

Parkwood UMC Service of Worship
Second Sunday of Advent
December 14th, 2025

† Please stand as you are able.



**QR Code for Nursery
Sign-In and Out Log**

Desiree Davis-Omburo

Marie Porter

Prelude

**Welcome and Announcements
Chiming the Trinity**

A Time to Share: What Brings You Joy?

Candle Lighting Liturgy

How does a weary world practice joy?

By dancing and throwing birthday parties.

By hanging Christmas lights, and holding
sleepy babies. By singing loudly, and
looking for good news.

By telling the story of Jesus and showing up for our community.

There are a million ways to practice joy.

So today we light the candle of joy as a
reminder and a charge.

With God's help, may we bring joy into a weary world. Amen.

† **Opening Hymn**

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

UMH 224

† **Hymn**

“Hail to the Lord's Anointed”

UMH 203

Prayer of Confession

Rebecca Turner

God of safe spaces, too often we wait silently for the world to change around us instead of speaking up for the things we need. Forgive us for failing to care for ourselves the way you would care for us. Give us the courage to be more like Mary. God of safe places, we wish we were more like Elizabeth, who greeted Mary with laughter and contagious joy. How many people have crossed our doorstep and how many times have we failed to see them? Give us the courage of Mary, and the grace of Elizabeth. Gratefully we pray, amen.

Moment of Silent Confession

Words of Forgiveness

Rebecca Turner

Family of faith, even if we miss the person standing on our doorstep, even if we fail to care for ourselves the way God would care for us, even if we forget and ignore, turn away and shut down, God still loves us. There is nothing we can do to lose God's love.

Rest in this promise:

If we get lost,

we will be found.

If we mess up,

we are forgiven.

If we withhold love,

God is lavish in loving us.

We are claimed. We are loved. We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

† **Passing of the Peace**

At this time, you may stand and greet your neighbor, offering signs of peace

Prayer for Illumination

Rebecca Turner

Holy God, we come to your Scripture today hoping that it will feel a bit like an open door, like Elizabeth welcoming Mary, like coming home. We want to fall into it. We want to find sanctuary here. And we want to find ourselves laughing because this good news is just too good to keep inside. Open the door to our hearts so that we might find sanctuary in your words. Gratefully we pray, amen.

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:39-56

Herb Schwarze

The Offering

“My Soul Gives Glory to My God”

UMH 198



The Doxology (to the tune on UMH 95)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God all creatures high and low.

**Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit
One. Amen.**

Sermon

“Joy as Resistance”

Pastor Adam

Prayers of the People

Rebecca Turner and Pastor Adam

During this time, you are invited to lift up joys and concerns, which we will lift up together in prayer.

After each petition: Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

† *Closing Hymn*

“Joy to the World”

UMH 246

† *Benediction*

† *Chiming the Trinity*

† *Postlude*



Celebrate Advent with Parkwood United Methodist Church

Saturday, December 6 5:00 pm Christmas Cantata
presented by choirs from Parkwood UMC, Christus Victor Lutheran Church
and All Saints UMC Location: All Saints UMC 120 Small Wood Dr. Morrisville

Sunday, December 21, 10:30 am Lessons and Carols

Wednesday, December 24, 4:30 pm Christmas Eve Service

Sundays - Adult Class at 9:30 am, Worship at 10:30 am

Tuesdays - Lectio Divina at 8 am on Zoom,
email adam.benson@nccumc.org for Zoom invitation

Parkwood United Methodist Church
5123 Revere Road Durham, NC 27713

Parkwood United Methodist Church



"Dances for Joy" by Hannah Garrity

Joy as Resistance

Sunday, December 14, 2025 • 3rd Sunday of Advent