



Williamsburg

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

EST. 1785



**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 7, 2025**

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE

Pastorale on 'Wachet Auf'
(Wayne Wold)

organ

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

A shoot shall come forth from the stump of Jesse, and a new branch shall bloom with God's justice and love.

We long for new life - for wisdom, understanding, and a world made whole.

A voice cries out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord! Make his paths straight!"

We are called to turn towards God, to bear good fruit, and to walk in God's peace.

The Spirit of the Lord is stirring, bringing justice for the poor and hope for all creation.

In this holy season we watch and wait for God's promised Savior.

Jesus is the One who God sends to bring us healing, hope, and resurrection.

Come, Lord Jesus. Teach us your wisdom, shape our lives, and make us ready for you to show up and make all things new.

*HYMN

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

196 (red book)

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

The prophet speaks of a day when "the wolf shall live with the lamb, and a little child shall lead them."

We prepare the way of the Lord by living the way of peace— in our hearts, in our homes, in our world.

Peace is not just the absence of conflict; it is the presence of Christ.

We prepare the way of the Lord, trusting that God is our peace.

We light this candle, trusting that the Prince of Peace is already at work among us.

May Christ, the Light of the world, shine in the midst of this world's darkness.

HYMN

Advent Candle Song
(Anthony Kouri Williams)

Ev - ery year we gath - er round to wor-ship near and far The Prince of Peace is

6 com-ing soon The light we see a - far. Pre-pare our hearts__ minds and souls to

11 make room in our lives. Now let us burn this light of peace to shine bright through the night!

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 11:1-10 (640 OT)

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

Is It That Season?
(Anthony Kouri Williams)

ECMS/Wesley Choir
(11:00)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Where Children Belong

(11:00)

**This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.**

We welcome children of all ages to participate in Worship in the Sanctuary. At 11:00 am, Grades K-3 are invited to Children's Worship in the Godly Playroom (215) to encounter God in story, song, and creativity. Our Nursery, located in Rm. 207, is open for Pre-K and younger during both services and Sunday School.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 3:1-12 (2 NT)

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church!

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

"A Voice in the Wilderness"

Rev. Brian Johnson

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INTRODUCTION TO OFFERING

ADVENT OFFERING MISSION MOMENT

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

I Wonder as I Wander
(John Jacob Niles)

Ian Lane, tenor

*DOXOLOGY

94 (red book)

PRESENTING THE BREAD AND CUP

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin, and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will,

we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love,

we have not loved our neighbors,

and we have not heard the cry of the needy.

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience,

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[a time of silent confession]

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

[The minister continues this prayer of thanksgiving, concluding:]

And so, with your people on earth

and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy
(21 red book)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full – full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

[The minister continues the prayer, recalling the institution of the Lord's Supper, concluding:]

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer
ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union
with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

*Christ has died
(22 red book)*

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

*Amen
(22 red book)*

Amen, amen, amen, amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

895 (red book)

BREAKING THE BREAD

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Those who prefer to remain in their seat may do so; simply notify an usher, and they will make sure the elements are brought to you. You may go forward to receive communion when an usher dismisses your row. You will be able to choose between dipping the bread in the cup or receiving an individual cup of grape juice. You may return to your seat via the side aisle once you have received. Persons requiring gluten free elements may obtain these at the station at the front or have it brought to them in their seat.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION (Please join in the singing:)

There's a Spirit in the Air 192 (red book)
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light 206 (red book)
Blessed Be the God of Israel 209 (red book)
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming 216 (red book)
The King of Glory Comes 2091 (black book)
Like a Child 2092 (black book)

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have
given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world
as those illumined by your Spirit, to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

*HYMN

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

204 (red book)

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

BENEDICTION

Benediction on 'Ode to Joy'
(Anthony Kouri Williams)

ECMS/Wesley Choir
(11:00)

POSTLUDE

Finale on 'Wachet Auf'
(Wayne Wold)

The flowers in the Chancel are given to the Glory of God in honor of my beloved
Aldersgate Fellowship Sunday School which brings me great joy by Dianne Colton.

THIS WEEK AT WUMC



WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

We're delighted to have you with us! Between services, follow the signs to our Fellowship Area for coffee, connection, and our Kids Corner. We'd love to welcome you and answer any questions you may have. We're honored you chose us to worship with today!

ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES are available in the Narthex (or ask an usher for help). If you have a "t-coil" switch on your hearing aid, you may be able to simply activate the t-coil switch. If that does not work, use one of the listening devices with a loop instead of the headphones. The loops are in the basket next to the devices. Just leave the headphones and plug in the loop instead. *Please leave devices on the cabinet where you picked it up; do not put it back in the basket. That helps us know the batteries need to be charged.*

ELEVATE YOUR FITNESS December 8 & 10 @ 9:30am | Fellowship Hall

Come experience sessions crafted with care, featuring heart-boosting chair aerobics, muscle-strengthening light weight training, and equilibrium-enhancing balance exercises.

FAMILY FRIENDLY MESSY CHURCH December 9 @ 5:30pm | Fellowship Hall

This Christmas edition, Away in a Messy Manger, features free play, crafts, worship celebration, and delicious meal. New this year will be a Christmas Gift Making Fair.

CAROLS 'ROUND THE CHRISMON TREE December 10 – 6:00pm | Atrium

All ages join together in singing music that tells the story of the Nativity.

FESTIVE BREAKFAST FOR ALL December 13 – 8:30am | Fellowship Hall

Experience the "Joy of Christmas" with a full breakfast and Christmas music. Cost: \$10 per person. Sponsored by the United Methodist Men

DEAR CONGREGATION:

As Christmas approaches, we invite you to join us in expressing gratitude to our dedicated church staff through our traditional Love Offering. Our staff embodies Christ's love, working tirelessly for our community.

Your contribution, whether a card, gift, or donation, will make a meaningful impact. Please mark all contributions for the "Staff Love Offering." You can place them in the Sunday offering plate, mail to the church (500 Jamestown Rd., Williamsburg 23185), or donate online at <https://tinyurl.com/wumcstaff> now through December 31.

May this Christmas season be a time of abundant blessings, shared love, and profound gratitude. Thank you for being a vital part of our church family and for contributing to the warmth and unity that define our Community in Christ.

Wishing you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Blessings,

Williamsburg UMC Staff Pastor Parish Relations Committee

HAT, SOCK AND GLOVE CHRISTMAS TREE

Local Outreach will collect hats, socks and gloves for children throughout Advent. Donated items will be delivered to FISH for distribution to local children in need. Bring items to church and place them under the Christmas tree near the Welcome Desk. Question? Contact Sherry Phipps (757) 810-4658.

WAYS YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

ADVENT OFFERING & ALTERNATIVE GIFT OPTION

Prayerfully consider financially supporting the organizations chosen by your Local & Global Outreach Committees. The worthy causes this year include:

- **Community of Faith Mission** is a shelter program that works with partners like WUMC to serve those experiencing homelessness in this area during the coldest months of the year.
- **Olde Towne Medical & Dental Center** cares for uninsured and medically under-served by providing quality, cost-effective, coordinated and preventative health and dental care, regardless of ability to pay.
- **Project ARK** challenges human trafficking by equipping and restoring livelihood and dignity through the construction trade while building quality, affordable family homes in Cambodia.
- **Virginia Peninsula Food Bank** distributes food effectively through collaborative efforts that minimize hunger, promote nutrition, and encourage self-reliance through education.
- **World Central Kitchen** distributes food effectively through collaborative efforts that minimize hunger, promote nutrition, and encourage self-reliance through education.

Your gift to the general Advent Offering will be equally divided among these projects. Consider the Alternative Gift Option. Make a gift of at least \$25 to any of the organizations above, we'll provide a greeting card that you can then gift to a loved one, noting that you gave a gift in their honor to support that mission (i.e. if you give \$75, we'll give you 3 cards). Give online at williamsburgumc.org/advent/ Questions? Call Deacon Troy (757) 229-1771.

CREATION CARE TEAM

When holiday decorating, avoid purchasing greenery that contains boxwood to avoid the spread of boxwood blight. Boxwood blight pathogen will likely not show symptoms of the disease during the winter months, so infected greenery may appear healthy. The disease can be transmitted from decorations to healthy boxwood plants in your yard as the fungal spores can survive for years in the soil. Opt for safe alternatives like fir, magnolia, or other non-boxwood greenery.



CARE COMMITTEE

The CARE Committee is a dedicated group of volunteer members who provide rides to medical appointments, meals for the sick, and funeral receptions. Our December Coordinators are Judi French (757) 810-2925 and Mary Liz Sadler (757) 229-8063. Call at least 2 days in advance for assistance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



MODERN WORSHIP PREVIEW SERVICE December 14 @ 9:30am | Fellowship Hall Help us prepare for the new Modern Worship Service by joining in this preview service.

YOUTH OUTING Ice Skating & More December 14 @ 12:30pm | Youth Room Youth grades 6-12 are invited to celebrate Christmas with lunch, games, and decorating cookies followed by ice skating in Merchant's Square! Cost: \$5.

RESPITE CARE CHRISTMAS CONCERT December 14, 2:00-3:00pm | Sanctuary

Bring family and friends to celebrate the season along with the Bell Choirs, Sanctuary Choir and Orchestra, and Organ. Following the concert, join us in the Respite Room from 3:00 to 4:00pm for a reception with cookies and beverages. The concert will benefit the Respite Care program. Attendance is free; donations are welcome."

SERVICE OF HOPE AND LIGHT December 17, Noon & 6:00pm | Atrium

This service recognizes that for many, the joy of the season is tempered by great pain.

WAYS TO GIVE

"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give..." 2 Corinthians 9:7

CONTRIBUTIONS

According to the **IRS rules**, any donation recorded for 2025 must be dated on or before December 31 and must be delivered to the church by December 31. Exception: checks dated on or before December 31 and postmarked on or before December 31 but received in January will be considered a 2025 donation. Donations postmarked January 1 or after, even if check is dated in 2025, will be recorded as a 2026 donation. Please direct any questions about your 2025 contributions to the Finance Department, mebaker@williamsburgumc.org or (757) 229-1771 ext 106. **Holiday Hours December 22, 23, 29, 30 and 31 from 8:00am – 2:00pm.**

TEXT TO GIVE

"GIVETOWUMC" to 73256 to give using your mobile device. You do not need an account to give; simply text your gift amount in any format (\$10, 10, 10.00). Receipts are sent via email.

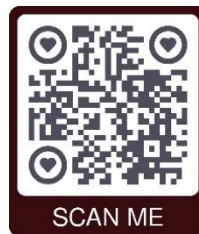
CASH/CHECK

Donations can be made via our collection plate on Sundays, mail, or the church office Mon - Fri. Your generosity is deeply appreciated and makes a real difference in the lives of those

we serve!

Giving Makes an Impact

Your generosity changes lives and empowers ministries. Visit our Resources page at williamsburgumc.org/articles to read stories about the difference your giving makes in our community and beyond.



CONNECT

WEBSITE WILLIAMSBURGUMC.ORG

INSTAGRAM @INSTAGRAM.COM/WILLIAMSBURGUMCVA

FACEBOOK @FACEBOOK.COM/WILLIAMSBURGUMC

SIGN UP FOR UPDATES

WANT TO STAY CONNECTED? SUBSCRIBE TO OUR EMAIL LIST FOR THE LATEST NEWS, UPCOMING EVENTS, AND WAYS TO BE INVOLVED AT WUMC.



TODAYS SERVICE LEADERS

Worship Leaders: Brian Johnson, Madison Ailinger, Troy Sims, Zach Griggs

Hymn Leader: Ian Lane

Organist: Tom Marshall

Lighting the Advent Candle 8:15: God Moments Women's Small Group **11:00:** Berryman Family

Readers 8:15: Rita Welty **11:00:** Scottie Wallace

Assisting with Communion 8:15: Ginger Barr, Bo Bohannon, Gayle Justice, Joy Mair, Terri Morgan, Terri Osborne **11:00:** Nathalie Bacskey, Cindy Banek, Linda Baker, Greg Johnson, Beverly Tressler, JD Tressler

Acolyte 11:00: JD Tressler

Greeters 8:15: Judi French, Damarius Marion **11:00:** Tom Gates, Michele Gates

Ushers 8:15: Roy Geiger, Janet Henke, Russ Henke, Chalonne Hoover, Monty Mason, Michael Johnson, Cindy Garman-Squier, Dan Squier **11:00:** Sherry Brubaker, Debbie Bruss, Gene Bruss, Nancy Donnelly, Barbara Monteith, Marty Monteith, Clark Wallace

Sound and Livestream: Jimmy McCarter, Todd Lindley, Josh Clayton

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Nov. 30 Worship Attendance Total 428

In Person 11:00am 208

In Person 8:15am 131

Virtual 89

**Deadline for Bulletin Submissions:
MONDAY, NOON**

Please submit to Nancy Reynolds
nreynolds@williamsburgumc.org.

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Madison Ailinger, **Pastor of Congregational Care** (x114)

Mary Ellen Baker, **Finance Manager** (x106)

Ellen Bushman, **Respite Care Director** (x118)

Josh Clayton, **Digital Media Specialist** (x107)

Zach Griggs, **Family Ministries Coordinator** (x109)

Brian Johnson, **Lead Pastor** (x110)

Thomas Marshall, **Organist** (757 713-0584)

Laura Pittman, **Director Kid's Morning Out** (x113)

Nancy Reynolds, **Engagement and Administrative Coordinator** (x104)

Michelle Roy, **Director of Congregation & Community Engagement** (x103)

Ellen Simon, **Bookkeeper** (x116)

Troy Sims, **Minister of Discipleship** (x108)

Lou-Anne Smith, **Director of Worship Arts** (x105)

Greg Whiteside, **Director of Facilities** (x101)

Anthony Williams, **Assoc. Director Worship Arts, Director Early Childhood Music** (x115)

Ryan LaRock, **Campus Minister, Wesley Foundation** (757 201-8850)

**WILLIAMSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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