

Unity Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 21, 2025

4th Sunday of Advent

Lighting of the Candles (quiet please)

Gathering of God's People

Choral Call to Worship

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Welcome / Our Life Together

Call to Worship

L: The people who walked in darkness, have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

P: You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder.

L: For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

All: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

+Morning Prayer

+Hymn of Praise

+Call to Confession

+Prayer of Confession

God of Hope, Peace and joy, we know you call us to learn the ways of Christ and often choose a different way. The Psalmist tells us that "joy comes in the morning." Jesus came to bring us joy in order to make us complete." Joy is part of the serious business of heaven. And yet we often aren't Joyful. We mope. We're angry. We lose Hope. Help us commit ourselves to be focused, as we await Christ's birth. Lord, forgive us. Open our hearts wide so that we will greet the birth of Jesus with a full measure of Joy. And of Peace and Hope. Help us run joyfully to Bethlehem like the shepherds so long ago. (Silence) Amen.

+Assurance of Pardon

+Passing the Peace

**The Dunn Family
(Announcements)**

Isiah 9: 2-4, 6

"O Holy Night"

The Sacrament of Baptism Mary Blake Williford (Insert)

Children's Time "Christmas Joy Offering Collection"

Anthem:

Choir

Service of the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture: Isaiah 40: 1–5 and Matthew 1:18–25

Sermon: "Walking in Darkness or in Hope" John Winings

Responding in Faith

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

+The Doxology

+Prayer of Dedication

Sending Out into the World

+ Hymn of Commitment "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"

+ Charge and Benediction

+Choral Benediction

Postlude

+ Please stand as you are able

+ Today we are Live Streaming

We are happy you are worshipping with us this morning. If you would like to know more about us, please ask. We love to share the Unity story. Clip boards in Vestibule.

Please sign the visitor book in the vestibule so we can have a record of your visit.

Calendar of Events

The beautiful Poinsettia is given to the Glory of God and in Memory of John Paul Blackman by his family.

Today Daily Devotional Books are on the vestibule table for January and February.

Today - John Winings will lead worship. Mary Blake Williford will be baptized!

Today – We will receive the Annual Christmas Joy Offering during the Children’s Time. The offering aids ministers and families who need extra help.

Wednesday Dec 24th – Christmas Eve Communion and Candle Light Service with Rebecca O’Dell at 9:00 p.m.

Sunday Dec 28th – John Winings will lead worship.

Sunday Jan 4th – Adam Caldwell will lead worship.

Sunday Jan 11th – Rev. Massink will lead worship.

Like us on Facebook:

[facebook.com/unitypresbyterianchurchnewtongroenc](https://www.facebook.com/unitypresbyterianchurchnewtongroenc)

You Tube Link for Livestream

[unitypresbyterianchurch9963](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC9963)

Unity Presbyterian Website is: unitypc.org

To receive **phone tree calls**, **add someone to the prayer list**, or **to send out a prayer request**, please contact Rebecca O’Dell 910-890-2559

Cleaning

Dec 21st – Jennifer & Morris

Dec 28th Dale, Dana & Ashley

Jan 4th – Lark & Keith

Jan 11th –Cindi & Darla

Elder on Call for December: Kent Barefoot (910-260-2133)

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