

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

First Sunday after the Epiphany:

The Baptism of Our Lord

*Observing the Ordinance of Baptism*

January 7, 2024  
Ten O'clock in the Morning

Memorial Baptist Church  
Buies Creek, North Carolina

A Baby's hands in Bethlehem  
Were small and softly curled,  
But held within their dimpled grasp  
The hope of all the world.

And long ago the hands of Christ  
Were nailed upon a tree,  
But still their holy touch redeems  
The hearts of you and me.

~ "The Hands of Christ" (ad.), by Leslie Savage Clark,  
American author and poet, 1886-1963.

## GATHERING

PRELUDE *All Things Bright and Beautiful* Patricia Lou Harris  
Anne McClain, organ

GREETING and † INVOCATION Brittany Montgomery, *Ministry Intern*

† HYMN OF PRAISE 117 *As with Gladness Men of Old* DIX

CONFESSION OF SIN and ASSURANCE OF GRACE Edward Beddingfield, *Pastor*  
John 8: 12  
I am the Light of the world; whoever follows me  
will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.

## PROCLAIMING

OLD TESTAMENT (*responsively*) Isaiah 60: 1-3, 5-6 Mr. Beddingfield  
Arise, shine! For your light is come;  
**And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.**  
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples;  
**But the Lord will arise upon you, and God's glory will be seen in you.**  
And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.  
**Then you shall see and be radiant! Your heart will thrill and rejoice.**  
For the wealth of nations shall come to you; a multitude of camels shall cover you.  
**And they shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.**

GOSPEL 1 Matthew 2: 1-12 Ms. Montgomery  
The coming of the Magi.

† WORSHIP SONG arr. Sarah McLachlan  
*God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen/We Three Kings*  
Mariamarta Conrad, *Leader*  
God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay  
Remember Christ our Savior was born upon this day  
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.

† *The congregation is invited to stand.*

(Refrain)

Oh, star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright  
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect Light.

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again  
King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign.

Frankincense to offer have I; incense crowns a Deity nigh  
Prayer and praising, voices raising, worshipping God on high.

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom  
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in a stone-cold tomb.

Glorious now behold Him arise: King and God and Sacrifice  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Worshipping God most high. (Refrain)

Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place  
And with love and affection each other now embrace  
This holy tide of Christmas all other doth efface  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.

GOSPEL 2 Mark 1: 1-11 Mike Snyder, *Reader*  
The Baptism of Jesus.

SERMON *But Wait! There's Myrrh* Mr. Beddingfield

## RESPONDING

INVITATION TO GIVING AND DISCIPLESHIP Mr. Beddingfield

† HYMN 412 *My Faith Has Found a Resting Place* LANDÅS  
stanzas 1, 2 and 3

OFFERTORY *'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime* Lani Smith

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and The Lord's Prayer (*unison*) Ms. Montgomery  
**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.**

TESTIMONY IN SONG *Cleansed* Gayle/Riddle/Yates/Yates  
Ms. Conrad, *vocalist*

THE ORDINANCE OF BAPTISM Carlie Grace Snyder, *Candidate*  
Invitation to the Water and Prayer of Dedication  
Introduction of the Candidate and Personal Scripture  
Baptismal Scripture Romans 10: 9  
If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe  
in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

Charge to the Candidate  
Do you believe in your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead? ***I do.***  
What is your confession of faith? ***Jesus is Lord.***

Charge to the Church  
Response: ***With God's help, we will.***

The Baptism

## SENDING

† HYMN OF SENDING FORTH 4 *To God Be the Glory* TO GOD BE THE GLORY  
stanzas 1 and 2

LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY Ms. Montgomery

† BENEDICTION Ms. Montgomery

POSTLUDE *March of the Kings* Carl Simone

## PRAYER FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:

**Members:** Pat Stiller, Jerry Smith, Jac Whatley, Susan Cannady, Duwayne Grimm, Ofe (Hoyle) Rockholt, Catherine King, Frances Lloyd, Kathy Creed, Burgess Marshbanks, Al Upshaw, Carolyn Walker, Betty Wallace, Jimmy Jung, Pauline Calloway, Linda Smith

**Family and Friends:** Grace Avrette (*mother of David Avrette*); Residents of Emerald Health & Rehab with covid; Bill Swan (*great-uncle of Heather Giunta*); Madilyn & Evelyn Smith; Lacy Massey (*stepfather of Jeff Pope*); Wayne McLamb (*brother-in-law of Jeff Pope*); Mary McClain (*mother of Greg McClain*); Joseph and Sarah Conner; Aaron Bowers (*brother of Charissa English*); Tonya Taylor (*sister-in-law of Carrie Royal*)

**Aldersgate senior living center (Charlotte, NC):** Louise Taylor

**Emerald Health and Rehab Center (Lillington, NC):** Pat Stiller

*In order to keep our prayer list current, we will place names on the list for one month. After one month we will remove names from the list. If there is a need for a name to be on the list for a longer period, please notify us and we will be happy to comply.*

**Deacons for January 2024:** Theresa Batten and Trinity Kelly  
**Deacons for February 2024:** Brandon Brown and Tammy Scarborough

**Ushers Today:** Randall Johnson, Susan Johnson, Linda Lunney and Siu-Ki Wong  
**Ushers Jan. 14:** Brandon Brown, Bob Cisneros, Adam English and Miles West

**No Kids' Church today**  
**Kids' Church Jan. 14:** (*need volunteer*)

**Nursery today:** (*need volunteer*)  
**Nursery Jan. 14:** (*need volunteer*)

**TODAY, January 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Friends Class - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Sarah's Open Door Class - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Children - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m. (Library)  
**Youth - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Worship Service:** 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
**\* No Kids' Church**

*The Floral Committee will be taking down Christmas decorations today following the worship service. All are welcome to stay and help.*

**MONDAY, January 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Deacon's Meeting:** 7:00 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY, January 10<sup>th</sup>**

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT ACTIVITIES RESUME**  
**Children's Choir:** 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)  
**Simple Supper - Pizza and Salad:** 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Mission Kids:** 6:30 p.m. (Classroom)  
**Youth Activity:** 6:30 p.m. (Library)  
**Adult Bible Study:** 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Chancel Choir Rehearsal:** 7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

**THURSDAY, January 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Missions Committee Meeting:** 6:30 p.m. (Library)

**JANUARY 2024**

**14** **Friends Class - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Sarah's Open Door Class - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m.  
**Children - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m. (Library)  
**Youth - Sunday School:** 9:00 a.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Worship Service:** 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
**Kids' Church:** during worship (Library)

**17** **Children's Choir:** 5:30 p.m. (Choir Room)  
**Simple Supper - Menu: TBD:** 5:45 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
**Mission Kids:** 6:30 p.m. (Classroom)  
**Youth Activity:** 6:30 p.m. (Library)  
**Adult Bible Study:** 6:30 p.m. (Fellowship Hall)  
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**Worship Service:** 10:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)  
**Kids' Church:** during worship (Library)

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Teachers are needed for Kids' Church and Nursery.  
The sign up sheet is located on the bulletin board.  
Your help is **much** needed and appreciated!



There will be NO Kids' Church today, January 7, but will resume on January 14.

Kids' Church will be available for children **ages 3 through 3rd grade** as of January 14.

Worship packets with activities to aid children with their worship experience are available in the narthex/foyer.

**CHURCH MISSION PROJECTS**

- **Clothes Closet:** New date TBD
- **Harnett Food Pantry:** collecting **non-perishable foods and egg cartons** Needed for January - - **Applesauce**  
*Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome. Designate contribution as 'Food Pantry.'*
- **Buddy Backpack:** collecting **"nab crackers"**  
*[cheese with cheese or cheese with peanut butter]*  
*Monetary donations to MBC are also welcome. Designate contribution as 'Buddy Backpack.'*

**Memorial Baptist Church**

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Buies Creek, NC 27506

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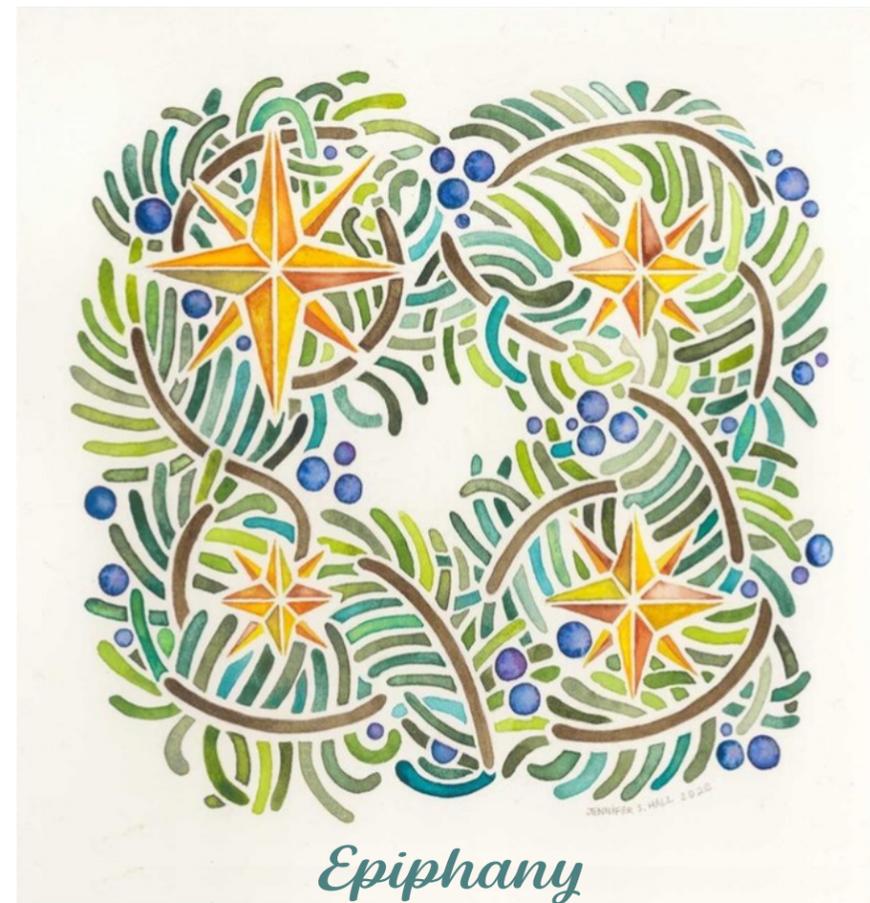
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[ashley@memorialbcnc.org](mailto:ashley@memorialbcnc.org)

Church Office Hours: Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm

Other Staff: By Appointment



*First Sunday after the Epiphany:  
The Baptism of Our Lord  
Observing the Ordinance of Baptism  
January 7, 2024*

*Memorial Baptist Church is an inviting, inclusive, Christ-centered community of faith open to all persons who want to walk with us in following the way of Jesus. If you mourn and need comfort; if you're weary and need rest; if you feel friendless and need friendship; if you need a Savior; if you need love; if you need help; whoever you are and whatever your circumstances, we open the door and in the name of Jesus bid you come.*

The Rev. Edward Beddingfield, Pastor  
Meredith Lanier Craddock, Associate Pastor  
Dr. Phillip and Susan Morrow, Ministers of Music  
Anne McClain, Organist  
Brittany Montgomery, Ministry Intern  
Mariamarta Conrad, Worship Assistant  
Ashley Nelson, Administrative Assistant  
Wayne Smith, Custodian