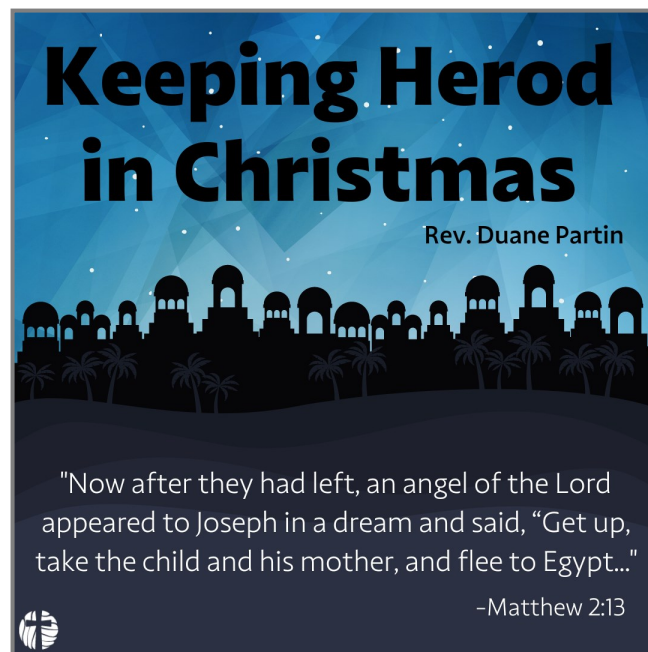


Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church

Sunday, January 1, 2023



Rev. Duane Partin
Senior Pastor

Rev. Becca Detterman
Associate Pastor

Ms. Clara Schwamm
Choral Director

Mr. Dillon Frazier
Contemporary Worship Leader

Mrs. Erica Little
Children's Director

Mr. Corey Rand
Youth Director

1401 South College Road
Wilmington NC 28403
910.791.4092
welcometowesley.com

The Order of Worship

- **GATHERING MUSIC** - *Canon de Noël* - Martin

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Kevin Cowan

- **THE GREETING**

Mr. Kevin Cowan

Arise, shine; for your light has come!

God's glory has risen upon us.

Despite the state of this world, despite illness and fear,

despite grief and sadness, despite violence and despair, God's glory will appear over us.

Lift up your eyes and see the light of God's hope

Then we shall see and be radiant, our hearts shall thrill and rejoice.

- **HYMN** - *There's Son in the Air*

No. 249

- **AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH FOR EPIPHANY**

Mr. Kevin Cowan

We believe in God, the creator of all things, the giver of life and breath. We believe in Jesus Christ, born Emmanuel, God with us, baptized and revealed the most beloved Son of God; he sought to heal humanity by taking our brokenness upon himself, suffering for us, dying for us and being raised from the dead for our sake and for the sake of all the world. We believe that he will come again. We believe in the Holy Spirit, continually poured out refreshing our lives, leading us into a new day, ever renewing the church, the body of Christ in the world. This Spirit is our soul companion and counselor of truth reminding us of the gift of faith, the ever presence of God and the promise of eternal life. Thanks be to God! Amen.

- **GLORIA PATRI**

No. 70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

- **CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME**

As you are seated, please welcome those around you.

PRAYER ILLUMINATION

Mr. Kevin Cowan

Holy Father, Creator of the heavens, who led the magi by a star to worship the Christ Child: lead us today as we hear your word; guide and sustain us, that we may find our journey's end in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST LESSON - Hebrews 2:10-18

Mr. Kevin Cowan

10 It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. 11 For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, 12 saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." 13 And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me." 14 Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. 16 For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. 17 Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. 18 Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM - *There's a Song in the Air* - Harrington/arr. Berry

- **DOXOLOGY** (Sung to the tune of *The First Noel*)
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Noel, noel, noel, noel. Born is the King of Israel.

- **DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING** Rev. Duane Partin

- **HYMN** - *A Star Shone Bright* No. 3051

- **GOSPEL LESSON** - Matthew 2:13-23 Rev. Duane Partin
 13 Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." 14 Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt 15 and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." 16 When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. 17 Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: 18 "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more." 19 When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, 20 "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." 21 Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. 23 There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazarene."

SERMON - "Keeping Herod in Christmas" Rev. Duane Partin

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER Rev. Duane Partin

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S TABLE Rev. Duane Partin

INVITATION

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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

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.

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 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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. Before the mountains were brought forth, or you had formed the earth, from everlasting to everlasting, you alone are God. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. 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 Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation. You sent a star to guide wise men to where the Christ was born, and in your signs and witnesses, in every age and through all the world, you have led your people from far places to his light. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection, you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." 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. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD - *Let Us Break Bread Together* - Fettke
GIVING OF BREAD AND CUP

- **HYMN** - *What Child is This* No. 219
- **BENEDICTION** Rev. Duane Partin
- **POSTLUDE** - *O How Joyfully! with Joy to the World* - Handell/arr. Berry

TODAY'S 11:00 AM MUSICIANS

Chancel Choir and Ms. Clara Schwamm

TODAY'S 11:00 AM MUSIC

Canon de Noël - Martin (c. 1997) Malcolm Music
There's a Song in the Air - Harrington/arr. Berry (c. 2008) Alfred Music
Let Us Break Bread Together - Fettke (c. 2021) Lorenz
Christ is Made the Sure Foundation - Purcell/arr. Berry (c. 2008)
Alfred Music Publishing



WELCOME

Mr. Dillon Frazier

OPENING SONG - *King of Kings*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Corey Rand

WORSHIP SONG - *Midnight Clear (Love Song)*
Living Hope

OFFERING - *How Many Kings?*

SCRIPTURE - Matthew 2:13-23 (NRSV)

Rev. Duane Partin

SERMON - "Keeping Herod in Christmas"

Rev. Duane Partin

COMMUNION - *Overflow*

Rev. Duane Partin

BENEDICTION

Rev. Duane Partin

TODAY'S 9:00 AM MUSICIANS

Dillon Frazier, Elizabeth Lemaster, and Brae Troutman

WELCOME, we're glad you are worshipping with us today. If you are a visitor, please see an usher or staff member and we will be glad to answer any questions you may have before or after the worship service. There are also informational brochures available at the main entrance of the Activity Building and in the Gathering Hall.

A nursery is available for all worship services and Sunday School for children ages birth through 3 years old. The nursery is located in the Sanctuary Building in Room 101. Our nursery is staffed by trained paid personnel and volunteers who love children and want to share God's love with them while you worship. We ask parents to label all belongings and sign in their children.

Children's Worship bags are provided for any child who wishes to stay in the service. The bags are located at the entrances of both services.

You are invited to complete a Prayer Request card located at the end of each row. Please place your completed card in the offering plate and your prayer will be lifted to God during the service.

Our monthly newsletter, The Wesley Times, is available on our website - welcometowesley.com. If you would like to receive the newsletter by email, please contact the church office at 910-791-4092 or via email at office@welcometowesley.com.



SCAN ME!

To stay in contact with us on the go be sure to download our church app by going to your phone's app store and search for Wesley Memorial UMC. You can find upcoming events, links to previous sermons, look up bible verses, electronic giving, contact information and more.

Download Our App!



CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED - The Church Office will be closed Monday, January 2 for New Years and Monday, January 16 for Martin Luther King Day.

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES - 2023 Offering Envelopes will be available for pickup on Sunday, January 2 and Sunday, January 8 during the Sunday School hour and after the 11:00 am service in the Gathering Hall or by contacting Loria Frazier in the church office (910-791-4092 ext. 107 or via email at finance@welcometowesley.com).

YOUNG AT HEART will meet Thursday, January 5 at 11:30 am in the Activity Building, Gym. Rev. Becca Detterman and her father, Rev. Paul Detterman will share a history of hymns and hymn sing. Be sure to bring a covered dish to share and a friend. For questions, contact Patsy Watson at 910-762-1295.

The **MISSIONS COMMITTEE** will meet Tuesday, January 17, 6:30 pm in Activity Building Room 307

WELCOME BISHOP SHELTON - On Monday, January 23 Wesley Memorial will host the Harbor District gathering to welcome newly elected Bishop Connie Shelton. We are honored to be selected for this gathering.

The **JANUARY CLT** meeting will be on Tuesday, January 24, 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary. This meeting has been pushed from Monday to Tuesday due to the Harbor District gathering with the Bishop.

COMMON TABLES ARE COMING - *What is a Common Table?* Eating together at a Common Table is central to our faith. As we are invited to gather at Christ's table, we are also invited to gather with one another to share in life, community, and friendship with one another. Common Tables are places where everyone's welcome, no one is perfect, and holy friendships are formed. *How does it work?* You pick whether you would like to dine in (at people's homes) or dine out (at a restaurant). We'll do the matchmaking (groups of 6-10). Your group will receive a message introducing your group with everyone's names and contact information. One person identified as the initial organizer. Then the rest is up to you! Your group will decide when, where, and how frequently you'll gather. We recommend rotating hosting duties throughout the group, but even that is up to you. If your group is dining out, each host will coordinate the reservation/logistics for the restaurant. *What's the timeline?* Sign up until January 27 at this link: <https://n9ubezbtwbb.typeform.com/to/M5WBC5ws>. You can also sign up by calling the church office or Sundays in the Activity Building/Gathering Hall. Groups will be formed and you will be notified by February 10. Dinners can start whenever you are ready and run through Spring but should be concluded by May. For questions, contact Pastor Becca Detterman: beccad@welcometowesley.com or call the Church Office: 910-791-4092.

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE?

Contact Austin-Shane Gaskins at
ashaneg@gmail.com for more
information!



"Share with the
Lord's people who
are in need.
Practice
hospitality".
Romans 12:13



WINTER SKI TRIP is open to adults and youth (grades 6-12), January 13-16. Participants responsible for renting gear and food/snack costs. Contact Corey Rand to sign up or for more questions email coreyr@welcometowesley.com.