

*† Please stand as you are able*

<b>Prelude</b>	<i>Desiree Davis-Omburo</i>
<b>Welcome and Announcements</b>	
<b>Chiming the Trinity</b>	
<b>Handbells</b> "O Come, All Ye Faithful" John F. Wells, arranged by James D. Kimball	
<b>Lighting the Advent Candle of Joy</b>	<i>The Boyer Family</i>
How does a weary world practice joy? <b>By dancing and throwing birthday parties.</b> By hanging Christmas lights, and holding sleepy babies. By singing loudly, and looking for good news. <b>By telling the story of Jesus and showing up for our community.</b> There are a million ways to practice joy. So today we light the candle of joy as a reminder and a charge. <b>With God's help, may we bring joy into a weary world. Amen.</b>	
<b>Handbells</b> "O Christmas Tree" German Folk Song arranged by James D. Kimball	
<b>Opening (Bidding) Prayer</b>	<i>Rev. Adam Benson</i>
<b>Introduction of Lessons and Carols</b>	<i>Herb Schwarze</i>
<b>Prayer for Illumination (In Unison)</b>	<i>Rev. Adam Benson</i>
Holy God, we know that you are standing at the door and are inviting us in— into your Word, into relationship, into peace, and deeper into joy. So, as we approach your Word, we pray: do not let us pass you by. Do not allow distraction or doubt to get the best of us. May we be open to your wisdom and let it sink into us, amen.	
<b>First Reading:</b>	Isaiah 11:1-9 <i>Rosemary Marlowe</i>
<b>Brief Background on Hymn</b>	<i>Herb Schwarze</i>
<b>Hymn</b>	"Hail to the Lord's Anointed" (v.1-3) <b>UMH 203</b>
<b>Second Reading</b>	Luke 1:26-38 <i>Rebecca Turner</i>
<b>Brief Background on Hymn</b>	<i>Herb Schwarze</i>

<b>Hymn</b>	"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (v.1, 4, & 5)	<b>UMH 211</b>
<b>Third Reading</b>	Luke 2:1-7	<i>Bennett Boyer</i>
<b>Background on Hymn</b>		<i>Herb Schwarze</i>
<b>Hymn</b>	"Away in a Manger" (all v.)	<b>UMH 217</b>
<b>Fourth Reading</b>	Luke 2:8-17	<i>Jan Schwarze</i>
<b>Background on Hymn</b>		<i>Herb Schwarze</i>
<b>Hymn</b>	"Hark, the Harold Angels Sing" (v.1-2)	<b>UMH 240</b>
<b>Fifth Reading</b>	Matthew 2:1-12	<i>Herb Schwarze</i>
<b>Background on Hymn</b>		<i>Herb Schwarze</i>
<b>Hymn</b>	"The First Noel" (v.1, 3-4)	<b>UMH 245</b>
<b>Final Reading</b>	John 1:1-14	<i>Rev. Adam Benson</i>
<b>Background on Hymn</b>		<i>Herb Schwarze</i>
<b>Closing Hymn</b>	"What Child is This" (v.1-2)	<b>UMH 219</b>

**†Closing Liturgy of Prayer and Blessing**

One: The Lord be with you

**Many: And also with you.**

One: Let us pray. O God, who makes us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ: grant that as we joyfully leave in anticipation of Christmas, that we with sure confidence may behold him, know him, and receive him when he comes, who reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God.

**Many: Amen.**

One: Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with peace and goodwill, and make you partakers of the divine nature; and the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you as you leave and always.

**Many: Amen.**

**†Chiming the Trinity**

## †Postlude

Desiree Davis-Omburo

*You may place an offering in the offering plate, located in the back by the door, on your way out.*

### Announcements:

- Everyone is invited to **sign up for Listening Circles for 2024!** Listening circles is a group of 5-8 people who covenant to meet together at least once per month (can be more), eat a meal, and play a card game together, called “My Neighbor’s Voice Listening Cards. It’s a wonderfully thoughtful card game that has brought about deeper learning, vulnerability, and deeper, more authentic community. Listening Circles has been one of our most loved and positive small group opportunities we offer at Parkwood. Don’t wait to sign up!
- Our **Fire Pit Picnic** will be **tonight @ 5-7 PM**. We’ll have a couple of Advent songs, have a brief reflection, eat hot dogs, marshmallows, frisbees, and folks are invited to bring any other snacks or sides.
- Christmas card bags are available in the Sunday School hallway.
- Coffee with the Pastor is cancelled this Wednesday.
- Remember to be stocking your **Reverse Advent Bags!** during Advent, and you are invited to bring them on (or before) Christmas Eve service @ 4 PM.
- **Rise Against Hunger:** we’re doing Rise, again, this year with Christus Victor Lutheran and All Saints UMC, and our goal is to raise \$6,400 (\$2,183.33 per church) in order to purchase and pack **15,000 meals on Saturday, February 24 @ 9-11:30 AM** at the Rise Against Hunger Warehouse in Raleigh, NC. **If everyone gave \$50,** we would easily meet our goal of \$2,183.33! You may write a check to Parkwood UMC and put “Rise Against Hunger” in the memo line, or you can scan the QR code with your phone and donate to Parkwood UMC’s donation page online.
- **On Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>,** there will be no Sunday School, our last **Advent service will be @ 9:30 AM,** and our **Christmas Eve service will be @ 4 PM.** If you prefer an evening service, Christus Victor Lutheran is having their Christmas Eve Service @ 7 PM.

# Parkwood United Methodist Church



The nativity scene at the Evangelical Lutheran Christmas Church in the West Bank. Photo: Munther Isaac

## Service of Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 17, 2022 • 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent