

Church of the Advent  
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 Williamston, NC 27892  
 Office: 252-792-2244  
 Rev. Connelly: 704-651-0244  
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The Right Reverend Robert Skirving..... Bishop, Diocese of East Carolina  
 The Reverend Connie Connelly ..... Priest in Charge  
 Joe Jernigan..... Parish Administrator  
 Brandon Woody ..... Organist/Choirmaster  
 Lori Taylor..... Altar Guild  
 Bill Webb..... Acolytes  
 Joe Jernigan..... Ushers  
 Lucia Peel ..... Episcopal Church Women/Parish Life  
 Kit Reddick..... Outreach

**Vestry**

Lucia Peel ..... Senior Warden  
 Doug Chesson ..... Junior Warden/Buildings & Grounds  
 Ginny Webb..... Clerk  
 Lowell Taylor..... Treasurer

2020-2022

Don Mills  
 Tom Slade  
 Ginny Webb

2021-2023

Lucia Peel  
 Lowell Taylor  
 Chloe Tuttle

2022-2024

Michael Biondi  
 Doug Chesson  
 Cathy Skinner

**Worship Assistants**

January 8

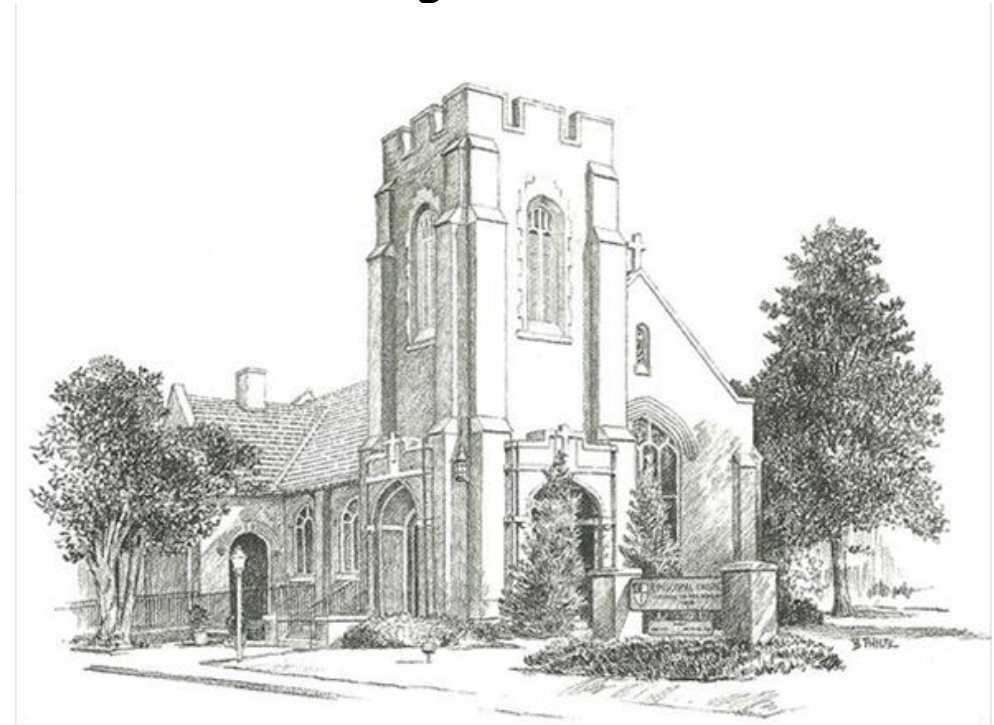
Service Leader  
 Acolyte  
 Lector  
 Intercessor  
 Eucharistic Minister  
 Usher  
 Usher

Rev. Mollie Roberts  
 Exum Taylor  
 Chuck Cohen  
 Cathy Cohen  
 Chloe Tuttle  
 Don Beach  
 Lowell Taylor

January 15

Cathy Skinner  
 John Price  
 John Price  
 Don Beach  
 Lowell Taylor

# Church of the Advent



*Established 1850*

*The Church of the Advent is a nurturing, vibrant, and inclusive community inviting spiritual growth through liturgical worship, outreach, and fellowship.*

*The First Sunday after the Epiphany  
 The Baptism of our Lord  
 Holy Eucharist Rite II*

*January 8, 2023*

*11:00 A.M.*

*The time prior to the start of the service is set aside for prayerful waiting and reflection.  
Please be respectful in observing silence at this time. **Please silence all electronic devices.**  
S denotes Service Music found at the beginning of the hymnal.  
BCP refers to the Book of Common Prayer.*

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**PRELUDE**

**PROCESSION HYMN** *(please stand)*    *Brightest and best of the stars*                      Hymnal 117

**THE WORD OF GOD**

*Celebrant*    Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.    BCP 355

*People*        ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.***

*Celebrant*    Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our  
hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may  
perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name;  
through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

**SONG OF PRAISE**                                      *Gloria in excelsis*                                      Hymnal S-280

*Celebrant*    The Lord be with you.

*People*        ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant*    Let us pray.  
Father in heaven, who at the baptism of Jesus in the River  
Jordan proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him  
with the Holy Spirit: Grant that all who are baptized into his  
Name may keep the covenant they have made, and boldly  
confess him as Lord and Savior; who with you and the Holy  
Spirit lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. ***Amen.***

**FIRST LESSON** *(please be seated)* *Isaiah 42:1-9*

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.  
Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
he will bring forth justice to the nations.  
He will not cry or lift up his voice,  
or make it heard in the street;  
a bruised reed he will not break,

and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
he will faithfully bring forth justice.  
He will not grow faint or be crushed  
until he has established justice in the earth;  
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.  
Thus says God, the Lord,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
who gives breath to the people upon it  
and spirit to those who walk in it:  
I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness,  
I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
a light to the nations,  
to open the eyes that are blind,  
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
from the prison those who sit in darkness.  
I am the Lord, that is my name;  
my glory I give to no other,  
nor my praise to idols.  
See, the former things have come to pass,  
and new things I now declare;  
before they spring forth,  
I tell you of them.

*Reader*        The Word of the Lord.

*People*        ***Thanks be to God.***

**PSALM 29**



1 ***Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, \****  
***ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.***

- 2 *Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; \*  
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.*
- 3 *The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders; \*  
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.*
- 4 *The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; \*  
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.*
- 5 *The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; \*  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;*
- 6 *He makes Lebanon skip like a calves; \*  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.*
- 7 *The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;  
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; \*  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.*
- 8 *The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe \*  
and strips the forests bare.*
- 9 *And in the temple of the Lord \*  
all are crying, "Glory!"*
- 10 *The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.*
- 11 *The Lord shall give strength to his people; \*  
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.*

**SECOND LESSON** Acts 10:34-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ--he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that

he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL HYMN** (please stand) *We three kings of Orient are*

Hymnal 128

**HOLY GOSPEL** Matthew 3:13-17

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**SERMON** (please be seated)

**NICENE CREED** (please stand)

BCP 358

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** Form III

BCP 387

**CONFESSION OF SIN AND ABSOLUTION** (the people may kneel)

BCP 360

**THE PEACE** (please stand)

BCP 360

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** (please be seated)

**OFFERTORY**PRESENTATION OF ALMS AND OBLATIONS *(please stand)*OFFERTORY ANTHEM *(please be seated)* *As I Went Down in the River to Pray*RESPONSE *(please stand)* *Earth has many a noble city (verse 3)* Hymnal 127**THE HOLY COMMUNION****THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** *(the people may stand or kneel)*

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER A BCP 361

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY Hymnal S-128

LORD'S PRAYER BCP 364

**FRACTION ANTHEM** *Come, risen Lord, (verse 1)* Hymnal 306**COMMUNION HYMN** *In your mercy, Lord you called me* Hymnal 706**POST COMMUNION PRAYER AND BLESSING** *(the people may stand or kneel)* BCP 365**PROCESSION HYMN** *(please stand)* *As with gladness men of old* Hymnal 119**DISMISSAL***Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.*People* **Thanks be to God.****POSTLUDE**

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**Calendar**

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Sunday Jan 8 6:00 pm, Twelfth Night Party at Cathy Skinner's home

Wednesday Jan 11 6:00 pm, Holy Eucharist

Sunday Jan 15 9:30 am, Choir Practice  
11:00 am, Holy EucharistSunday Jan 22 9:30 am, Choir Practice  
11:00 am, Holy Eucharist  
6:00 pm, Vestry Meeting (old and new members)

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**Announcements**

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✝ The 2023 offering envelopes are in the narthex. Next to the boxes is a signup sheet. Please sign your name to the corresponding number of envelopes you select.

✝ A floral offering poster is on the sacristy bulletin board for parishioners to sign up for Sundays in which they would like to offer altar flowers in 2022. Standing offerings are already penciled in. Direct any questions to Joe or Lori.

✝ Rev. Connie will be leading a candlelight vigil for Khalil Jefferson at Greensprings Park in Greenville on Monday January 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm.

✝ Tonight is our Twelfth Night Party, a chance to raise monetary support for Blessings in a Backpack. During April, Church of the Advent will be packing 320 meals multiplied by \$4.00 for a total cost of \$1, 280. We would like to make this our goal — to raise enough funds to cover our month of April. For \$16.00 you can feed one child for the month, for \$32.00 you can feed two children, for \$48.00 you can feed three children, for \$64.00 you can feed four children, for \$80.00 you can feed five children, and for \$96.00 you can feed six children. Checks need to be made out to Blessings in a Backpack. A collection basket will be available at the party.