



**St. James United Methodist Church**  
Mailing Address: PO Box 40100, Raleigh, NC 27629  
Physical Address: 3808 St. James Church Road, Raleigh, NC 27604  
919-876-5796  
[office@stjamesraleigh.org](mailto:office@stjamesraleigh.org)



November 27, 2022  
11:00 AM Sanctuary Worship

Today is the first Sunday of Advent and a new church year.  
Welcome to this rich season of worship.

## **Prelude**

*We invite you to enjoy the prelude as a time of quiet reflection, and to individually prepare your hearts for the worship of God.*

## **Advent Reading**

David & Cathie Blakeslee

Leader: "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'" (Psalm 122:1 NRSV). We are glad to be here in this community, with this family. It is a place of joyful hope, of radical welcome. It is a place where, together, we can wait in wondrous anticipation of the kingdom to come. We light this candle as a sign of our hope, our joyous hope that we can be restored – our faith restored, our strength restored, our confidence restored, our joy restored as we watch and wait with all God's people for the promise to be fulfilled.

**ALL: Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

## **Hymn – *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus***

UMH 196

## **Doxology**

*During Advent, our Doxology text will be sung to the tune of O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;**

**Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

## **Sharing Peace**

### **Prayer Time and Lord's Prayer**

*(Please use the prayer cards in the pews to share your prayer concerns. You may place prayer cards in the prayer box near the altar rail.)*

**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.**

### **Scripture Reading – Romans 13: 11-14**

NRSV pew Bible, p. 152 (NT)

### **Choir Anthem – *Advent Prayer***

*Refrain: How will we know Him Lord? How will we know?*

We will seek in the night; we will watch for a sign,  
but how will we know Him, Lord?

Seek in the radiance of hope and of peace; seek in the bright flame of joy;  
seek in the light and the goodness of love, but seek Him first in your heart.  
*(Refrain)*

Know Him in the radiance of hope and of peace; know Him in the bright flame of joy;  
know Him in the light and the goodness of love, but know Him first in your heart.

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, Joy of ev'ry longing heart!  
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus: there is room in my heart for Thee.

William Sisson ©1992 Wesleyan Music Press/Sunburst Music Co.

**Gospel Reading – Matthew 24: 36-44**

NRSV pew Bible, p. 26 (NT)

**Message – Are You Ready?**

Pastor Dan Baer

**Hymn – *Soon and Very Soon***

*UMH 706*

**Blessing & Sending Out**

**Out to Serve in the World**

*The flowers in worship today are given to the glory of God by Judy & Joe Rhodes in honor of  
St. James family and friends, past and present, over our 56 years of membership.*

***Calendar this week:***

*TODAY, 11/27 NA, 7PM in Saints Hall*

*Mon, 11/28 Elijah Bible Study, 10:30AM in the Chapel  
Children's Ministry Council, 6:30PM in Carson Hall  
GS Troop 4331, 6:30PM in Montague Hall*

*Tues, 11/29 Library Committee, 9AM in the Library  
Staff Meeting, 10AM in Room 12*

*Wed, 11/30 Choir Rehearsal, 6PM in Sanctuary*

*Thurs, 12/1 Beginning Ukulele (grades 2-6), 5:45PM in Music Room  
Beginning Ukulele (grade 7-adult), 6:15PM in Music Room  
Common Thread Band Rehearsal, 7PM in Carson Hall*

## **What to know this week...**

**THANKS for GIVING FINAL PUSH!** We're trying to reach our goal of collecting 2022 food pantry items in November: November ends this Thursday, so get your donations in now! Check our progress on the chart in the church lobby! Remember to check the orange flyers in the lobby for items and sizes needed. If you don't enjoy grocery shopping or don't have time, please donate money to the church to purchase the needed supplies. Please mark your donations as "DESIGNATED FUND: FOOD PANTRY." All monetary donations will be totaled into our final count!

**Last Day for T-Shirt Sales:** If you are interested in buying a St. James t-shirt, scan this QR code for an order form. T-shirts are \$15 each. Payment can be made by cash or check to St. James UMC with "T-Shirt" designated on the payment, or by Venmo to Temple Walkowiak (@templewalk55). Anyone planning to volunteer at the PNC Arena will need one of these shirts!



**Volunteer to work concessions at PNC Arena!** This is a fundraiser for our church and an opportunity to be in fellowship with church friends! Please note that all concessions volunteers will need to wear the new sapphire blue St. James UMC t-shirt that is currently for sale. We have a number of events from December through early April available, including NC State basketball games and Hurricanes hockey matches. To volunteer, use the link <http://tinyurl.com/PNCVolunteers>.

**Volunteers needed for the Living Nativity:** The 2022 Living Nativity will be held Sunday, December 18, 4-6PM. This walk-through event has become very popular with the community, and we need lots of help to make it great! Sign-ups for cast and crew are open now: go to <http://tinyurl.com/2022LiveNativity> to sign up!

**Nursery volunteers needed:** We need volunteers weekly to help our paid nursery worker meet Safe Sanctuary guidelines. While the volunteer may sometimes not be needed, we still need someone as an extra set of hands when needs arise. All volunteers need current background checks. If you are interested, please sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/NurseryVolunteers> or contact Heather Johnson ([heather@exit9b.com](mailto:heather@exit9b.com) or 919-815-0015).

**Donations needed for our Military Ministry:** Our Military Ministry requests donations of books of Forever stamps, blank notecards with envelopes, legal or medium/large package envelopes, and any individually packaged candy for us to send to our service members. These items can be placed in the marked bin by the welcome center. Thank you!