



# 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*  
First together and then twice through in a round

PREPARE THE WAY

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

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## This Week at UBC

<p><b>SUNDAY, Dec. 14</b> 9:30 Seekers and ESOL Classes 9:45 Sunday Morning Bible Study 11:00 Morning Worship</p> <p><b>MONDAY, Dec. 15</b> 4:00 Theology Reading Group</p> <p><b>TUESDAY, Dec. 16</b> 11:30 Annie Armstrong Circle Meeting 7:00 Voces Laetae Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY, Dec. 17</b> 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</p> <p><b>FRIDAY, Dec. 19</b> 5:30 Jazz Vespers</p>
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**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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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

1223 W. Main Street  
Charlottesville, VA 22903

Phone: 434-293-5106  
[www.universitybaptist.org](http://www.universitybaptist.org)



## Poinsettias

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

*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 Chewing

In honor of Scott & Laura Morris

In honor of Bob Gough & Betsy Bell

In honor of Wednesday Work Team

In honor of Church Family

*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