**WELCOME!** We're glad that you have chosen to worship with us today. Following this service, there is a gathering in the Heritage Center for fellowship and refreshments. Please join us. Our hosts this week are Don and Lizzie Hill and Sprunt and Beth Hill.

**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Lynn Chandler (D. 12-1-23) by Tom, Ted and Teresa, Bob and Amy, Louise and Randy, her grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Gone but <u>never</u> forgotten!

**MEMBERS OF THE ALTAR GUILD** serving in November are Martha Brannock, Margaret Mitchell, Linda Weavil, and Nancy Wilson.

**WE THANK** the following for their service during our worship service:

Lay Reader: Julian Mims

**PRAYER REQUEST CARDS** in the pews may be placed in the offering or in the Prayer Request Boxes in the Reading Area and the Narthex, or you may email the Prayer Ministry Team at prayer@frontstreetumc.org. We thank team member Suzie Lambeth, who will be in the Prayer Room on our behalf at noon to pray for requests given on the Prayer Request Cards.

### DECEMBER FOOD COLLECTION FOR EASTLAWN BACKPACK MINISTRY

In **December**, we are collecting the following items: canned meat, canned vegetables, granola bars, oatmeal or grits packets and peanut butter (16 oz. plastic jars). Please deposit donations on the bottom shelf of the Donation Center located in the Reading Area.

### United Methodist Student Day, Sunday, November 30

United Methodists have been investing in our students for more than 100 years. United Methodist Student Day invites the church to support United Methodist students in achieving their educational goals. The funds received award United Methodist scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students. Your gifts help young people achieve their educational calling with more financial freedom. Pew envelopes may be used for your donation. Please include on the check in the memo section, "United Methodist Student Day."

### JOIN US FOR OUR DECEMBER MEETING!

The United Women in Faith will meet on **tomorrow at 10:30 a.m.** Please drop off your covered dishes in Aldersgate before gathering in the Sanctuary for brief announcements. At **11:00 a.m.**, Matt Estes will present a jazzy Christmas piano concert and has requested that his honorarium be given to the Music Fund for those who wish to contribute.

After the concert, we will enjoy our traditional covered dish luncheon in Aldersgate Hall. To help with set-up or receiving food and drinks, please sign up at **frontstreetumc.org/events**.

We look forward to celebrating the season with you. For questions, contact Kathy Roberson or Carol Sineath.

### **BEL CANTO COMPANY HOLIDAY CONCERT**

Invite a friend and join us for our annual Bel Canto concert **tomorrow** at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. This professional choir will deliver a beautiful blend of familiar tunes, classics from the past, and exciting new music. Admission is free, but a love offering will be collected to help defray costs.

### **CEREAL SUNDA**

**December 7** is Cereal Sunday. To help stock the food pantry at The Salvation Army, please bring cereal or other canned/dry goods. Thank you!

# A FESTIVAL OF LESSONS & CAROLS | SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14 | 11:00 A.M.

Join us for a joyful and reflective Service of Lessons and Carols as we prepare our hearts for the Christmas season. Through scripture readings and beloved carols, we will celebrate the story of God's promise and the coming of Christ.

All of our choirs will share in worship during this special service — our Children's Choir, Chancel Choir, and Epworth Ringers.

Parents, please note there will be no Children's Church. Children are encouraged to stay in the sanctuary and enjoy the beautiful music. The nursery will be available to any children birth-first grade.

SEE BACK OF BULLETIN FOR MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS

# CHURCH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 30, 2025

### Sunday, November 30

9:00	Aldersgate Contemporary Worship	Aldersgate Hall
9:45	5th Sunday Fellowship/Advent Wreath Workshop	Aldersgate Hall

11:00 Traditional Worship Service Sanctuary

### Monday, December 1

10:30 UWF - Concert at 11:00 a.m. Sanctuary
7:30 Bel Canto Concert Sanctuary

### Tuesday, December 2

8:00	Men's Breakfast Bible Study/Christmas Breakfast	Aldersgate Hall
9:30	Cynthia Powell Women's Bible Study	Room 401
7:00	Epworth Ringers	Bell Room

### Wednesday, December 3

8:00 Youth Breakfast Club	Biscuitville, 669 Huffman Mill Rd
7:00 Chancel Choir	Choir Room

### Thursday, December 4

9:30	Prayer Team Meeting	John Wesley Room
10:00	Knitting and Crocheting Group	Bride's Room
1:30	Genealogy Workshop	Room 402

# Saturday, December 6

9:00	Party	Hemage Ceme
10:00	Knitting and Crocheting Group	Bride's Room

# Sunday, December 7

9:00 Aldersgate Contemporary Worship	Aldersgate Hall
9:30 Children's Choir	Choir Room
9:45 Sunday School	Classrooms
11:00 Traditional Worship Service	Sanctuary
5:00 MYF - Christmas Cheer Shopping	Aldersgate Hall

### SANCTUARY FLOWERS

The following dates are available to place flowers in the Sanctuary in honor or in memory of a loved one: **December 28, 2025 and January 4 and 18, 2026.** Please contact Linda Paul at 336-543-5081 or kpaul5@triad.rr.com for details or to sign up.

### LIVE-STREAMING

We are pleased to be able to live-stream our 11:00 a.m. worship each week for the benefit of those who are not able to be physically present. For those who would prefer to not be on camera, we endeavor to make the back half of the sanctuary a non-video zone. If you have any questions about this service, please feel free to speak with Pastor Ray.

# FRONT STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### **Our Mission:**

Knowing Christ • Growing in Christ • Sharing Christ



### **Pastors**

Rev. Ray Warren Rev. Marshall Old, Interim

**Discipleship Minister**Daniel Polito

Children's Minister Melissa Miller

Worship and Family Minister Josh Abraham

> Youth Minister Chris Huneycutt

Visitation Minister Leslie B. Peavy

**Director of Music Ministry**Dr. Matt Estes

PO Box 2597 Burlington, NC 27216 Church Office: (336)-227-6263 www.frontstreetumc.org

Follow Us







# THE WORSHIP OF GOD **NOVEMBER 30, 2025** FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Welcome to the traditional worship service of Front Street! Please take a moment to fill out the attendance pad found at the end of each pew. You can receive a digital worship kit by texting "Worship" to 833-337-8517. During the worship service we invite you to stand as you are able (indicated by \*) and join your voice in reading, singing, or praying the **bold** text. As you prepare for worship please feel encouraged to say hello to your neighbors, or spend a moment in solitude with God.

# **ELEVEN O'CLOCK**

# GATHERING AND COMMUNITY CONCERNS

PRELUDE **Nutcracker Medley** Tchaikovsky

# \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Beloved, once again, we embark on the Advent path that points us to the coming of Jesus.

People: We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.

Leader: We remember the signs and the times that heralded the arrival of the baby Jesus, God Incarnate.

People: We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.

Leader: We tell the stories once again as we learn how to discern the signs and the times, watching for alimpses of God's here-and-not-yet kinadom among us.

People: We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.

Leader: Come, let us worship God who shines a light to guide us on the path to peace and flourishing for all creation.

People: Come, let us worship as we journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.

# \* PROCESSIONAL HYMN UMH No. 102 Now Thank Thee All Our God **NUN DANKET**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH** Joshua Lopez & Mary Moorhouse

Reader: The prophet Isaiah calls to us from the past to imagine the future when God's reign will be fully realized and recognized throughout creation. When that time comes, God "shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more" (Isaiah 2:4).

All: Today, we choose to live in hope, believing that the time of God's reign has come and is coming among us.

Reader: We light this candle of hope as a sign of our promise to follow the Light as we answer God's call to transform our hope into reality today and in the days to come.

Light the first candle of the Advent wreath.

SUNG RESPONSE UMH No. 211 (vs. 1) O Come, O Come, Emmanuel VENI EMMANUEL

# \* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, You call us to wake from sleep, to become aware to our surroundings. The dawn of a new time of preparation is upon us. Forgive us when sleepiness takes its toll, when our discussions become battles, when our judgment and self-judgement outweigh our faith. Let us put on the light of Christ and live as You have called us in respect, in mutual dialogue, and in healthy living. Help us so that everything we do reflects Christ's light. Amen.

### \* THE APOSTLES' CREED

**UMH No. 881** 

I believe in God the Father Almiahty. maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary. suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

# \* GLORIA UMH No. 238 Angels We Have heard on High (VS. 1) GLORIA

Children ages 4 – first grade may depart for Children's Church in Room 309.

# PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE** Psalm 122 (NRSVUE)

(Please read the bold aloud with the lay speaker.)

I was alad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!" Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together. To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord. For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls and security within your towers." For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you." For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

\* New Testament Scripture Luke 2:8-20

NT Page 58

SERMON "Unwrapping His Name: Savior and Deliverer"

Daniel Polito

HYMN OF RESPONSE UMH NO. 196

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus HYFRYDOL

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Please feel comfortable praying the words of your tradition.)

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.

# **GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

Thank you for your support of the mission and ministry of the church. If you would prefer to make your contribution via Text-to-Give, just text your offering amount to FSUMC's dedicated number, 336-489-GIVE (4483).

**OFFERTORY** While the Shepherds Watch Their Flock

Margaret Dalton, soprano G. F. Handel

\* Doxology

**LASST UNS ERFREUEN** 

All Singing: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! UMH No. 94

\* CLOSING HYMN UMH No. 245 The First Noel (vv. 1-3)

THE FIRST NOEL

\* BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** On This Day Earth Shall Ring Robert Hobby