

# Christmas Cantata

Third Sunday of Advent

Dr. Lee Jessup

## *We Gather To Serve God In Worship*

Prelude (String Quartet) "The Brandenburg Concerto" Bach

\*Chimes Sounding the Hour

\*Time of Greeting

Announcements

\*Responsive Call to Worship

Liturgist: Rejoice, O people of God!

**People: We rejoice in the morning light as it fills this sanctuary and our hearts!**

Liturgist: Rejoice, O people of God!

**People: We rejoice in the warmth of this community of faith that nurtures and sustains us!**

Liturgist: Rejoice, O people of God!

**People: We rejoice in this opportunity to lift our voices in praise and prayer to God who is the joy in our rejoicing!**

\*Hymn "O Little Town of Bethlehem" Insert

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!**

**Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.**

**Yet in thy dark street shineth the everlasting light;**

**The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

**How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!**

**So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heav'n.**

**No ear may hear His coming; but in this world of sin,**

**Where meek souls will receive Him, still the dear Christ enters in.**

**O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;**

**Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.**

**We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell:**

**O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel.**

## *We Proclaim The Word of God*

The Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer *{we pray debts}*

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

Hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (v.3) No. 88

**O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;**

**Bid envy, strife and discord cease; Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.**

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

**All: We are in the "in-between" time, awaiting the advent of our Lord and Savior. The preparations are made for those who mourn, for those who are oppressed and brokenhearted, for those made captives, and for those made low. Rejoice with praise! Rejoice in gladness! Rejoice in the Lord! For there is a light on the hill, which beckons to all. It overwhelms the darkness and serves as our beacon, as we continue our journey. Rejoice! And say, "Hallelujah!"**

## *Born A Savior, Born A King*

*By: John Purifoy*

Prologue: Introit "Born A Savior, Born A King"

First Reading Dr. D. Lee Jessup

Choir and Orchestra "Deliver Us Lord"

Second Reading Dr. Jessup

Choir and Orchestra "Prepare The Way"

Third Reading Dr. Jessup

Choir and Orchestra "No Golden Carriage"  
with, "O Come All Ye Faithful"

## *We Respond To The Word of God*

Invitation to Give

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

The Offertory (String Quartet)

“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”

Bach

\*The Doxology and Offertory Prayer

**Thank you, Loving God, for creating us as people of goodness, people of mercy and people who are compassionate. Receive these offerings, which we give in response to the goodness, the mercy and the compassion you first gave to us. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

Fourth Reading

Dr. Jessup

Choir and Orchestra

“Carols of the Angels”  
“Hark the Herald Angels Sing”  
“Angels We Have Heard On High”  
“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

Fifth Reading

Dr. Jessup

Choir and Orchestra

“He Is Born Now the Prince of Peace”  
“Christmas Benediction”  
(First Verse With Congregation) “Silent Night”

Sixth Reading

Dr. Jessup

Choir and Orchestra

“Born A Savior, Born A King”

## *We Go Forth to Serve God*

\*Responsive Call to Dedication

Liturgist: And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?”

**People: Then I said, “Here am I! Send me.”**

\*The Benediction

\*Postlude

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

Willis

**\*THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND**

## *2011 Orchestra*

*Paul Freeman..... Director*



*Sara Tolles..... Flute*

*Shelly Janosko..... Oboe*

*Betty Kelley..... Violin I*

*Amanda Matthews ..... Violin II*

*Christina Placilla ..... Viola*

*Meaghan Skogen..... Cello*

*Greg Hall ..... Trumpet I*

*Ricky Harris..... Trumpet II*

*Michael Sharpe ..... Horn*

*Chris Ferguson..... Trombone*

*James Daughtery..... Tuba*

*Danny Burkhardt ..... Percussion*

*Lee Ann Peele ..... Pianist*

*Rodney Young..... Sound*

*Clifford Lopp..... Sound*

*Lee Jessup ..... Reader*

## *Dedication...*

Today’s cantata is dedicated to the glory of God and in honor of **Butch Bouchard**. Butch has faithfully served God and First Reformed United Church of Christ for fifty-two years as a tenor in the chancel choir. He actually retired about 10 years ago but missed singing and the choir family so much that he continues to sing at age 97. Thank you Butch!

## *Pastor’s Pantry*



Pastor’s Pantry is seeking assistance. They currently have 550 clients. Each client has filled out a Christmas request card. These cards can be picked up from the agency. Bill Keesler, Executive Director contacted the church office this past week and said that of the 550 clients there are still 270 cards that have not been chosen. You can assist by going to their

location at 307 North State Street and choosing a client’s card. Or if you would like to make a donation for them to purchase grocery gift cards, please make your check payable to FRUCC and designate in the memo line “Pastor’s Pantry” and we will direct the funds to gift cards for their clients. Thank you.

## Need a Christmas Gift Idea?



The First Reformed UCC Board of Community Outreach can help! They are offering "Alternative Gift" ideas. Make a donation to one of our benevolences in honor of teachers, family members, friends, co-workers, etc. We will provide an acknowledgement card and envelope for you to mail. To assist you with your purchase, there is a table in the narthex.

## Veterans of the Cross Offering

Plan to donate to the "**Veterans of the Cross**" Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. This offering is an expression of love and thanks to those who have served and continue to serve the United Church of Christ. The offering helps provide pension and health premium supplementation to low-income retirees, emergency assistance to clergy families in need, and Christmas gift checks to hundreds of annuitants.



The tree of "angels" is in the breezeway of the education building again this year. Make a donation (your discretion) to place an angel on the tree in honor or memory of someone. **ALL donations** will be given to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund for assistance to needy individuals/families. Please fill out the form and drop it in the offering plate or contact the church office at 248-2617.

IN MEMORY OF...

BY...

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IN HONOR OF...

BY...

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## Church Christmas Party

Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>



The annual Christmas Party for the congregation will begin at 6 p.m. Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> with a covered dish dinner. Bring your favorite dish to share with friends. Drinks are provided.

Christmas Party

After dinner the children will present, "Santa's Christmas Tree". This evening is a great tradition of fellowship with family and friends that is enjoyed by children of ALL ages. Remember to bring your cameras. Santa will be on hand to check his Christmas list!



## Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



The church will be aglow with candlelight at our annual Christmas Eve Service **Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 pm**. Come worship with family and friends as we celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.

## Christmas Day

There will be one service at **10:30 a.m. in the Chapel** on Christmas Day. We will not have Sunday school.



**WE WELCOME VISITORS** who are attending our service of worship today. **EVERYONE** is requested to sign the attendance pad found at the end of each pew. We request visitors also to note their addresses and telephone numbers. If visitors are interested in learning more about First Reformed UCC, please contact the church office at 248-2617 or [church@frucc.org](mailto:church@frucc.org).

**USHERS:** Walter Hoffman, Ann Hoffman, Dave Fulton and Doris Sink

**PLATE ATTENDANT:** John Potts

**ACOLYTES:** Laura Strenk, Katarina Strenk and Ava Miller

**GREETERS:** Raeann and Holt Biesecker

**NURSERY {BIRTH TO KINDERGARTEN}:** Kayla Leonard

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Sherry Bonner, Annabelle Studebaker, Ronnie Durham, Sadie Bailey, Ernie Bonner, Mary Crouse, Holton Davis, Willie Ruth Leonard, Juanita Beck, Henry Kennedy, Margot Everhart, Stephen & Glory Tussey, Jimmy Grubb, Evelyn Smith, Ted Williams, Sterling Hedrick, Jules Bliss, Bunny and Virginia Hill, Ann Spivey, Connie Weichert, Sandra Fern, Randy Carter, and Paul Stevens. Remember our men and women serving in the Armed Forces. To add a name for prayer, contact Adena Wall at 249-1904 or the church office.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Sunday, December 11      9:45 a.m. ---- **SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR EVERYONE**  
    11:00 a.m. ---- **CHRISTMAS CANTATA**  
    6:00 p.m. ----- Consistory Meeting {Willing Workers Classroom}

Monday, December 12      6:30 p.m. ---- Men's Brotherhood Christmas Party {Yarborough's Restaurant}

Tuesday, December 13      10:00 a.m. ---- Prayer Shawl Ministry {Parlor}

Wednesday, December 14      Noon----- Morning Glory Circle Christmas Party {Yarborough's Restaurant}  
    6:00 p.m. ---- Children's Christmas Play Practice Dress Rehearsal (FH)  
    6:30 p.m. ---- Bell Choir Practice (Bell Room)  
    7:15 p.m. ---- Adult Choir Practice (Chapel Annex)

Thursday, December 15      5:30 p.m. ---- Yoga Class (Parlor)

Friday, December 16      9 am-5 pm ---- Ringing Bells for the Salvation Army at Lanier's Hardware

Sunday, December 18      9:45 a.m. ---- Sunday School Classes for Everyone  
    11:00 a.m. ---- **WORSHIP SERVICE {BLESSING OF PRAYER SHAWLS}**  
    **Veterans of the Cross Special Offering**  
    **6:00 p.m. ---- CHURCH COVERED DISH DINNER, CHRISTMAS PARTY AND**  
    **CHILDREN'S PROGRAM {FELLOWSHIP HALL}**

12/4/11 Attendance & Income		Needed Weekly	YTD Received
145	\$7,402	\$5,621	\$234,491

**CHURCH STAFF**

Reverend Robin Keating (Office #336-248-2617, Cell #336-250-9554)  
 Cathy Waitman, Director of Christian Ed      Paul Freeman, Choir Director  
 Lee Ann Peele, Organist      Paula Lopp, Administrative Asst

# First Reformed United Church of Christ



## Third Sunday of Advent

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

104 East Center Street  
 Lexington, NC 27292  
 Website [www.frucc.org](http://www.frucc.org)



Office (336) 248-2617  
 email – [church@frucc.org](mailto:church@frucc.org)  
[facebook.com/firstreformeducc](https://www.facebook.com/firstreformeducc)

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