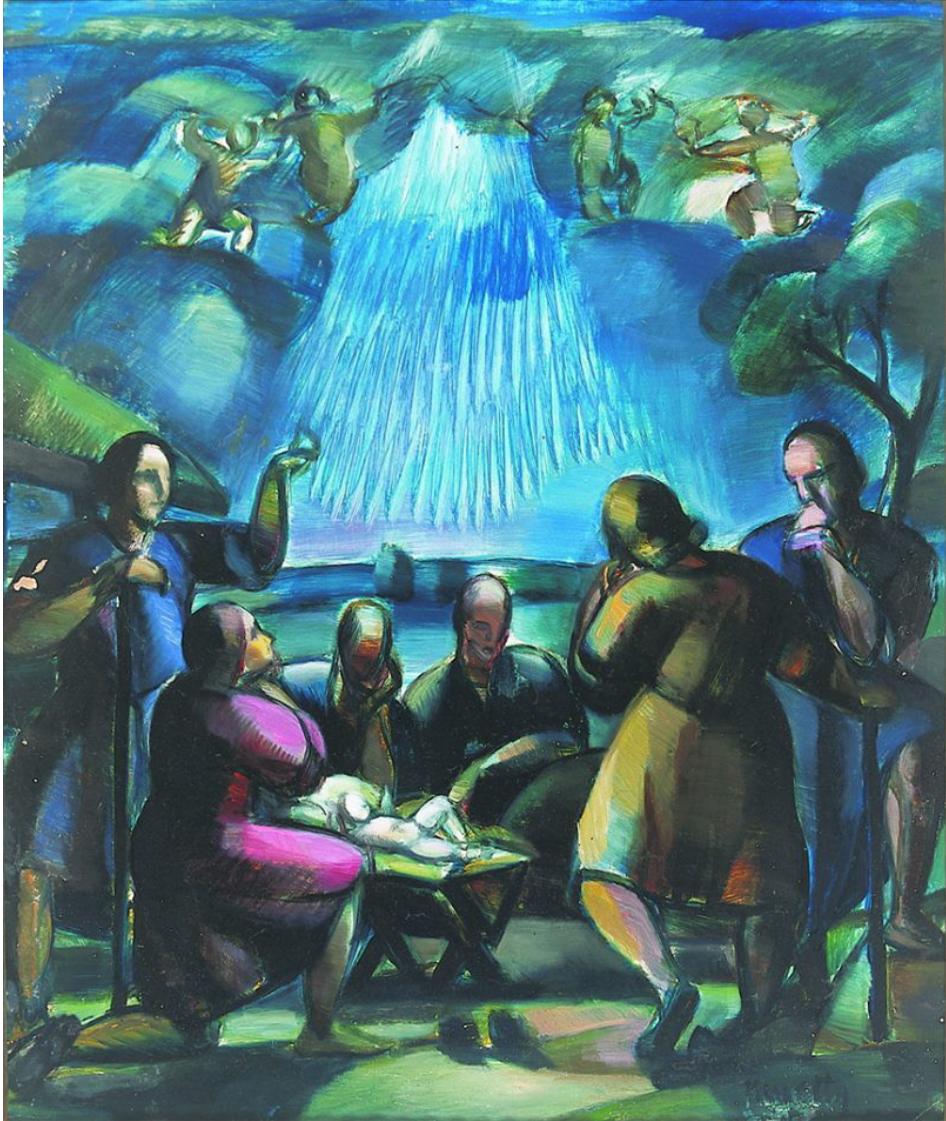


# UNITED CHURCH *of* CHAPEL HILL FESTIVAL WORSHIP



**JANUARY 4, 2026 | 10:30 A.M.**

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

\*Please stand, as able, when indicated by asterisk. **Bold text indicates congregational response.**

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## OPENING VOLUNTARY

*Behold, A Rose Breaks Into Bloom*

Johannes Brahms,  
transcribed by Ferruccio Busoni

## INTROIT

*Sicut Cervus*

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 60

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

**For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples, but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.**

Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

**Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together; they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms.**

Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you; the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

**They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.**

## WELCOME

## \*HYMN OF PRAISE 1

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

## \*COLLECT IN ESPAÑOL

**Dios, más maravilloso y más amable, gracias por su presencia con nosotros en todos veces y maneras. Escúchanos cuando oramos por los pobres, los enfermos, y los vulnerables. Proteger y guardar los inmigrantes. Nos ayuda a crecer en el amor de Cristo, con corazones fuertes en fe, que podemos ser vecinos buenos por todos sus niños. Amen.**

*God, most wonderful and kind, thank you for your presence with us in all times and in all ways. Hear us when we pray for the poor, the sick, and the vulnerable. Protect and save immigrants. Help us to grow in the faith of Christ, with hearts strong in faith, that we can be good neighbors for all your children. Amen.*

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Ephesians 3:1-12  
Matthew 2:1-12

Pew Bible page 950  
Pew Bible page 783

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

### CHILDREN'S RESPONSE

*Where Children Belong*

RITCHIE



This, this is where chil-dren be-long, wel-comed as part of the wor-ship-ing throng.



Wa-ter, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where chil-dren be-long.

## SERMON

*A Gift for All*

Rev. Cameron Barr

## \*HYMN OF THE DAY 154

*Go Tell It on the Mountain*

African-American spiritual

## CALL TO SHARING

## ANTHEM

*The Rain Will Seek the Rivers*

Robert J. Powell

**Program notes:** *The Rain Will Seek the Rivers* uses images of water and restlessness to reflect how God gently draws all hearts toward Christ, echoing the Epiphany call to respond to God's revelation.

## \*PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

*Doxology*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all creatures here below;  
O, praise God! Alleluia! Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter;  
One, God, Triune whom we adore, O, praise God! O, praise God!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia.

## \*INVITATION TO AN OPEN TABLE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

You may be seated. Let us pray.

## PASTORAL PRAYER

### LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*Please come forward to receive the bread and cup. We offer a gluten-free option in the basket with purple linens and serve only non-alcoholic grape juice. Raise your hand if you would like a pastor to bring the elements to you. Communion cups may be left in the openings on the back of the pews.*

## **COMMUNION HYMN 336**

*Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face*

MORECAMBE

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**We give thanks, gracious God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## **\*HYMN OF BLESSING 315**

*O Word of God Incarnate*

MUNICH

## **\*BENEDICTION**

## **CLOSING VOLUNTARY**

*Noel Suisse*

Louise-Claude Daquin

### **GRATITUDE CORNER**

**Submissions needed!** If you can name something about our church community that makes you want to give thanks and sing in less than 200 words, we'd love to print it here. Send your submission to [mmee@unitedchurch.org](mailto:mmee@unitedchurch.org).



## UCCH YOGA: JANUARY CLASSES

Join Melanie Joiner for an all-levels yoga class focused on building resilience and community on **Fridays at 9 a.m. in the Assembly Hall: January 9, 16 (chair yoga), 23, and 30.** Questions? Please contact Melanie at melanie.spence@gmail.com.

## COMMUNITY FORUM

Next **Sunday, January 11**, Rev. Melanie Morrison will lead our Community Forum at **9:15 in the Fellowship Hall.** Rev. Melanie, a UCCH member who worships with La Mesa, will share excerpts and reflections from her new book published by Duke University Press: *Becoming Trustworthy White Allies*.

## MULTICULTURAL MINISTRIES BOARD LUNCH AND LISTENING SESSION

On **Sunday, January 11, following La Mesa**, the Multicultural Ministries Board will be hosting a lunch and listening session in the Assembly Hall. This gathering is designed to hear from people about their dreams and ideas for multicultural ministry at United Church, and to create space for folks to discern how they might be part of that growth and help bring those ideas to life. Everyone is invited to bring food and drinks to share. Items may be stored in the kitchen prior to La Mesa. The gathering will conclude by 1:30 p.m.

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING JANUARY 18

You are invited to a congregational meeting on **Sunday, January 18, following the 10:30 a.m. worship services**, to discuss and act on several important financial decisions. As the Pillars of Promise Capital Campaign moves from planning into implementation, our next steps involve significant financial commitments and therefore require congregational consideration and approval. Details are being sent to everyone on the UCCH email newsletter lists.

## UCCH 101 RESCHEDULED

Due to the need for a congregational meeting on January 18, the next meeting in our UCCH 101 series has been moved to **Sunday, January 25, at 12:00 p.m. in the library: Lunch with Pastors & Preparing to Join.** Our next **joint worship & membership service will be on Sunday, February 8, at 10:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary.**

## MLK DAY OF SERVICE MEAL-PACKING EVENT

*Monday, January 19, 2026, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.*

In honor of the upcoming Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, we are once again partnering with Rise Against Hunger in the global movement to end hunger. Join us in packaging over 10,000 meals to support nutrition, education and health for children and families facing hunger right now around the world. Register here: "bit.ly/RAHUCCH"

## SAVE THE DATES FOR LIGHT UP YOUR WINTER!

*Fridays: January 23, January 30, & February 6 | 5:30 p.m.* You're invited to our 2026 Light Up Your Winter series! Enjoy dinner and activities with our church family. Bring your friends, too--these events are open to all. Mark your 2026 Calendars now for...

**January 23:** "Zitipalooza" feast, followed by movie night, sponsored by the Board of Children's Ministry to benefit the UCCH Preschool.

**January 30:** Chili Cook-Off & game night.

**February 6:** Baked Potato Bar, followed by fun couples/partner games and family-focused activities, sponsored by the Couples Retreat.

## UCCH LANGUAGE LEARNING PROGRAM

Great news for the UCCH community and Orange County! The Language Program Team wants to let you know that English and Spanish classes will be held from January 26 to May 14, 2026. English and Spanish classes will be on the same days, Mondays and Wednesdays, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. Register via the attached QR code (or visit "bit.ly/ucchclass26"). If you know someone who might be interested, please share this info. Don't hesitate to contact Toby McCoy [tmccoy85@gmail.com](mailto:tmccoy85@gmail.com) or Linda Soto [linsoto@gmail.com](mailto:linsoto@gmail.com) with any questions.



## MORE ANNOUNCEMENTS IN ENEWS

Our e-newsletter is sent weekly on Tuesdays (English) and Fridays (Spanish). Sign up at [unitedchurch.org](http://unitedchurch.org).

## FROM THE UCCH LIBRARY

- ★ Borg, M.J., & Crossan, J.D. The stories of the first Christmas. In "The First Christmas," p3-24. 232.9 Bor F
- ★ Cox, H. The gurus and the usual suspects. In "When Jesus Came to Harvard: Making Moral Choices Today," p75-84. 232.9 Cox W
- ★ Coffey, M. Training to see stars. In "Mystery without Rhyme or Reason," p62. 811 Cof M
- ★ Hare, D.R.A. Contrasting responses to the new king. In "Matthew," p12-15. 226.7 Har Mat
- ★ Taylor, B.B. Home by another way. In "Home by Another Way," p27-31. 252 Tay H
- ★ Martin, R.P. Paul's calling and how he understood [and fulfilled] it. In "Ephesians, Colossians, and Philemon," p40-44. 227.7 Mar E

These items are on the small wooden rack in the center of the library. Instructions are provided: for using the catalog (near the computer), and for borrowing an item (near the door). Questions? Contact Barbara Wildemuth.

# WELCOME TO WORSHIP

## SERVICE NOTES

**MUSIC:** James Rice, guest organist; Chancel Choir

**LEAD DEACONS:** Kay Williams, Leigh Gosnell

**GREETER:** Jill McArdle

**LIVESTREAM:** Brian Moore

**SOUNDBOARD:** Sonic AL

**COFFEE HOST:** Erica Tillman

**COVER ART:** *The Adoration of the Child* by Kmetty János, 1916-1917. Public domain.

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## UNITED CHURCH STAFF

**SENIOR PASTOR:** Rev. Cameron Barr

**ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR COMMUNITY &**

**BELONGING:** Rev. Caleb Wolf

**MINISTER TO CHILDREN:** Anitra Grove

**MINISTER TO YOUTH AND FAMILIES:** Jackson Ringley

**MINISTER OF MUSIC:** Reyna Alston

**PROGRAM ORGANIST:** Julie Mitchell

**ADJUNCT MUSIC STAFF:** Charles Bradshaw (United Voices of Praise Director), Jennifer Anderson (Junior Choir Director)

**CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR:** Kati Ruark

**BUSINESS MANAGER:** Duane Gilbert

**COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER:** Marisa Mee

**SEXTON:** Bruce Thomas

**KITCHEN STEWARDS:** Hser Nay Htoo & Zoila Fonseca

**NURSERY ASSISTANTS:** Harper Gray, Kallista Mela, Mimi Reeves, Anna Grove, Jack Tanner, & Josh Hart

***Bienvenido. Welcome.*** Visitors are invited to take a contact card from the Narthex or Sanctuary pew pockets to fill out and place in the offering plate. / Se invita a los visitantes a coger una tarjeta de contacto de los bolsillos de los bancos del Nártex o del Santuario para rellenarla y depositarla en el plato de las ofrendas.

Or complete the form online:  
O rellene el formulario en línea:



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919-942-3540

**A PLACE of BELONGING** FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN