

**The Worship of God**  
December 22, 11:00 a.m.  
*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

**GATHERING**

Welcome to Pullen. Feel free to greet those around you before the service. Visitors are invited to complete a Welcome Guest card and place it in the offering plate later in the service. Please turn off cell phones and other electronic devices. Please refrain from flash photography.

**Instrumental Prelude**

*God Rest Ye Merry  
Hark! the Herald Angels Sing  
Partita on In Dulci Jubilo*

Arr. Dana Everson  
Arr. William Himes  
Raymond Haan

**Bringing the Light**

\***Advent Exclamation (insert)** *Prepare a Pathway*

Bringle/Rowan

\***Call to Worship (Adapted from the *Magnificat*)**

*Brian Crisp*

**Leader:** With Mother Mary we declare, “Our souls magnify the Lord, and our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!”

**People:** God has looked with favor on us and all generations will call us blessed.

**Leader:** Our creator has done great things for us, and holy is God’s name.

**People:** The Loving One who remembered our ancestors will never forget us.

**Leader:** So we sing forth our praise,

**People:** and proclaim our song of joy!

\***Hymn 138**

*Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*

REJOICE, REJOICE

**The Lighting of the Candle of Love**

*Amy, Aaron and AJ Smith*

**Leader:** We have dared to be a people of Hope.

**People:** We have imagined a world of Peace.

**Leader:** We have sung our songs of Joy.

**People:** Today, we light the candle of Love welcoming into our lives a Love that sees every part of who we are and welcomes us just as we are.

*All:* Love is his name. He comes in love and Love becomes our name.

\*indicates the congregation may stand.

**Response - Hymn 132 (Stanza 4)** *When God is a Child*

MOON BEAMS

Love is a flame that burns in our heart.

Jesus has come and will never depart.

When God is a child there’s joy in our song.

The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,  
and none shall be afraid.

-Brian Wren

**PRAYING**

*Sally Buckner*

**Joys and Concerns of the Congregation**

**Prayers of the People**

**SHARING THE WORD**

**Hebrew Scriptures**

*And the Glory of the Lord from Messiah* Isaiah 40:5/G.F. Handel

**The Gospel**

Matthew 1:18-25

*“Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way.”*

\***Hymn 154**

*While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks*

Tate/Handel

Voicing words of narration, the Chancel Choir sings Stanzas 1 & 5.

All worshipers sing Stanzas 2, 3, 4 & 6, voicing the words of the Angels.

**Sermon**

*Reading the Christmas Story with Heart and Mind*

*Nancy E. Petty*

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS**

**Offertory Statement**

**Orchestral Offertory**

*For Unto Us a Child Is Born*

Handel/Arr. Curnow

\***Invitation**

Pullen welcomes you to join our faith community by coming forward during the final hymn. We receive members by profession of faith in Christ and baptism, through transfer of church membership, or by a statement of faith. If you would like more information about Pullen before joining, please contact the church office to arrange a meeting with our pastor.

\***Hymn 150**

*Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

MENDELSSOHN

**\*Benediction**

**\*Gloria Response**

Choir: Now join we all the angel throng, Alleluia,  
And let our voices swell the song: Alleluia.

**All (sing two times):**



**Instrumental Postlude**     *Angels We Have Heard on High*     GLORIA

Following the worship service simple refreshments are served in the parlor to welcome visitors. Church members are invited to attend, to visit with each other, and to assist in welcoming our guests. The hosts this morning are Jeff Bond and Judy Williams.

Our liturgist this morning is Brian Crisp. Brian co-teaches the Barth B(r)unch Sunday school class and is a participant in the Wednesday lectionary group. Lighting the Candle of Love is Amy, Aaron and AJ Smith. Amy and Aaron play on Pullen's Softball Team. AJ is active in our Children's programs. Offering prayers is Sally Buckner. Sally is active in Pullen's Peace and Justice ministry. Offering music for worship are The Pullen Orchestra; Janice Hocutt, organist; Chancel Choir; and Larry E. Schultz, minister of music.

**Acolytes:** Ally Palmer and Henry Stephens Powers

**Worship Assistants:** Loretta Allen-Adams, Brenda Compton, Don Deuel, Jim Epps, Karen Garr, Lori Jordan, Pat Kincheloe, Larry King, Jamie Palmer, Hye Rahlan, Rozanne Reynolds, Nartashia Sharpe, Walter Tenney and Toni Whitaker.

*Prepare a Pathway* by Mary Louise Bringle & William P. Rowan: Words ©2002 GIA; Music ©1991 Selah Publishing.

*When God is a Child* by Brian Wren ©1989 Hope Publishing Company.

Gloria Response from *Birthday Carol* by David Willcocks ©1974 Oxford University Press.

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# Pullen Memorial Baptist Church

Raleigh, North Carolina



“Emmanuel: God is with Us!”

**December Twenty-second  
Two-Thousand and Thirteen**

Advent Exclamation  
**Prepare a Pathway**

*In Christ was the Sophia (Wisdom) of God - from I Corinthians 1:24*

All singing:

Pre - pare a path - way; make the high - way straight,  
Pre - pare a path - way; make the high - way straight!

A - rise, O Zi - on! Your Mes - si - ah comes!  
In - car - nate Wis - dom comes to bless and save!

His prom - ised ad - vent, ea - ger - ly a -  
Her prom - ised ad - vent, ea - ger - ly a -

wait; and all flesh shall see the glo - ry of God.  
wait: and all flesh shall see the glo - ry of God.

Words: Mary Louise Bringle  
Music: William P. Rowan

YOGANANDA  
10.10.10

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### Christmas Poinsettias and Greenery Given in Honor of:

Mary Ruth and Roger Crook, by their friend Renee Keever.  
Jim and Retta Crosson, by their daughter, Vicky Crosson.  
Nancy Hendershot, Mary Musser, and David Highfill, by their parents Hilda & Larry Highfill.  
Janice Hocutt, by her friend Mary Lou Eycke.  
Sylvanda Judd, by his friend Anne Dahle.  
Pat Long, by her friend Marilyn Brandt.  
Robert McMillan, by his friend Anne Dahle.  
Bobbie Parnell, by her son Dave Parnell and his husband, Jeff Evans.  
Mary, Dascheil, and Mollie Propes, by their niece, nephew and cousins, Scott Fuller and family.  
Three Pew Angels: Shirley, Goodness and Mercy, by Jean Carr.

### Christmas Poinsettias and Greenery Given in Memory of:

Virginia Abbott, by her grandson Roger Adkins.  
William Adkins, by his son Roger Adkins.  
Nellie Adkins, by her grandson Roger Adkins.  
Mary Beck, by her granddaughter Terri Beck Zanaglio.  
Eugene Benbow, by his wife Sarah Benbow.  
Fleeta Boyer, by her son, Kevin Boyer.  
Bob Buckner, by his wife Sally Buckner.  
George Buckner, by his mother Sally Buckner.  
Charles J. Clay, by his wife Betty Clay.  
Nanny Cofer, by her granddaughter Jan Hibbetts.  
Janet Freeman, by her friend Dr. Leland M. Park.  
Walter E. and Estelle G. Fuller, by their grandson Scott Fuller and family.  
Mary Gowan, by her son Bill Gowan and his family Mary Moore and Max Gowan.  
Connie Grimm, by her son Tom Cali.  
Mary Beth Hall, by her husband Jim Hall, daughter Karen, and granddaughter Megan Sazani.  
Mary Beth Hall, by her friend Anne Dahle.  
Corky Hibbetts, by his daughter Kristen Hibbetts.  
Vonceil and Norman Hielscher, by their daughter Pat Hielscher.  
Roy and Minnie Ethel Hilliard, by their daughter Loretta Allen Adams.  
Verna Krauss, by her granddaughter Kristen Hibbetts.  
Vernelle Long, by her friend Marilyn Brandt.  
Carol McClellan, by her friend Nancy Bradley.  
Frances Wilson Metzger, mother of Theresa Moore, by Theresa & Gene Moore.  
Charlie L. Moore, father of Gene Moore, by Gene & Theresa Moore.  
Jess Moore, by his daughter Mary Moore and her family Bill and Max Gowan.  
Vertie Mae Moore, mother of Gene Moore, by Gene & Theresa Moore.  
David Parnell, father of Dave Parnell, by Dave Parnell & Jeff Evans.  
Gery Sandling, by his wife Abby Sandling.  
Donna Steely, by her friends Brooks Wicker and Pat Hielscher.  
Ed Sumpter, by his wife Jeanne Sumpter.  
Johnny Thompson, by his friend Leslie Zanaglio.  
Leon and Isabel Thompson, by their daughter Kathie Barnett.  
Fred Lewis Tolson, by his son Devon Tolson.  
Oren Tucker, by his daughter Karen Price.  
Howard N. Wilson, father of Theresa Moore, by Theresa & Gene Moore.  
Betsy Wooden, by her granddaughter Chris Wooden-Hand.  
Warren Wooden, by his daughter Chris Wooden-Hand.