

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
Sunday, November 29, 2015  
**HANGING OF THE GREENS**

**ENTRANCE**

PRELUDE

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST AMONG US

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: As we prepare our hearts for the coming of our Savior, we prepare this house of worship for the birth of God's Son.

**All: For God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.**

\*HYMN OF HOPE "People Look East" UMH 202

\*UNISON PRAYER

**Eternal God, in your providence you made all ages a preparation for the kingdom of your son. Make ready our hearts for the brightness of your glory and the fullness of your blessing in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**PROCLAMATION**

HYMN OF PREPARATION "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" UMH 204

WORDS OF PREPARATION

One: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

**All: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.**

One: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

**All: With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.**

One: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

**All: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death, and resurrection.**

One: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

**All: By hearing again the words of the prophets, who foretold the saving work of God.**

One: For God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

**All: Glory to God in the highest!**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 9:2, 6-7  
HYMN OF EXPECTATION UMH 211  
"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (*verses 1 and 4*)

PRESENTATION OF THE GREENS

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 61:1-3  
HANGING OF THE MISTLETOE  
PASSING OF THE PEACE  
HYMN OF THE FAITHFUL Choir  
"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

THIRD SCRIPTURE READING Luke 1:26-33  
CHILDREN'S SERMON  
LIGHTING AND BLESSING OF THE CHRISMON TREE  
HYMN OF JOY UMH 249  
"There's A Song in the Air" (*verses 1 and 2*)

PRESENTATION OF THE POINSETTIA  
HYMN OF DIRECTION UMH 254  
"We Three Kings" (*verse 4*)

FOURTH SCRIPTURE READING John 1:1-5, 9

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

One: Christ came to bring us salvation and has promised to come again. Let us pray that we may always be ready to welcome him.

**All: Come, Lord Jesus.**

One: That the keeping of Advent may open our hearts to God's love,

**All: Come, Lord Jesus.**

One: That the light of Christ may penetrate the darkness of sin,

**All: Come, Lord Jesus.**

One: That this wreath may constantly remind us to prepare for the coming of Christ,

**All: Come, Lord Jesus.**

One: That the Christmas season may fill us with peace and joy as we strive to follow the example of Jesus,

**All: Come, Lord Jesus.**

One: Loving God, your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin. Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May their light reflect the splendor of Christ, who is Lord, for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

PRESENTATION OF THE ADVENT WREATH

One: We light the candle of peace to remind us that it is only with God and by following in his path that true peace can be found.

All: Christ brings the peace of God to us. He calls us to share the peace he gives with each other.

ADVENT SONG "Light the Advent Candle" TFWS 2090  
(verse 1)

RESPONSE

OFFERING  
Offertory "I Heard the Bells" arr. Rouse  
\*Doxology UMH 238

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Mighty One, who chose from among the least and the lowliest, Mary who would become the Mother of our Savior: Remind us again that your selection criteria for greatness is so different from ours. You choose the humble over the proud, the weak over the strong, the poor over the rich and powerful. We pray this morning as we give these gifts that you might use them to lift the lowly, feed the hungry, bring justice to those oppressed, bring love to those feeling unloved, and hope to those who feel forgotten. We pray in the Holy name of Jesus. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT UMH 196  
"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

\*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES FORTH

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

\*POSTLUDE

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\* = Please stand as you are able.  
UMH = United Methodist Hymnal

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November 29, 2015

Divine Street United Methodist Church

Rev. Elizabeth Gaines, Pastor  
Adrian Blue, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries  
Susan Horton, Organist  
Patti Queipo, Preschool Director

400 West Divine Street Dunn,  
North Carolina 28334  
910-892-2339  
dsumc@nc.rr.com  
www.divinestreet.org



A Place to...Belong...Believe...Become