



**Centenary United Methodist Church
2300 W. Friendly Ave.
Greensboro, NC 27403
December 17, 2023
Third 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 O Holy Night Adams, arr. Robinson Russ Gaffney, Trumpet

Announcements for Missions and Ministry

Choral Call to worship Angels We Have Heard on High Choir

Call to worship

L: Today there is good news for us to behold!

P: Those who feared that they were worth little to God have found blessing in God's sight.

L: For in the mercy and love of God, the blind shall see, the lame shall walk without pain, those who could not hear shall be blessed with hearing, and there shall be peace.

P: God's mercy and love is poured out for our parched souls.

L: Behold! The Lord's compassion is with God's people.

P: Believe in the power of God in all things.

Leader: Let us join in prayer

All: O Lord, you know the deserts and the parched places in our lives. We seek your healing power. Lead us on this Advent journey to the place of new birth and to the place of our redemption; for we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Special Music The First Noel Arr. C. Barny Robinson Russ Gaffney, Trumpet

Lighting of the Advent Candle: Joy Frank Hinshaw and Suzy Swindell

†Hymn Hark the Herald Angels Sing UMH 240

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 Rise Up Shepherd and Follow Spiritual, arr. Cooney/Daigle Choir

Scripture: Luke 1: 39-56

Sermon: "An Intrusion of Love" Rev. Kelley Groce

†Affirmation of Faith – The Apostle's Creed UMH 881

†Gloria Patri

We Worship with God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory	Silent Night	Russ Gaffney, Trumpet
†Doxology		
†Hymn	Joy to the World	UMH 246
†Benediction		
†Postlude	The Joy of Christmas	Arr. Lani Smith

"We welcome and thank Russ Gaffney for sharing his beautiful trumpet music with us in today's worship!"

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

We were saddened to hear of the death of Ina Belle Raines on Sunday December 10, 2023. Her Honor and Celebration of her life will be held December 20th at Trinity Church.



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. Barbara Wolfe, Joann Martin. Abbie Samuel. Margaret & Patrick Miller. Joann Martin. Martha Nell Rives. Chuck Farabee. Gretchen Crabtree. Dave & Barbara Blackman. Susan Carrick. Sheridan 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. Richard Fischer (Anita Trumpler's brother-in-law). Margey Sienkiewicz (Larry & Suzy Swindell's aunt). Dan Rozelle. Peace in the Middle East.



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

Announcements and Calendar of events

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. **December 20th**.

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.

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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 we 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 10, 2023

Sunday School	10
Worship in-person	30
Worship - Facebook Live	62
Worship –YouTube	11