



*First Reformed  
United Church of Christ*

*Where People Discover...  
The Love of God  
The Power to Love Others  
The Ability to Love Ourselves*

**December 9, 2018  
11:00AM**

*We are an Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ.  
No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.*

*Welcome! If you are visiting with us, please fill out a pew card and place it in the offering plate when passed. If you would like to request prayer for yourself or someone else, Prayer Request Cards can be found on the backs of the pews, as well. Childcare for infants through Kindergarten is offered. Hearing devices are available. Please let an usher know if you need assistance.*

\* PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

*The Worship of God  
"Glories Stream"  
Second Sunday of Advent – JOY*

*Gather*

Prelude	
Welcome and Announcements	Elizabeth Horton
Call to Worship	"Calm and Bright"
Opening Prayer	Lisa Nelson

*Hymn	"Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"	Insert
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Lighting the Advent Candle of Joy

**People: Fill us with your joy and light.  
Make the world so calm and bright.**

Presenting the Symbol "The Hand of God"

**People: God loves us so much that Jesus was sent to be our Savior. We are grateful for a God who loves us enough to provide all our needs.**

Prayers of the People	Elizabeth Horton
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Congregational Response	"Christ, Be Our Light"
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**Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to You.  
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

**Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another, signs of your kingdom come.**

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.  
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

Invitation to Give Our Tithes and Offerings	Elizabeth Horton
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Offertory

*Doxology	VENI EMMANUEL
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**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

*Prayer of Dedication	Lisa Nelson
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*Proclaim*

Scripture	Luke 1: 26-38	Elizabeth Horton
	Luke 1: 39-46	Lisa Nelson

Youth Nativity Program	"Christ the Savior is Born!"	Insert
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*Respond*

*Call to Discipleship	Lisa Nelson
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Liturgist: And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Who will go for us and bring joy into the world?"

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

# Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace" — Luke 2:14 NIV

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King;  
 2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
 3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!

Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild; God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."  
 Late in time, be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.  
 Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see, Hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty!  
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,

With an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
 Pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus our Im - man - u - el.  
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King."

WORDS: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt. George Whitefield, 1714-1770  
 MUSIC: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847; arr. William H. Cummings, 1831-1915

MENDELSSOHN  
 7.7.7.D. with Refrain

\*Benediction & Blessing

Elizabeth Horton

\*Taking the Light into the World

\*Choir Response

"We Need a Silent Night in Here"

\*Passing the Peace

{Please greet those around you with a sign of God's Peace}

\*Postlude

You are invited to join the Intercessory Prayer Circle at the front of the sanctuary after worship.

Please join us for the Congregational Meal in the Fellowship Hall.

## ADDITIONAL CHRISMON DONATIONS:

In Honor of Mike Hooper

Given by Bonita Hooper

In Honor of Mary Johnson

Given by Keith & Alisa Johnson

In Honor of Margie & Vogen Everhart

Given by Cathy, Mike, Joey & Mark

## PORK LOIN FUNDRAISER!

The last day to order a Smoked Pork Loin is Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup>. Please contact the church office to reserve or purchase your ticket. The cost is \$40 each. Pork loins will be ready for pick up on Saturday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. (carolyn@frucc.org or 336-248-2617)

## TREE OF ANGELS

Donations for The Tree of "Angels" in the breezeway of the Education Building can still be made. To place an angel on the tree in honor or memory of someone, please contact the church office. Donations will assist with year-end benevolences. (carolyn@frucc.org or 336-248-2617)

## ATTENTION...

### CURRENT COLLEGE STUDENTS!

It is time to apply for the Hinkle, Sink, Swing Scholarship. Applications are available in the church office or can be emailed by contacting paula@frucc.org. Applications should be completed and back in the office by **DECEMBER 31, 2018.**

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## FIRST REFORMED UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

104 EAST CENTER STREET, LEXINGTON, NC 27292

PHONE: 336-248-2617 WEBSITE: www.frucc.org FACEBOOK: facebook.com/firstreformeducc

Ministers: The Congregation

Pastor: Rev. Elizabeth Horton (elizabeth@frucc.org, cell/text #336-972-8895)

Minister of Pastoral Care: Rev. June Grubb (jgrubb3@triad.rr.com cell/text #336-240-2503)

Director of Spiritual Growth and Renewal: Cathy Waitman (cathy@frucc.org)

Choir Director: Ellen Peterson

Organist: Lee Ann Peele

Admin. Asst.: Carolyn Robbins (carolyn@frucc.org)

Financial Secretary: Paula Lopp (paula@frucc.org)

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Sunday, December 9**

9:45AM

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Youth – Practice for Christmas Program

{Sanctuary}

Adults –Romans with Doug Sink {Parlor}

**11:00AM – WORSHIP: 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**CALM & BRIGHT: 200 YEARS OF SILENT NIGHT**

**12:00PM** Congregational Lunch  
and Special Program

**Monday, December 10**

**6:30PM** Open Hands Meal {FH}

**Tuesday, December 11**

**10:00AM** Collaborative Ministries {Parlor}

**Wednesday, December 12**

**DEADLINE to purchase Pork Loin Tickets**

**7:00PM** Adult Choir {Sanctuary}

**Thursday, December 13**

**5:30PM** Yoga {Parlor}

**7:00PM** Square Dancing {FH}

**Friday, December 14**

Bell Ringing for Salvation Army at Lanier's

**Saturday, December 15**

Bell Ringing for Salvation Army at Lanier's

**10:00AM** Cantata Practice {Sanctuary}

**Sunday, December 16**

**11:00AM – WORSHIP: 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Cantata:

**RHAPSODY IN BLUEGRASS:  
A CHRISTMAS JUBILEE**

**2019 Offering Envelopes  
will be available for pickup  
in the Narthex beginning  
Sunday, December 16th**

**NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

If you have any announcements, articles, pictures, or reports that you would like to include in the January 2019 Newsletter, please submit them to the office by December 21<sup>st</sup>. You can send these by email to carolyn@frucc.org or bring a copy by the office.

**DECEMBER 21<sup>st</sup> CAROLING AND PIZZA**

If you would like to join in the Church-wide Caroling and Pizza supper, **please contact the office by DECEMBER 18<sup>th</sup>**. Caroling will begin about 5:30 before pizza and hot chocolate for supper in the Fellowship Hall.

**CANDLELIGHT SERVICE AND HOLY COMMUNION**

Our annual Candlelight and Holy Communion service will be held at 8:00PM on Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup>.

**HOLIDAYS FOR THE CHURCH OFFICE**

The church office will be closed on Tuesday, December 25<sup>th</sup>.

**CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES {DECEMBER 9-15}**

**BIRTHDAYS**

December 12	Donna Coe
December 14	Merle Hodges
December 15	Janelle Bunn

**ANNIVERSARIES**

December 15  
Vogen & Margie Everhart

**THE WHITE POINSETTIA ON THE ALTAR THIS MONTH** is given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Lori Lopp Floyd; given by the Cliff Lopp Family.

**Thank You for Serving Our Church**

**LITURGIST:** Lisa Nelson

**PLATE ATTENDANT:** John Potts

**SOUND TECHNICIAN:** Jeremy Peterson

**USHER CHAIRPERSON:** Jeff Hutchens

**USHER CAPTAIN:** Rich Johnson

**USHERS:** Frank Callicutt, Ron Hutcheson,  
Doris Sink

**YOUTH USHER:** Mary Lloyd Callicutt

**ACOLYTE:** Abbie Callicutt

**BIBLE STEWARD:** Annabelle Callicutt

**GREETERS:** Edgar, Kivi, Ava & Jianna Miller

**NURSERY {INFANTS-KINDERGARTEN}:**

NO NURSERY THIS WEEK

- ❖ A wall unit changing table is located in our handicapped restroom {through left door at the chancel.}
- ❖ A comfort area with rocking chair, monitor and speaker is available if you need to leave the sanctuary to calm or soothe a baby or young child {through left or right door at chancel.}

**Our Church at Prayer**

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Remember those in the Armed Forces. To add a name to the prayer list please fill out a prayer request card located in the backs of the pews, contact Ben Hale (benjaminhale08@comcast.net or 704-772-6908) or call the church office (336-248-2617).

**CHURCH MEMBERS:** Tammy Rhodes, Bill Walser, Janelle Bunn, Vogen Everhart, Peggy Bates, Margot Everhart, Lib & Jimbo Hinkle, Marzell Crotts, Jo Hudson, Valerie Price, Ruth Fritts, Rita Tussey, Hoyle Potts, Doris Flynt, James Everhart

**OUR FRIENDS:** Eric Cole (son of visitor, Jill Cole, in training for Border Patrol in New Mexico), Charm Ketner, Harold Holste (Alane Holste's father), Boyd & Bonnie Perry (Friends of Frankie Hedrick), Kathe Everhart (Frankie Hedrick's sister-in-law), Jeanette Ingle (Friend of Bill & Cheryl Walser), Chris Greene (Michell Winter's step-brother), Virginia Hill (Cathy Waitman's mother), Laura Williams (Carolyn Robbins' mother), David Combs (Friend of Open Hands), Noriko Shaw and the Family of Heather & Joe Surret (Friends of Mike & Lynn Brown), Clifford Beane (Neighbor of Lee & Ellen Bouchard), Brian Arensman (Keith Johnson's friend and co-worker), John Haydon (Friend of Kivi Miller), Dan Smith (Brother of Steve and Jerry Smith), Eddie Wray (Friend of Lisa Nelson), Lynn Younts (Friend of Susie Smith), Eliza Paris (Friend of Sylvia Walser's granddaughter)

# Youth Nativity Program

Solo "Breath of Heaven" Ellen Peterson

Scripture Luke 2: 1-20 Jonathan Kepley

Scripture Matthew 2: 1-2, 9-11 Kalyssa Hutchens

*"Christ the Savior Is Born"* by Tim Wesemann  
Claire Smith, Reader

*The stars danced and twinkled in Bethlehem's sky,  
Awaiting good news from the angels nearby.*

Hymn "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

***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 streets shineth the everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.***

*Young Mary, with Joseph, felt time drawing near.  
Both knew God the Father was leading them here.  
They searched the whole town for a safe place to stay,  
But all that they found was a stable with hay.  
Although all alone and most likely afraid,  
They clung to God's plan as they trusted and prayed.*

*At just the right time and in God's chosen place,  
A newborn soon cried in his parents' embrace.*

*As bright stars shone down from the dark sky above,  
Christ Jesus was born - He's the Gift of God's love.  
Then Mary wrapped Jesus all snugly and tight,  
While angels in heaven rejoiced at the sight.*

Hymn

"The First Noel"

***The first Noel the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Noel, noel, noel, noel, born is the King of Israel.***

*God wanted the whole world to hear His good news.  
But how should He tell them? And whom should He choose?  
He could have told kings, or the rich or the smart.  
Instead He picked shepherds - the lowly of heart.*

*The Lord sent His angels to dark fields that night.  
The shepherds fell down at the bright, holy sight!*

*The angels announced, "Do not fear! This is true:  
Good news of great joy straight from heaven to you!"*

*"Christ the Savior is born! Jesus the King!  
Christ the Savior is born! Praises we sing!"  
They glorified God and gave praise to His name,  
While shepherds on earth joined in all the acclaim.*

Hymn

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

***It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold;  
Peace on the earth, goodwill to men from Heav'n's all gracious King!"  
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.***

*The shepherds found Jesus, as angels had said,  
All swaddled and loved and with hay for a bed.*

*They knelt down to worship, right there in that place,  
Then left to tell all of God's wonderful grace.  
And all were amazed at the news they were told  
By these joyful shepherds, a story so bold.*

Hymn

*“Away in a Manger”*

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

*The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,  
And stay by my cradle ‘til morning is nigh.*

*O morning stars, together proclaim the Holy Birth!  
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.*

*How silently, how silently, the wondrous Gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.  
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 sins 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!*

Solo

*“Joseph’s Song”*

Walter Hoffman

*Then out of the East, Wise Men came from afar.  
They followed a big, bright and beautiful star.  
Gold, incense, and myrrh - at His feet they laid down  
Their gifts for the King born in Bethlehem town.*

*They looked one last time at the Christ Child’s sweet face  
And saw there for certain the God of all grace.*

Prayer

Elizabeth Horton

**Cast:**

Mary  
**Jianna Miller**

Joseph  
**Bryson Gentry**

Shepherds  
**Jacob Hartle, Parker Horton, Patrick Horton**

Angels  
**Isabella Gentry, Emma Hartle, Kyndell Lovell,  
Emory Smith, Caroline White**

Wise Men  
**Ethan Lovell, Lucas Peterson, Elliott Smith**

Readers  
**Kalyssa Hutcheson, Jonathan Kepley, Claire Smith**

Soloists  
**Walter Hoffman, Ellen Peterson**

Pianist  
**Lee Ann Peele**

Helpers  
**Alice Gray, Lena Johnson, Carolyn Robbins**

Hymn

*We Three Kings*

*We three kings of Orient are; Bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.  
O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.*

*They left then for home on a bright, starry night.  
Perhaps they heard songs of God’s angels in flight!*

*Christ the Savior is born! Jesus the King!  
Christ the Savior is born! Praises we sing!*

Hymn

*“O Little Town of Bethlehem”*

*For Christ is born of Mary; And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep and angels keep their watch of wondering love.*