



Community Lovefeast
First Baptist Church of North Wilkesboro
Sunday, December 8, 2024 • 7:00 p.m.

Glory to God in the Highest, and on Earth Peace, Good Will to All.

Prelude Brass Quintet

Welcome and Prayer Dr. Bert Young

The Christmas Story Luke 2:1-20 Dr. Bert Young

Serving of the Lovefeast
(We will partake of the Lovefeast together following the blessing.)

Christmas Carols played and sung, please see your Lyrics Insert

Blessing In Unison Dr. Bert Young

*Come, Lord Jesus, our Guest to be, and bless these gifts bestowed by Thee,
Bless Thy dear ones everywhere, and keep them in Thy loving care. Amen.*

Partaking of the Lovefeast

Special Music *O Holy Night* Ahlivia McMillan
In a Manger FBC Chancel Choir

(Please dispose of your trash when you leave in the bins by the EXIT.)

Offertory Tammy Prevette

Silent Night, Holy Night Franz ~~Grieg~~ arr. Mary McDonald

An offering will be taken at this time. All donations will support St. Paul's Crisis Ministry and Hospitality House of Northwest North Carolina

Lovefeast Meditation Dr. Bert Young

The Passing of the Candlelight

Silent Night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round you Virgin Mother and Child,
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

(The candles are extinguished. Please remain standing.)

Benediction

Dr. Bert Young

Choral Response

The Hallelujah Chorus

G.F. Handel

(If you do not wish to keep your candle, please place it in one of the containers as you leave and it will be recycled)

Postlude

Brass Quintet

Community Lovefeast

Lovefeasts of the Moravian Church were modeled after the practice of the Apostolic Church and have come to be one of the outstanding customs of the Moravian Church. But as the origins show, this is not a celebration exclusive to Moravians. It began as a Christian feast. Members of other denominations are attracted to Moravian lovefeasts in large numbers, and other denominations including Methodists, Presbyterians, and Baptists have adopted the tradition in their own churches.

Lovefeasts originated in the first gathering of Christians after Pentecost. The early believers met and broke bread together, which was a strong symbolic statement of their union and equality. These meals of the church family were associated with but are not to be confused with, the celebration of the Lord's Supper, which followed the Lovefeast meal. They were called agape, from the Greek word for love, that is for the highest type of spiritual love. Gradually the agape lost its devotional character, and toward the end of the fourth century the Church gave it up. The Lovefeast of the early church was resuscitated in its original simplicity by the Moravian Church in 1727. After the memorable celebration of the holy communion on August 13, seven groups of the participants continued to talk over the great spiritual blessing which they had experienced and were reluctant to separate and return to their own homes for the noonday meal. Count Zinzendorf, sensing the situation, sent them food from his manor house, and each group partook together, continuing in prayer, religious conversation, and the singing of hymns. This incident reminded Zinzendorf of the primitive agape, and the idea was fostered until Lovefeasts became a custom in Moravian life. They were introduced wherever new settlements were founded and so came to America. John Wesley first partook in a Moravian Lovefeast in Savannah, GA in 1737. The experience was so meaningful that he introduced it to the Methodist Church of which he was the founder. The service of coffee, bread, hymns, scripture, and fellowship soon spread to other Christian denominations.

Not all Lovefeasts take place at Christmas. We choose to do so because of the theme of love. Has there ever been a greater gift of love in all the world than the gift of God sending his own Son to Earth to dwell with us, to heal and teach us, and ultimately to save us. We think not. So come and enjoy the hymns and carols that announce with beauty the coming and the birth of God's Son as well as the warm drink, the warm bread, and the warm fellowship of the Lovefeast.

Whether this is your first Lovefeast or you've been to many, we welcome you here tonight. Our service will be filled with music and candlelight. We invite you to savor God's love as we come together and partake of a meal of sweet buns and warm coffee. Dieners (which is German for server) will serve the meal and we will partake of it together after the traditional Moravian blessing. The meal is not a sacrament, but rather an expression of sharing God's love to all – so all are welcome. Later in the service, the Dieners will pass the light to your candle, which represents the Light of God coming into the world. If you have children with you, we are glad they are here as well. Please use your own discretion and supervision as to how they participate in the meal and candle lighting. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask an usher or Diener.

Lovefeast takes a lot of work and coordination. We are especially grateful to our Lovefeast teams.

Lovefeast Team: Hope Coffey, Dawn Gardner, Madelene Johnson, Larisa Leapley, Mickey Leapley, Tammy Prevette, Katie Rash, Patricia Turner, Bert & Tiffany Young, FBC Youth

Prep People: Dianna Bullock, Pamela Call, Steve Foster, Pam Greene, Gary Newman, Pat & Ronnie Osborne, Jerry & Diane Swaim, and Marie Waddell

Dieners: Holden & Whitney Abrams, Jim & Nellie Archibald, Jim & Marcia Conley, Ritchie & Tamarah Comette, Bert & Shannon Greene, Matt & Susan Hagaman, Sam & Missy Mayberry, David & Hilda Smith

Musicians: Andrew Scroggs, Nicky Homer, Melanie Watson, Jake Holden, Keegan Watson

Vocalists: The FBC Chancel Choir

Audiovisual Team: William Prevette & Lloyd Sharp

Ushers: Bill Bungamer, Tom Caudill, Mike Greene, Robert Greene, Bill Johnson, David Mastin, Dwayne Prevette, and Charles Wooten

Lovefeast Lyrics Sheet

O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie;
Above the deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in the dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

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 Immanuel,

ST. LOUIS

Away In a Manger

Away in a manger,
No crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus,
Laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the sky
Looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus,
Asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus,
I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever,
And love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children
In thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven
To live with Thee there.

AWAY IN A MANGER

It Came Upon a 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, good will to men,
From heaven's all gracious King!"
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on,
By prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever-circling years
Comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

Hark, the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark, the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ the everlasting Lord;
Late in time, behold Him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail th' incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus our Immanuel.
Hark, the herald angels sing, "
Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth,
Hark, the herald angels sing, "
Glory to the newborn King!"

WARNER

Angels We Have Heard On High

GLORIA

Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains.
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see,
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav'nly song?
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!

See Him in a manger laid,
Whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
While our hearts in love we raise.
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo!

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

The first Nowell 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.

And by the light of that same star
The wisemen came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell. Born is the King of Israel.

For all to see there was a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
Who hath made heav'n and earth of naught,
And with His blood mankind hath bought.

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

What Child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Infant Lowly, Infant Holy

W ZLOBE LEZY

Infant holy,
Infant lowly,
For His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing,
Little knowing
Christ, the Babe, is Lord of all.
Angels winging, praises singing,
Noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ, the Babe, is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping,
Shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory,
Heard the story,
Tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,
Praises voicing Greet the morrow:
Christ, the Babe, was born for you!

First Baptist Church of North Wilkesboro Youth Luminaries 2024

Memorials

In Loving Memory

*Buddy & Dottie Hubbard
Al & Crystal Archibald
John & Nell Brookshire
John B. Battle
Mike Bullock
Linda Absher
Pat Brooks
John B. Battle*

*Linda Absher
Jim Bentley
Jannette Bright
The Oliver Absher Family
Mike Bullock
Linda Absher
Bryan Beth Bumgarner
Mike Carver
Bruce Evans
Dave Poorbaugh
Mozelle Moser
Mike Bullock
Gary Coffey
Wayne & Margie Coffey
Allen & Ellen Faircloth
Celia Maddry
George Collins
Joann Rich
Hallie & Travis Eller
Clifton & Grace Davis
Sam Day
Pat McNeil Day
Gladys Llewellyn
Dare P. Jennings
Woodrow Palmer
George Lou Reins
Celia Maddry
R.S. Earp
Sylvia Cranor
Hugh Cranor
Chloe Sturdivant
R.C. Johnson
Rufus Combs
Celia Maddry
Martha Barksdale Nichols*

*Greg Edwards
Delmas "Pete" Elledge
Joe Gardner
Ethel Mitchell
Lisa Mitchell
Jackie Mitchell
Olin & Zera Greene
Andy Younger*

*Richard Carroll
C.H. Necessary, Jr.
Adrienne Necessary*

Given by:

Jim & Nellie Archibald
Jim & Nellie Archibald
Janet Atwood
Annette Battle
Annette Battle
Annette Battle
Annette Battle
The Battle Family
Lee, Ginger, Brooke & Jake Bentley
Gracia Bentley
Frank & Gary Bright
Len & Libby Brooks
The Bullock Family
Bill Bumgarner
Bill Bumgarner
Matt & Holly Carver
Matt & Holly Carver
Scott Church
Scott Church
Hope Coffey
Hope Coffey
Hope Coffey
Hope Coffey
Hope Coffey
Hope Coffey
Ida Maude Collins
Allen Davis
Allen Davis
Allen Davis
Lynn Day
Dan & Anita Day
Dan & Anita Day
Shirley P. Deal
Shirley P. Deal
Ann Dorsett
Ann Dorsett
Janice Earp
Ginger Edmiston
Ginger Edmiston
Ginger Edmiston
Ginger Edmiston
Ginger Edmiston
Ginger Edmiston
Ginger Edmiston
Ginger Edmiston
Pam, Geoffrey, & Olivia Edwards
Bertha Gene Elledge
Dawn Gardner
Mike & Pam Greene
Mike & Pam Greene
Mike & Pam Greene
Mike & Pam Greene
The Hagaman Family
Brad, Dannette, Chloe, Andrew Hinchey
Keith & Sarah Howell
Keith & Sarah Howell

In Loving Memory

*James Huffman
Shirley Huffman
Ramona Bridges
Bill Bridges
Grace Johnson
Worth Johnson
Debbie Kerley
Clayton Parsons
Alvin Parsons
Betty Kilby
Bud Kilby
Jack Moore
Margaret Moore
Paul Johnson
Audrey Leapley
Linda Absher
Fred McCall
Daddy Jim & Nanny
Herb McKenzie
Van Stephenson
Carlisle Stephenson, Jr.
Carlisle Stephenson
Worth Bentley
Gordon Miller
Melissa Miller Utt
John B. Battle
Richard Carroll
Junior Prevette
Polly Prevette
Ray Stanley
Junior Prevette
Polly Prevette
Bobby Elledge
Ruby & Con Kilby
Shine & Mary Lillian Kilby
Helen Shepherd
Tom Shepherd
Ricky Shepherd
Tommy Shepherd
Virginia J. Swaim
Mary J. Sale
John W. Swaim
Carol M. Wilcox*

*Robert & Mary Taylor
Earl & Paula Higgins
Helen Turner
Columbus Turner
Mickey Bentley Anderson
Steve & Haroldine Watts
Ned & Peggy Bentley
Dr. Jim & Robin Kirk*

Dr. & Mrs. Clyde Sheely

Given by:

The Huffman Family
The Huffman Family
Bill & Myra Johnson
Bill & Myra Johnson
Bill & Myra Johnson
Bill & Myra Johnson
Gary & Madelene Johnson
Gary & Madelene Johnson
Betty Kilby
Betty Kilby
Debra Kilpatrick
Debra Kilpatrick
Mickey & Larisa Leapley
Mickey & Larisa Leapley
Missy Mayberry
Sara McCall
Sara McCall
Barbara McKenzie
Barbara McKenzie
Barbara McKenzie
Barbara McKenzie
Jim & Mona McRae
Jean Miller
Jean Miller
Leah Osborne & John I. Battle
Sydney & Austin Owens
The Prevette Family
The Prevette Family
The Prevette Family
The Prevette Family
The Prevette Family
Christy Rhoades
Martha Simpson
Martha Simpson
Shari Smith, Tim Shepherd, Gina Roten
Shari Smith, Tim Shepherd, Gina Roten
Shari Smith, Tim Shepherd, Gina Roten
Shari Smith, Tim Shepherd, Gina Roten
Jerry & Diane Swaim
Jerry & Diane Diane
Jerry & Diane Swaim
Jerry & Diane Swaim
Bob & Viki Taylor
Bob & Viki Taylor
Patricia Turner
Patricia Turner
Lori Walsh
Rod and Tammy Watts & Family
Rod and Tammy Watts & Family
Bert and Tiffany Young & Family
Bert and Tiffany Young & Family

Honorariums

In Honor of:	Given by:	In Honor of:	Given by:
<i>Claire, Sallie & Gray</i>	Jim & Nellie Archibald	<i>Kristen & Will Lingo</i>	Dawn Gardner
<i>The Young Family</i>	Jim & Nellie Archibald	<i>Jody & Amy Gardner</i>	Dawn Gardner
<i>FBC Library Team</i>	Janet Atwood	<i>Members of FBCNW</i>	Dawn Gardner
<i>Riley Evans</i>	Annette Battle	<i>Members of Seminar SS Class</i>	Dawn Gardner
<i>Janet Atwood</i>	Annette Battle	<i>Ann Michael</i>	Mike & Pam Greene
<i>Barbara McKenzie</i>	Annette Battle	<i>Ann Rita Necessary</i>	Keith & Sarah Howell
<i>William Prevette</i>	Annette Battle	<i>Sydney Leapley & Parker Shelton</i>	Mickey & Larisa Leapley
<i>Linda Bentley</i>	Annette Battle	<i>Olivia & Geoffrey Edwards</i>	Mickey & Larisa Leapley
<i>Bert Young</i>	Annette Battle	<i>William Prevette</i>	Mickey & Larisa Leapley
<i>Patricia Turner</i>	Annette Battle	<i>Lloyd Sharp</i>	Mickey & Larisa Leapley
<i>Larisa Leapley</i>	Annette Battle	<i>Children & Grandchildren</i>	Missy Mayberry
<i>Tammy Prevette</i>	Annette Battle	<i>Marie Ray</i>	Sara McCall
<i>Jamie Higginbotham</i>	Annette Battle	<i>Linda Bentley</i>	Jim & Mona McRae
<i>Katie Rash</i>	Annette Battle	<i>Betty Clinard</i>	Bridgette Morris
<i>Annette Battle</i>	John, Leah	<i>Dan Murphy</i>	Vickie Murphy
<i>Doris Bentley</i>	Gracia Bentley	<i>William Prevette</i>	Rosann Poplin
<i>Bill Bumgarner</i>	Lee, Ginger, Brook & Jake Bentley	<i>Jean Stanley</i>	The Prevette Family
<i>FBC Audio Visual Team</i>	Hope Coffey	<i>Dwayne Prevette</i>	The Prevette Family
<i>FBC Lovefeast Dieners</i>	Hope Coffey	<i>Benjamin Prevette</i>	The Prevette Family
<i>FBC Lovefeast Prep Team</i>	Hope Coffey	<i>William Prevette</i>	The Prevette Family
<i>FBC Lovefeast Planning Team</i>	Hope Coffey	<i>LaNelle Elledge</i>	Barry & Christy Rhoades
<i>FBC Lovefeast Ushers</i>	Hope Coffey	<i>Larisa Leapley</i>	Barry & Christy Rhoades
<i>FBC Music Ministry and Musicians</i>	Hope Coffey	<i>Mickey Leapley</i>	Barry & Christy Rhoades
<i>FBC Staff</i>	Hope Coffey	<i>Bert Young</i>	Barry & Christy Rhoades
<i>Bryan Collins</i>	Ida Maude Collins	<i>Patricia Turner</i>	Barry & Christy Rhoades
<i>Lynn Collins</i>	Vivian Collins	<i>Hope Coffey</i>	Barry & Christy Rhoades
<i>Annette Battle</i>	Vivian Collins	<i>Di Earp</i>	Barry & Christy Rhoades
<i>Jean Osborne</i>	Tamarah Cornette	<i>Marie Ray</i>	Barry & Christy Rhoades
<i>Tommy & Phyllis Dowell</i>	Tamarah Cornette	<i>Tammy Prevette</i>	Barry & Christy Rhoades
<i>Anthony & Ashley Davis</i>	Allen Davis	<i>Joyce Gilliland</i>	Hilda Smith
<i>Cayleigh Davis</i>	Allen Davis	<i>Anna Marie Smith</i>	Hilda Smith
<i>Kaiden Davis</i>	Allen Davis	<i>Irene M. Stone</i>	Jerry & Diane Swaim
<i>Tony & Bernice Eller</i>	Allen Davis	<i>FBCNW Youth</i>	Patricia Turner
<i>Davis Triplett</i>	Allen Davis	<i>Pam Greene</i>	Marie Waddell
<i>Hallie Triplett</i>	Allen Davis	<i>William Prevette</i>	Marie Waddell
<i>Matthew & Andrea Triplett</i>	Allen Davis	<i>Charles & Elaine Young</i>	Bert and Tiffany & Young Family
<i>Cora Lee Combs</i>	Ginger Edmiston		
<i>Bertha Gene Elledge</i>	Ginger Edmiston		
<i>Etta Mae Johnson</i>	Ginger Edmiston		