

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

✝ HYMN OF PREPARATION “Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy” UMC 340

✝ SCRIPTURE READING *Daniel 3:1-30*

SERMON “Faith in the Fire” Rev. Howard James

✝ HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP “Are Ye Able” UMH 530
(You are invited to pray at the Communion railing.)

✝ CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

✝ BENEDICTION

✝ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

As we return to a world full of distractions, we will keep our eyes on the prize, Jesus Christ. He is our guide and our savior, teaching us to love one another, not in words but by our actions. May our lives be a witness to God’s love and mercy, and may we give others the same. Amen.

✝POSTLUDE “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” setting by M. Burkhardt Nan Leggett, Organist

✝ Please stand if you are able.

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God.

SERVING THIS MORNING

Greeters..... Rob Conway & Tom Leggett
Music Director.....L.A. Cothorn
Organist..... Nan Leggett
Pianist.....Geneva Ashley
Altar Committee.....Sandy Turner, Margie Rabon, and Elizabeth Gibson

WHITEVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

902 Pinckney Street, Whiteville, NC 28472
(910) 642-3376
wumc@whitevilleumc.org
Rev. Howard James

November 30, 2025
First Sunday of Advent



Mission Statement of Whiteville United Methodist Church
As people of the body of Christ, we will gather for and be strengthened by Word and Sacraments, participate in loving fellowship, grow in discipleship, and serve our community and the world in Christ’s name.

Welcome to Whiteville United Methodist Church

Thank you for worshiping with us today! We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in our worship, program, and ministry life here.

We hope the worship will inspire and comfort you as we hear God’s message proclaimed. During this time, now more than ever, may the grace and love of Christ surround you.

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Please use a microphone.) Rob Conway

PRELUDE “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” arr. by Joel Raney Jane Schulken Handbell Choir

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES
(Symbolizing the presence of the Spirit of the Lord in our service.)

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME

✝ RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: The Lord of Hosts is with us.

People: He is with us in the fire.

Leader: The Lord Almighty is worthy of worship.

People: Let the nations praise the God of Daniel.

Leader: Truly, Christ is the king of kings!

People: And his kingdom shall have no end. Praise be to God. Amen.

✝ HYMN OF PRAISE “Now Thank We All Our God” UMC 102

✝ ADVENT READING

✝ UNISON OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we know that we will face many trials in this life, but we are thankful that you are with us, even in fires. You alone are able to keep us safe. You alone are worthy of our worship. Give us the courage to stand strong in our faith, no matter what challenges we face. And may we always be willing to share the truth of your love with the world that needs it. Amen.

✝ STATEMENT OF FAITH

Affirmation from Romans 8:35, 37-39 (UMC 887)

Leader: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation or distress, or persecution or famine, or nakedness or peril or sword?

People: No! In all things we are more than conquerors through the One who loved us. We are sure that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Thanks be to God! Amen.

✝ GLORIA PATRI

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.

✝ WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND RESPONSE

Leader: Giver of grace, too often we find ourselves bowing down to false idols, and chasing shiny trinkets as if they would bring us joy. We pledge our allegiance to political parties rather than your Word. You said, “If you love me, keep my commands,” but we refuse to forgive one another as you forgave us. Change our hearts, oh God, as you changed Nebuchadnezzar’s, and help us live according to your Word.

People: Holy God, you are faithful to deliver us from the flames of our transgressions. You stand with us in our trials even when we are the ones who walk away. You give us strength to live lives of faith and commitment and show us how to love sacrificially. Thank you for your love and forgiveness. Amen.

✝ THE PASSING OF CHRISTIAN PEACE Piano Selection

PASTORAL CONCERNS AND PRAYER

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

“Angels We have Heard on High” arr. by Joel Raney
Jane Wyche Schulken Handbell Choir
Nan Leggett-Piano

✝ PRESENTING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD “Praise God” UMH 95

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Whiteville United Methodist Church.

Visitors, please complete a Visitor’s Card, which can be found in the pew rack, and place it in the offertory basket in the Narthex. We are happy to have you here with us today. Thank you.

Hanging of the Greens will be Sunday, November 30. After service we will decorate and have a light lunch in the fellowship hall.

The United Women in Faith will have a Christmas gathering Monday, December 1 in the parlor beginning at 6:00. They will also install their new officers for the upcoming year. All ladies of the church are invited to join!

Order Forms for Poinsettias are available in today’s bulletin. Please fill out your order form and place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office by December 11th. Poinsettias will be \$21.00 this year. Please turn forms in as soon as possible as we have ordered a limited number of poinsettias. Thank you!

The Sunshine Group is feeling festive! On Tuesday, December 2 the sunshine group will be traveling to North Myrtle Beach to enjoy drive thru Christmas lights and dinner at “It’s a Wrap”. The van will leave the church at 4:15. Please contact Tammy or the church office to reserve your spot.

The WUMC Preschool will host a small Christmas showcase Thursday, December 18. Times are 9:15 for our 3-year-olds and 10:00 for our 4-year-olds, in our fellowship hall. Church members are welcome to drop in and enjoy either or both of those performances.

Prayer Concerns: The Family of Bill Ball, Myra Snipes, Wayne Overcash, Dick & Janice Simms, Butch & Sharon Dutton, Sabra Allen, Thetus Sessions, Florence Marlowe, Mary Hutchins, Phil Stoll, Wendy Hood, Peggy & Ralph Huffman, Jan Avant.

Prayers of Support for our ongoing ministries: WUMC Preschool & Staff, Scouts, Food Pantry.

Prayer Requests: Contact the Church Office at wumc@whitevilleumc.org to add or remove names. Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks.

Ongoing ministries:

Adult Sunday School: Meet in parlor @ 9:00 a.m.

Children’s Sunday School (ages 3-12): Upstairs classroom @ 9:00 a.m.

Handbell Rehearsals: Wednesdays @ 6:00 p.m.

Choir Rehearsals: Wednesdays @ 7:00 p.m.

Boy Scouts [ages 11-18] Mondays @ 7:00 p.m.

Cub Scouts [ages 6-10] Tuesdays @ 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study: @ 10:00 a.m. in the parlor

Preschool [ages 2-4] Monday – Friday 8:15-11:30 a.m.

Fifty-Plus Exercise Class: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00-11:00 a.m. in the parlor

Food Bank: distributes food on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 9:30-11:00 a.m.

United Women of Faith: 1st Monday of the month @ 6:00 p.m. in the parlor

Caregivers Support Group: 2nd Thursday of the month @1:00 p.m. in the parlor

Reaching Out: 4th Tuesday of the month @ 11:30 (support group for widows and widowers)

<i>2025 Church Budget</i>	<i>\$302,140.00</i>
<i>As of 11/23, Needed</i>	<i>\$267,260.00</i>
<i>As of 11/23, Received</i>	<i>\$206,027.00</i>
<i>Needed Each Sunday</i>	<i>\$5,810.00</i>
<i>Received on 11/23</i>	<i>\$1,871.00</i>
<i>Attendance 11/23</i>	<i>40</i>
<i>Online Views</i>	<i>20</i>



If you would like to order a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone special, please fill out this form and return it with your money to the church office by Dec. 11th. The poinsettias are \$21.00 a piece. You may place this form and your money in the collection plate if you wish. **Please place your check or cash in a collection envelope and indicate “Poinsettias”.**

In Honor of:

In Memory of:

Name: _____

Amount enclosed \$