

MORNING WORSHIP

December 7, 2025

Half past Ten O' Clock

Second Sunday of Advent

*When the organ begins, please prepare for worship through silent prayer and meditation.
Following the service, greet one another with joy and affection!*

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

TIME OF MEDITATION AND REFLECTION

+WELCOME AND NOTICES

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Christy Horne, Mission Giving Tree

PRELUDE

Passacaglia in C-minor
Handbell Choir

Fred Gramann

INTROIT

O Come, O Come Emmanuel
Handbell Choir

arr. Kevin Bryant

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Ellis Family

Leader: Family of faith, God is at work!

People: God is healing and creating,

Leader: redeeming and dreaming,

People: calling and sending,

Leader: listening and loving.

People: Yes, God is at work!

Leader: So we worship our God who never gives up.

People: We worship our God who holds onto hope. Amen!

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

PRAYER (Unison)

God of peace, our days are filled with noise and our hearts churn with anxiety. Yet You speak stillness into our chaos, and Your presence calms our restless spirits. This Advent season, still our hearts and minds as we keep watch. Help us share signs of peace with our neighbors, as we wait together for Your peaceable kingdom to reign with the coming of the Christ child. Amen.

+*HYMN 106

"Prepare the Way, O Zion"

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

On-the-move God, we have every reason to hold onto hope. We have every reason to believe that spring will come, that flowers will bloom, and the sun will rise. Yet, too often hope slips through our fingers. With anxious hearts we cry out to You, "Will change ever come? Will things ever get better? Will I ever make a difference?" Forgive us, O God, for our lack of trust. Soothe our wandering hearts and show us the places where the sun is shining. Show us the places where You are on the move. With open hearts we pray, Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Family of faith, in our honesty,

People: we are heard.

Leader: In our worries,
People: we are held.
 Leader: In our failings,
People: we are graced.
 Leader: In our fear,
People: we are not alone.
 Leader: When we are running out of hope,
People: God is still at work.
 Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel!
People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR ABIGAIL JANE HOLT

Mike DeAmicis, Assisting Elder

+Invitation to Baptism

The Meaning of Baptism

Questions to the Parents and Congregation

*Affirmation of Faith (Unison)

The Apostles' Creed

Prayer and the Act of Baptism

Greeting a Child of God

Leader: Abigail Jane Holt is now identified as a child of God in Christ's Church. Through Baptism, God has put His seal upon Abigail to share with us all the benefits of Christ's sacrifice. Let us be supportive of Alex and Claire as they nurture Abigail and assist her to be a faithful disciple.

People: With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome Abigail into Christ's Church, for we are all one in Christ. We promise to love, encourage and support you, to share the good news of God's love with you, and to celebrate with you God's unfolding blessings.

*HYMN 114

"Away in a Manger"

CRADLE SONG

A MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

Immediately following the Baptism, children age five through second grade are invited to Children's Worship.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 11:1-11, pew Bible pg. 887

SERMON

"Angels Among Us"

Lori Archer Raible

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND CALL TO OFFERING

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

Text to Give

704-734-9818

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

All is Well
Handbell Choir

Lloyd Larsen

All is well, all is well. Angels and men rejoice for tonight darkness fell into the dawn of love's light. Sing alleluia.

All is well, all is well. Let there be peace on earth; Christ is come go and tell that He is in the manger. Sing alleluia.

*DOXOLOGY (Hymn 606)

OLD HUNDREDTH

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

In a fearful world, may we reach for each other's hands. May we choose courage whenever we can.

In all things, may we remember good news is louder than fear. O Holy One, may You use all

we have to infiltrate this fearful world with justice, love, and hope. In the name of the One who calls,

the One who sends, and the One who journeys with us, Emmanuel, we pray, Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN 87

“Comfort, Comfort Now My People”

GENEVAN 42

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

RESPONSE

Carol of the Bells
Handbell Choir
(Congregation to be seated)

Cathy Mocklebust

*POSTLUDE

Hark! The Glad Sound

arr. John Leavitt

*Those who are able please stand.

+Ushers may seat late worshipers.

Parts of the liturgy adapted from A Sanctified Art LLC/sanctifiedart.org

SELWYN AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WARMLY WELCOMES ALL WHO VISIT

Selwyn Avenue is glad you are with us this morning. We welcome all visitors, celebrating God's creativity in human diversity. We'd like to stay in touch with you! Please take a moment to fill out a pew card and place it in the offering plate. Please ask an usher if you need help locating the nursery, restrooms, changing tables, or large print hymnals.

Membership is by one of three paths: 1) profession of faith in Jesus Christ (for those who have never been part of a Christian church); 2) re-affirmation of faith (for those who formerly were part of a congregation but have not been involved in recent times - for example, you were baptized and/or confirmed but moved and never engaged with a new congregation); or 3) transfer of membership from another congregation (your membership is with another church). Prospective members are invited to participate in Orientation Classes, which are scheduled several times a year, and are a wonderful way to meet others and learn about our church and all the opportunities here. We stand ready to be in communication with you about your particular situation.

WORSHIP BAGS FOR 4 YRS. - 5TH GRADE Age-appropriate activities for readers and non-readers to encourage their participation in following along in worship are available in the narthex. Please return the bag to the basket after worship.

SAPC STAFF INFORMATION		
Position	Name	E-mail address
Pastor	Lori Archer Raible	lorir@selwynpres.org
Associate Pastor for CEF/Congregational Life	Margo Fraga	margor@selwynpres.org
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Director of Children and Families	Karley Wilke-Nadler	karleywn@gmail.com
Parish Associate	Lisa McLennan	lisamclennan5@gmail.com
Director of Music	Fred Spano	fps7363@gmail.com
Organist	Gay Pappin	gpappin@gmail.com
Church Administrator	Marsha Cooper	marshac@selwynpres.org
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Church Accountant	Tonya Moore	tonya@tmooreaccounting.com
Accounting Administrative Assistant	Reba Hardaway	rebah@selwynpres.org
Communications Specialist	Jennifer Dixon	jennifer@capstonebrandingmedia.com
Weekend Facilities	Dwight Jones	djones8345@aol.com
Director of Child Development Center	Beth Sharpe	bsharpe@selwynprescdc.com
Resident Pastor at QHPC	Allyson Anderson	allyson.qhpc@gmail.com
SAPC SESSION		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Rich Bonnell, Lori Burbank, Tate Hackman, Marybet Hudson, Todd Muldrew, Walker Owens, Adam Piacentino, Denise Pineno, Evan Sauda, Elizabeth Stearns, Caroline Thompson, Tina Weinberg; Youth Elder-Sarah Pineno	Mike Bellamy, Michelle Bentley, Lee Bobbitt, Jeremy Caskey, Mike DeAmicis, Zach Houston, Catherine Miller, Sally Moore, Becky Muth, Cathy Sheely, Janet Stephens, Karey Tom	Mike Bolewitz, Katie Cumbus, Lindsay Haynie, Sebastian Marth, Roger Mills, Martha Rand, Erin Salzlein, Rebecca Thompson, Ted Zimmer