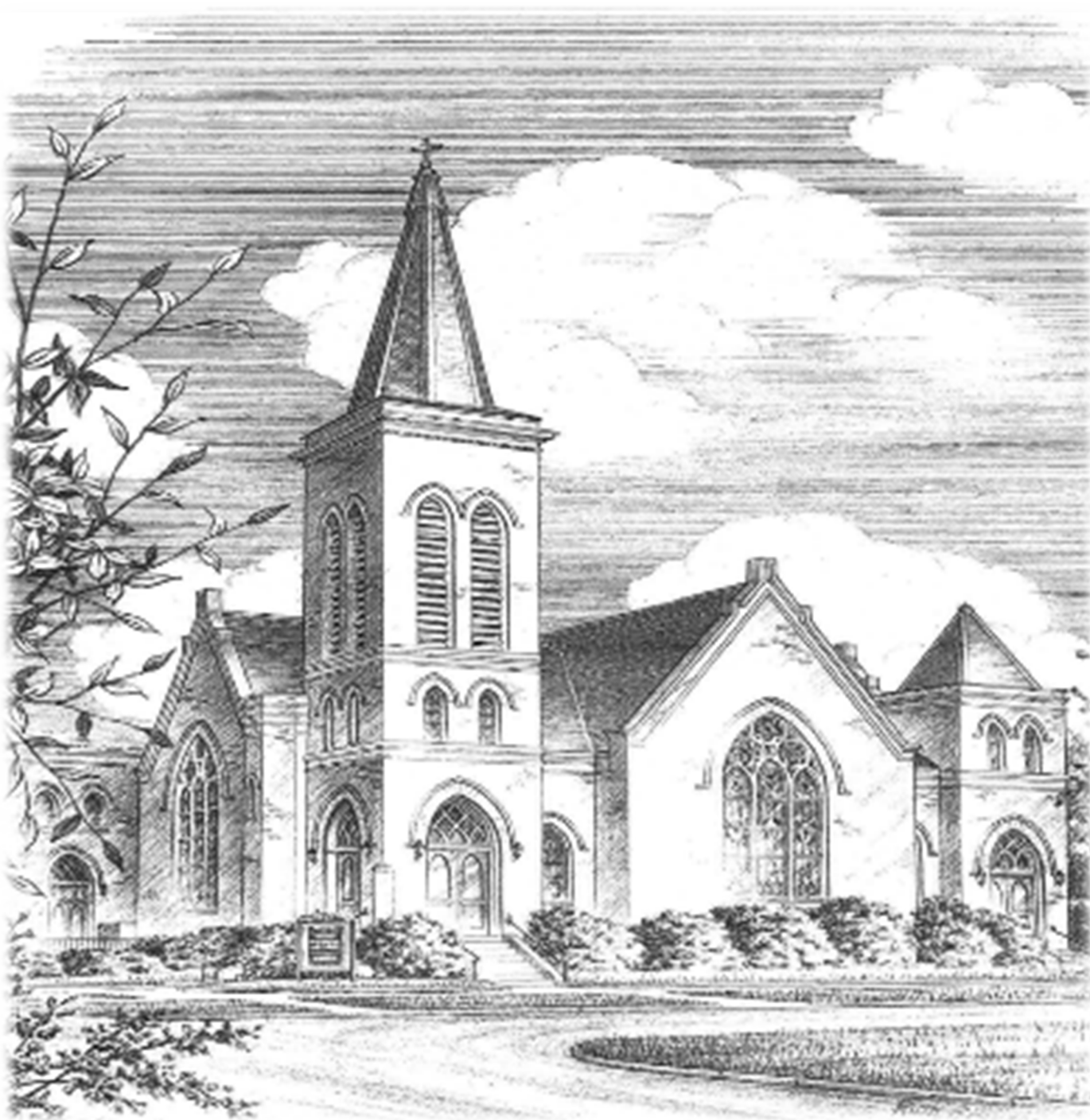


Duncan Memorial Methodist Church

Third Sunday of Advent



December 14, 2025

“Unto Us A Child Is Given”

Reverend William “Ted” Ragsdale

**Third Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2025**

+Congregation standing, if able. Congregation responses in **BOLD**.

GATHERING

Quiet conversation among congregants is encouraged.

PRELUDE

“Still, Still, Still”

M. Hayes

*Please observe a moment of prayerful silence as we enter our worship time.
Please take a moment to sign the Red Pew Pad.*

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

KassiJo Lloyd

PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE

Nikki Ewing

+CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Ragsdale

Leader: I will sing of the LORD's great love forever; with my mouth I will make your faithfulness known through all generations.

People: **We will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself.**

+OPENING HYMN

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”
(Verses 1, 3, 6)

Hymnal Pg. 234

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

Hymnal Pg. 881

*I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day, he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

+GLORIA PATRI	“Glory Be To The Father”	Hymnal Pg. 70
<i>Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.</i>		
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE		Men In Faith
CHILDREN’S MOMENT		KassiJo Lloyd
<i>Children ages 3 years – 3rd Grade are invited to Children’s Church.</i>		
CHURCH CONCERNS		Rev. Ragsdale
PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER		Rev. Ragsdale
THE GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS		
OFFERTORY	“Carol of the Bells”	D. Coates
+DOXOLOGY	“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”	Hymnal Pg. 95
<i>Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.</i>		
ANTHEM	“My Heart, Your Bethlehem”	Chancel Choir
SCRIPTURE READING	Isaiah 9:6-7	Pew Bible OT Pg. 638
SERMON	“Unto Us A Child Is Given”	Rev. Ragsdale
+CLOSING HYMN	“What Child Is This”	Hymnal Pg. 219
+DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING		Rev. Ragsdale
POSTLUDE	“The First Noel”	M. McDonald

*The altar flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory and honor of God
and in honor of Hubert and Linda Davidson’s Wedding Anniversary
by Bert & Erin Davidson, Julia and David Bellamy, and their children*

*The flowers on the sanctuary side tables are given in to the glory and honor of God
and in memory of Wallace Camlin Moulton by his family.*

Weekly Calendar

Dec. 14

10:00am Sunday School

11:00am Worship

5:30pm MYF Fun Nuts

Dec. 15

9:00am Counter – Margaret Ulrichsen

5:30pm Pastor Search Committee
(Archives Room)

6:00pm Finance Advisory Committee
(Fellowship Hall)

Dec. 16

9:00am 3M

This Sunday's Greeters & Ushers

Greeters: Cindy Thompson, Cindy Shaw,
Margaret Ulrichsen, Jan Moore

Ushers/Offering: Bobo Thompson, Kenny
Moore, Louise Walters, Melanie Daniels, Jerry
Broome

We are glad you are here!

Welcome to Duncan Memorial Methodist
Church. May this time of worship renew your
spirit, draw you closer to God, and remind you
that you are deeply loved and never alone.

Church Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 9:00am – 4:30pm
Friday 9:00am – 12:00pm

CHURCH NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

2026 Altar Flowers – If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary for Sunday Worship, please reach out to Linda Harmon at 843-995-3563 or call the church office at 843-546-5647.

2026 Giving Envelopes: We are doing giving envelopes a little different this year. Instead of pre-printing envelopes for everyone, please call the church office at 843-546-5647 to request your envelopes or fill out the giving envelope card in the bulletin and place it in the offering plate.

CHANCEL CHOIR

Are you interested in joining Duncan's choir? If so, they would be happy to have you join them!
If you would like more information, please call the church office at 843-546-5647.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Please join us for Christmas Eve Service, Wednesday, December 24, 2025 from 5-6pm. We will enjoy hearing the Christmas story through scripture readings and song, along with communion. This service will be family friendly and all are welcome to come and celebrate the birth of our Savior. If you have any questions, please see Katie Damon.

Our Faithfulness for December 7, 2025

Weekly Collection: \$11,170.00

Attendance: 124

Christmas: Unto Us a Child is Born

Isaiah 9:6-7

I. The Meticulous Course Of Prophecy.

- 1) In the judgment of the serpent **Genesis 3:15**
- 2) To Abraham **Genesis 22:18**
- 3) To Jacob **Genesis 49:10**
- 4) To David **2 Samuel 7:12-13**
- 5) *The prophet* **Micah 5:2**
- 6) The prophet **Isaiah 7:14**

And at last it happens – Matthew 1:23 “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”--which means, “God with us.”

II. The Marvel Of The Birth Of This Child.

Isaiah tells us that Immanuel, the eternal Son is born into our humanity and all we can do is marvel. It is a mystery, incomprehensible, unexplainable.

1. The Startling Description Of The Son: “Unto us a son is given... *And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*”

2. The Birth Was A Necessity. Hebrews 2:10-14, 18

As we share in flesh and blood (v. 14) he likewise partook of a real body. This took place God says so that four things could happen:

A. v. 10 He could be the author of our salvation through suffering on the cross.

B. v. 11 He is unashamedly and inseparably linked to us so that we are family and he calls us “brothers and sisters.”

C. v. 14 Through death he might destroy the power of the evil one.

D. v. 18 *That by suffering and temptation he is able to sympathize with us and help us.*

3. The Birth Is Grace Given To Us. “UNTO US a child is born, UNTO US a son is given.

Marvel at His love, Wonder at His gift. Bow and worship Christ, the Lord.

Isaiah 9:6-7 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and for ever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

The Amazing Course Of Prophecy.

Gen. 3:15 *"And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; **HE** will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."* The final executioner of Satan is to be the offspring of a woman, **he will be human, a man.**

Genesis 22:18 God says, *"through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed,"* **He would be Jewish.**

Genesis. 49:10 God says, *"The sceptre will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler's staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is his."* **He would be of the tribe of Judah.**

2 Samuel 7:12-13 God says, *"[after you die] I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom... ¹³ and I will establish the throne of his kingdom for ever."*
He would be of the lineage of David.

Micah 5:2 *But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah (an alternate name for Bethlehem), though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."* **Place of His Birth: Bethlehem**

Isaiah 7:14 *The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. His birth: a virgin birth*

The Birth Was A Necessity. (Four) reasons he shared in our humanity:

Hebrews 2:10-14, 18 *In bringing many sons to glory (heaven), it was fitting that God... should ⁽¹⁾ make the author of their salvation perfect through suffering. ¹¹ Both the one who makes men holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So ⁽²⁾ Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers. ¹⁴ **Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity** so that by his death ⁽³⁾ he might destroy him who holds the power of death--that is, the devil— ¹⁸ Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, ⁽⁴⁾ he is able to help those who are being tempted."*