



UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

God has called University Baptist Church to minister to the University Community and to the residents of the Greater Charlottesville-Albemarle Community, serving as agents of Christ's love and justice for those in need and offering a vital family of faith.

**December 14, 2025
3rd Sunday of Advent**

GATHERING

Marking the Hour

Opening Words

Dr. Matthew Tennant

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Prelude

Concerto Grosso : Pastorale

Arcangelo Corelli

Lighting the Candles

We light these candles to welcome the Spirit, for they represent how Jesus is the Light of the world which guides us through life.

Opening the Bible

We open the Bible to remind us that God speaks to us through the Holy Word.

Choral Introit

The Snow Lay on the Ground (Hymn 116)

Sanctuary Choir

traditional carol

arr. Robert Wetzler

*Call to Worship (from Isaiah 35:3-4)

Laura Martindale

Say to those with fearful hearts: Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.

Behold, the glory of the Lord shines upon us!

Say to those with weak hands and aching knees: Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.

Behold! In splendor the Lord dwells among us!

The barren lands burst into bloom; the desert erupts with delight. We join creation's song:

With joy in our hearts, let us worship God!

*Hymn 82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy

The Hellings Family

Sung Response - Hymn 95

Prepare the Way of the Lord

PREPARE THE WAY

First together and then twice through in a round

Invocation

Alden Pinkham

Greeting

*The ministries of University Baptist Church are made possible by your financial support.
Offering boxes are located at the rear of the Sanctuary and electronic giving
by scanning the QR code on the back of the bulletin.*

Mission Moment

Global Missions

Pam Hallissy

Anthem

In the Bleak Midwinter (Hymn 144)

Harold Darke

Sanctuary Choir

Soloists: Laura Martindale & Ingrid Flaherty

HEARING

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 11:2-11 (p.792)

Martha Ballenger

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

*Hymn 87

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

GENEVAN 42

Morning Prayer

Rev. Megan Sharp

Assurance of Forgiveness

The God who formed us and keeps us in love is always drawing near to us in Christ,
bringing life and salvation to all.

Rest in this promise: Christ has come, Christ is coming, and Christ will come again.
Let us rest in God's forgiving grace. Amen.

*Doxology

GLORIA

**Let the nations shout and sing, glory to their Savior bring.
All below and all above sing your praise with joy and love.
Gloria in excelsis Deo; gloria in excelsis Deo.**

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 35:1-10 (p.578)

Herman Eaker

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Anthem

A Stable Lamp Is Lighted (Hymn 160)

David Hurd

Sanctuary Choir

Sermon

Water For the Desert

Dr. Tennant

*At this time, children in Kindergarten through 5th Grade may exit
to attend Worship+Wonder in the Children's Suite.*

Meditation

Barbara Moore

RESPONDING

Invitation

Dr. Tennant

*Hymn 134

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

Choral Benediction

Love Came Down at Christmas
Sanctuary Choir

John Rutter

Love came down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine.
Love was born at Christmas, star and angels gave the sign.
Worship we the Godhead, love incarnate, love divine.
Worship we our Jesus: but wherewith for sacred sign?
Love shall be our token, love be yours and love be mine.
Love to God and ev'ryone, love for plea, and gift and sign.

Postlude

Concerto Grosso: Allegro

Arcangelo Corelli

*Please rise as you are able, in body or spirit.

Instrumentalists:

Organ/Piano: Barbara Moore
Violin: Elle Polifka, Ezra Flaherty
Viola: Brooke Mahanes
Cello: Dan Pinkham
Oboe: Arlyn Burgess
Percussion: Bobby Gregg

This Week at UBC

SUNDAY, Dec. 14

9:30 Seekers and ESOL Classes
9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study
11:00 Morning Worship

MONDAY, Dec. 15

4:00 Theology Reading Group

TUESDAY, Dec. 16

11:30 Annie Armstrong Circle Meeting
7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 17

8:00 Work Team Breakfast @The Villa
9:00 Work Team
5:15 Wednesday Night Dinner
5:45 Children's Christmas Shoppe
6:00 Blue Christmas Service
6:30 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, Dec. 19

5:30 Jazz Vespers



Sunday, December 21, 11:00 am

No-Rehearsal Christmas Pageant

Wednesday, December 24, 5:00 pm

Christmas Eve Worship Service

University Baptist Church

Thank you for coming to worship today. We are blessed by your presence, and we trust that this hour will help to deepen your spiritual life. We look forward to meeting you personally at the close of the service.

About Us: University Baptist Church is a vibrant community of faith, bringing together university students and area residents in worship, study, and service to our community. We seek to be an authentic community of Christians who love and care for each other as a family, and openly welcome and include all people regardless of age, race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, or background. We believe that all people have important gifts to share in God's family, working together as the hands and feet of our good and loving God. Learn more at universitybaptist.org.

Newsletter: If you would like to stay updated on all the latest news and events at UBC, please call or email the church office at linda@universitybaptist.org.

Additional Parking: Additional parking is available at the 14th St. Garage. Just show them your bulletin when you leave.

Worship Online: Visit universitybaptist.org/live to download the Sunday worship bulletin and find instructions for how to watch live services online or listen on the radio.

Acknowledgements: The text and music for the hymns are reprinted by permission to University Baptist Church, Christian Copyright License No. A-742738.

Personal Hearing Receivers: Hearing devices are available from an usher.

Giving: Please place your gift in one of the boxes at the back of the Sanctuary or mail your contribution to the church office. You can also give online by scanning the QR code below or texting "give2ubc" to 73256.

Prayer Requests: Prayer Request cards are available in each pew rack. They may be left in an offering box or handed to an usher or minister following worship.

Newsletter



Website



Giving



Church Staff

Senior Minister – Dr. Matthew Tennant

Associate Minister for Music & College Students– Rev. Megan Sharp

Voces Laetae Director – Will Cooke

Organist – Barbara Moore

Office Coordinator – Linda Weirich

Financial Coordinator – Amanda Ohlms

Church Administrator – Alan Hendricks

Maintenance Assistant - Hunter Cooper



Poinsettias

Colleen Baber

In memory of my son, Andrew Baber and my nephew Sam Pye

In memory of my parents, Joe & Betty Jenkins and my brother, Ed Jenkins

Donna Ballard

In memory of Mary Harlow Ballard & All the Harlow's and Bibbs who were a part of UBC

Clara Ann Brown

In memory of Martha Wood

Bob & Cindy Bryant

In memory of Lee & Kathy Jennings
In memory of Howard & Margueritte Bryant

In memory of Shelley Miller

In memory of Christopher Ward

Herman & Gayle Eaker

In memory of Frank Abernathy

Grace Elman

In memory of Ann Rice

Robby & Judy Gough

In memory of Martha Wood
In memory of Ed Lowry
In memory of Melvin Spicer
In memory of Sally Chewning
In honor of Scott & Laura Morris
In honor of Bob Gough & Betsy Bell
In honor of Wednesday Work Team
In honor of Church Family

*The beautiful poinsettias
in our Sanctuary are given
by the following people.*

Larry & Debby Johnson

In memory of John & Mildred (Sadler) Johnson

Carolyn Lowry

In memory of Edward, my husband
In memory of my parents, Willard & Edna Petitt

In memory of Ed's parents, Al & Alice Lowry
In memory of Ed's brother, Al Lowry
In memory of my brothers, Jackie and Kenny Petitt

In memory of my sisters, Betty Murphy and Jane Stewart

Jen May

In memory of my uncle, William Currier

Jeanette Powell Mills

In memory of my son, Ted Ashley Powell

Tom & Diane Mundell

In memory of Harry Weber
In memory of Bob & Emily Mundell

William & Barbara Murray

In memory of my parents, William & Sarah Murray

Glenna Ohlms

In memory of Dan Ohlms

Mildred W. Spicer

In memory of Melvin D. Spicer, my loving husband of 56 years
In memory of Charles & Edna Witter, my parents and my role models

Amy Teachey

In memory of Iva, Carnell, Bill & Peggye

Barbara Weber

In loving memory of Harry Weber

Jane Whitworth

In memory of Robert E. Whitworth