 AM

Devices for the hearing impaired and large-print Worship bulletins are available in the Narthex.

SERVING TODAY

All who Gather for Worship

- Greeters:** Melissa Cayado, Carolyn Dunn
- Acolytes:** Sadie Fullerton & Seren Dornsmith
- Nursery:** (TBA)
- Visitor Contact:** Janice Britt
- Bread Ministry:** Carolyn Barnes

PRELUDE

"Greensleeves"

R. Vaughan Williams

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER

† **HYMN No. 196**

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

HYFRYDOL

† **LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE**

As we wait for Emmanuel – God with us – to arrive, we remember the fears of his earthly parents.

We remember the commitment of Joseph, we remember the commitment of Mary.

We remember that the Lord sent angels to comfort and to guide.

In that spirit of expectation and hope, we light the Candle of Peace.

Let this fire remind us that while we wait for the Lord, truly the Lord is already here.

Hope is here. Love is here. May joy and peace reign in our hearts.

OUR STAFF

- Senior PastorRev. Mandy Jones
- Associate PastorRev. Suzanne E. Dornsmith
- Director of Music.....Justin Snyder
- Organist.....M. L. Marley
- Director of Youth and Children's Ministries..... Vera Smith
- Director of Preschool Dawn Gustafson
- Faith Community NurseLaura Tolbert, RN
- Administrative Secretary..... Connie Moss
- Treasurer Don Rogers
- Choir Director Emeritus.....Cy Maulden

† CALL TO CONFESSION

God of our salvation and author of our peace, it’s hard for us to see the blessings you have for us. We think that our plans are better, that the things and desires of the world are higher than your ways. You, Lord, are the great interrupter and sometimes we can feel inconvenienced by the calls you put on us to seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you. Remind us that in this season that leads to Christmas, we are asked to watch and wait for the unexpected ways you break into our lives. Amen.

† RESPONSE No. 207

PREPARE THE WAY

“Prepare the Way of the Lord”

Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord, and all people will see the salvation of our God.

SHARING OF PRAYER CONCERNS AND JOYS

CALL TO PRAYER

*Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord, keep watch take heart.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

Chancel Choir

“A Celtic Silent Night”

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

If you wish to give electronically, please text fhumc to 77977, or download our Forest Hill app.

OFFERTORY

“The Sussex Carol”

Dale Wood

† RESPONSE

VENI EMMANUEL

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.***

† THE PEACE

CHILDREN INVITED TO KIDSWORSHIP

Children ages Kindergarten through third grade may bring forward their tithes and exit to KidsWorship in Room 9 in the Education Wing. Parents should pick up their children from Room 9 immediately following Worship.

† HYMN OF PREPARATION No. 204

“Emmanuel, Emmanuel”

McGEE

† THE GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 1:18-25

Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Mandy Jones

“Promised Hope”

† CLOSING HYMN No. 230

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

ST. LOUIS

† BENEDICTION

† CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

† POSTLUDE

“Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella”

Keith Chapman

Our Service of Worship has ended, but our worship

continues as we go forth to love, grow, and serve.

† Please stand as you are able.

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25th – Christmas Day – 10:00 a.m.

Scripture: Romans 15:3 and Luke 2:8-14

Series: *“Hope for the Holidays”*

Sermon: *“Christmas Hope”*