



**Centenary United Methodist Church**  
**2300 W. Friendly Ave.**  
**Greensboro, NC 27403**  
**December 10, 2023**  
**Second Sunday of Advent**

**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      Angels We Have Heard on a Silent Night      John Cowell

Announcements for Missions and Ministry

Choral Call to worship      O Come, O Come Emmanuel      Choir

Call to worship

L: Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say Rejoice!

**P: Our joy is in the Lord who blesses us.**

L: Shout for joy, for the Lord is near!

**P: Our praises ascend to God for the mighty things God has done.**

L: Let your praise dance and swirl in tribute to God!

**P: Surely God blesses and saves us. Hallelujah! Praise be to God.**

L: Let us Pray:

**All: Lord, we have come to this place from a world of demands and schedules. We have sought hope and peace and have found them here. Now we seek the inner joy that only your presence can bring to our lives. Open our hearts and our spirits to your love. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.**

Lighting of the Advent Candle: Peace      Phoebe Swing and Cynthia Michael

†Hymn:      It Came Upon the Midnight Clear      UMH 218

Joys and Concerns of Congregation

Pastoral Prayer and 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 and ever. Amen.

Anthem      To Bethlehem      Wagner/Green      Choir

Scripture:      Isaiah 11: 1-10

Sermon:      "Peaceful Easy Feeling"      Rev. Kelley Groce

Christmas Affirmation of Faith by Rev. Stephen Fereing

We believe that God has come to us as a little child,  
making our weakness his strength,  
securing our salvation by becoming one of us,  
blessing us with a steadfast savior,  
filling our hearts with joy to be shared with one another.

We believe that God has birthed righteousness and justice into the world,

giving us a law that will be written upon our hearts,  
making the cause of the oppressed the highest priority,  
declaring an everlasting reign of peace,  
defeating the power of pain and suffering.

We believe that God calls us to participate in this reality of love,  
inviting us to proclaim Christ's resurrection at the Table,  
transforming us as disciples to go out into the world,  
sending us forth to announce his kingdom of peace and comfort,  
challenging us to see everyone as nothing less than beloved children.

This we believe.

This we preach.

This we seek to embody in word and deed.

†Gloria Patri

We Worship with God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory	I've Got Peace Like a River	Choir
†Doxology		
†Hymn	Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus	UMH 196
†Benediction		
†Postlude	<i>Prelude in G</i>	<i>J.S. Bach</i>

†Please rise in body or in spirit as you are able and please silence your cell phones†



**As you engage your 'Prayer Life' this week, please remember these prayer concerns. If you have a prayer concern or praises, please contact the church office at 336-299-9643, or call Kelley at the parsonage 336-285-5081. Let us know if the concern may be shared with the congregation.**

**Prayer Concerns:**

Ann Hennings. Joann Martin. Abbie Samuel. Margaret & Patrick Miller. Joann Martin. Martha Nell Rives. Chuck Farabee. Gretchen Crabtree. Dave & Barbara Blackman. Susan Carrick. Sheridian Wacker. Lee & Jane Norman. Scott Stanley. Al & Lori Eaton. Peggy Harris. Diane & Jim Stanley. Trudy Sillmon. Toby Swindell (Suzy grandson). Don & Clara Ellis. Aly Saunders. Hazel Perritt, Pat Glover. Anne Trumpler (Anita sister-in-law). Richard Fischer (Anita Trumpler's brother-in-law). Margey Sienkiewicz (Larry & Suzy Swindell's aunt) Peace in the Middle East.



**December Birthday-** 1st Dona Pickett. 5<sup>th</sup> Nina Stowe. 6<sup>th</sup> Charles Gordon. 7<sup>th</sup> Grant Sillmon. 10<sup>th</sup> Carol Burklin, Betty Durham, Alvim Eaton. 12<sup>th</sup> David Sillmon. 13<sup>th</sup> Scott Stanley. 15<sup>th</sup> Bobby Burklin. 17<sup>th</sup> Haley Saunders. 18<sup>th</sup> Clara Ellis, Mark Schlueter, Geoff Horn. 19<sup>th</sup> Nancy Carrick. 22<sup>nd</sup> Harrison Stout. 24<sup>th</sup> Trudy Sillmon. 30<sup>th</sup> Mary Jo Baugh. 31<sup>st</sup> Travis John.

## **Announcements and Calendar of events**

**Clothes Closet special requests:** We need Men's pants and shirts ALL sizes, but especially 32, 34 & 36. Men's winter shirts. Men's shoes, especially athletic shoes. Men's belts 34, 36 & 38. Women's Small and Medium **winter** clothes. Women's Small and Medium underwear. Take-along style suitcases on wheels. Travel size shampoo, toothpaste, and body wash. If you have any questions, please see Caryn Hull or Dona Pickett.

**The Blessed Table Food Pantry,** food items needed for this month are cans of Black Eye Peas, Pinto Beans, Great Northern Beans, Pork & Beans, and Green Peas. There is a basket for cash if you prefer.

**Advent Bible Study** for both Newlyn Street and Centenary will be held at Newlyn Street in the gathering area. You may enter from the front door on the patio. **Wednesday at 6, December 13 & 20<sup>th</sup>.**

Dear Centenary Family,

After four years of prayer and watchful waiting, we are finally getting back to our beloved **Dominican Republic Medical Mission!** The clinic that serves the majority of the bateys (villages we serve), is now renovated and reopened thanks in part to each of you who generously answered the call. The missionaries you met here, John and Donna Bearden, are overseeing the operations through their Big Hope Ministries.

We would like to ask that you begin your prayers for our team which will be traveling there in January 2024. We also need your financial support to provide medications, rice and beans, medical transportation for patients, and more while we are in the country. It is through you that are to provide these tangible items and through you that we are able to share our love and God's love to these beautiful souls.

**In His Service,**

**David Sillmon, Sandy Cook, Terri Green, Abbie Samuel, Chrissy Verchick.**

### **Attendance – December 3, 2023**

Sunday School	10
Worship in-person	41
Worship - Facebook Live	
Worship –YouTube	