

Pastoral Concerns:

Bernice Hamrick, Lisa Thomas, Becky Justus, Bobby Justus, Sylvia Mahaney, Pat Medley, Vickie Hughes, Cathy Dobson, Josie Potter, Deborah Harkins, Wendy Blake, Helen Haberneck, Erin Haberneck, Carroll Marshal, David McKinney, Mike Duncan, Theo Weger and his parents Daniel and Christiana, Gus and Pat McKinney, Phillip and Caroline McKinney, Martha Pound, Lesha Justus, Eveline Horrell, Judy Weger, Helen Greene, the family of Gay Garland, Conner Miller, Bobby Teague, Walt Smith, the Wyatt family, the family of Martha Snipes, and Dennis Dale.

Announcements:

Session meeting will be today at 1:30.

We are looking for new elders to share in the leadership of our church so please keep this in your prayers and consider God's call in your life.

There will be a performance of the Christmas section of Handel's *Messiah* on December 13th at 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church Burnsville. Come out for an evening of beautiful music as you prepare for Christmas.

Church Staff

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bbj123107@yahoo.com

Pastor of Worship, Jim Taylor— 828-963-0349

Singingpreacher53@gmail.com

Director of Music, Eveline Horrell--828-766-9184

Grassy Creek Presbyterian Church PCUSA

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Spruce Pine, NC 28777

<http://grassycreekpc.wncpresby.org/>



Grassy Creek Presbyterian

November 27, 2016

We Worship, We Share, We Serve

Announcements and Welcome

Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Prelude: *Sleepers Awake*

Preparation for the Word

***Call to Worship**

L: Advent is upon us, a season of wondering, watching, and waiting

P: Come into our world, Lord Jesus

L: We look for signs of God's presence around us, waiting for God to come in new ways

P: Come into our lives, Lord Jesus

L: We wait with hope, peace, joy, and love

P: Come into our hearts, Lord Jesus

L: Come! Let us worship God who is breaking into our world, our lives and our hearts in new ways!

P: Come unto us, Lord Jesus, and do something new in us!

Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candle—Hope

**Hymn of Praise—While We are Waiting, Come (insert)*

Unison Prayer of Confession

It's starting already, Lord. It is only the first Sunday in Advent, and we are caught up in the pressures and stresses of the holiday season. Pursued by the temptation to spend our funds, our energy, our spirits, we feel that there is no peace or rest in the world. Lord of light and peace, shine on us this day. Forgive us when we have so easily succumbed to the anxieties and fears and temptations of the season. Slow us down. Calm our spirits. Give us an awareness that this is the season of waiting and of preparation. Pour peace and hope into our lives and help us to be bearers of that hope to others. For we ask this in Jesus' precious name.

(a moment of silent confession) Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Dear ones, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord! Hear the good news: even before you can finish asking, I can declare to you that in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Now go live in the hope, responsibility, and joy of that assurance. Amen.

The Word Proclaimed

First Lesson

Isaiah 2: 1-5

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem: *Who Would Think That What was Needed**

Second Lesson

Matthew 24: 36-44

Sermon:

**“Ready or Not ”
Pastor, Jim Taylor**

Response to the Word

**Hymn of Response—11 O Lord, How Shall We Meet You?*

***Affirmation of Faith—The Apostles' Creed**

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

***Doxology**

***Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving**

Our gifts seem so insignificant considering the need, so paltry when we look at the brokenness around us. But in the days to come, you promise to take them so that others might be fed, clothed, housed, and embraced in your grace and hope. Help us to walk in your light loving God, as we use these gifts to serve those in need. For we ask it in Jesus' name, Amen.

**Hymn of Sending—55 That Boy Child of Mary*

***Charge and Benediction**

**Please stand if able.*

**the anthem today is from the new Glory to God hymnal.*

92 While We Are Waiting, Come

1 While we are wait - ing, come;
 2 With power and glo - ry, come;
 3 Come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come;

while we are wait - ing, come.
 with power and glo - ry, come.
 come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come.

Je - sus, our Lord, Em - man - u - el,

while we are wait - ing, come.

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Advent Prayer

*Lord Jesus,
Master of both the light and the darkness,
send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for
Christmas.*

*We who have so much to do
seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.*

*We who are anxious over many things
look forward to your coming among us.*

*We who are blessed in so many ways
long for the complete joy of your kingdom.*

*We whose hearts are heavy
seek the joy of your presence.*

*We are your people,
walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.
To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!"*

*~ written by Fr. Henri J. M. Nouwen. Posted
on Patheos. <http://www.patheos.com/blogs/yimcatholic/2012/12/an-advent-prayer.html>*

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