



HICKORY GROVE
BAPTIST CHURCH

W O R S H I P G U I D E

Mallard Creek Campus | Week of December 1, 2019

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, December 1, 2019

“My Soul Magnifies the Lord”

Welcome

Psalm 105:4-5

“Angels we Have Heard on High”

Sermon

Romans 8:26-27

Prayer /Offering

“Advent Hymn”

“This I Believe”

Benediction

Psalm 29:11

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Scriptural call to worship at the beginning of our service reminds us of the centrality of God's Word. God reveals Himself to us through His Word and invites us to respond corporately to Him in worship.

Seek the Lord and His strength;

seek His presence continually!

Remember the wondrous works that He has done,

His miracles, and the judgments He uttered.

Psalm 105:4-5

OFFERING

Giving is an act of worship in which the members of Hickory Grove give generously of our substance to further the mission of the church and to bring glory to God.

BENEDICTION

May the Lord give strength to His people!

May the Lord bless His people with peace!

Psalm 29:11

WHAT IS ADVENT?

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The great promise of the Old Testament is the coming of Israel's long-awaited Messiah. For thousands of years, God's people anticipated the fulfillment of that promise, which Christians today celebrate each year at Christmas—the coming of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

The season leading up to Christmas has traditionally been referred to as Advent. Derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning “coming,” Advent is the season in which Christians celebrate the first coming of Jesus Christ to earth and anxiously anticipate His promised second coming in the last days. The Advent season officially begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas and is celebrated through Christmas Eve. Since Christmas falls on different days each year, Advent can range in length from 22–28 days.

HOW IS ADVENT CELEBRATED?

Christians throughout history have celebrated Advent in a wide variety of ways. The two most common traditions practiced are:

1. Advent Candles

Perhaps the tradition most commonly associated with the season of Advent is the use of Advent Candles to symbolize the anticipation of the coming of Jesus Christ, who is the “Light of the World” (John 8:12). While great variety exists in how this tradition is observed, the most common method is to display five candles and light one on each of the four Sundays of Advent. The fifth candle is then lit on Christmas Day. For aesthetics, many choose to arrange the candles in a wreath. As the candlelight grows brighter, we are reminded of Christ's imminent coming.

2. Advent Calendar

A popular tradition many families with children employ during the month of December is the use of an Advent calendar to mark the days leading up to Christmas. Beginning December 1, children enjoy uncovering the flap on the calendar for that day, revealing a portion of the Scripture's Christmas story, a picture, or a small object symbolizing the coming of Christ.

While many creative ideas for Advent calendars exist, our recommendation is to use ones that focus the season on the birth of Christ.

ADVENT RESOURCE RECOMMENDATION



COME, LET US ADORE HIM: A DAILY ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

by *Paul David Tripp*

The wonder and awe of the Christmas season can easily get overshadowed by lights, tinsel, bows, and paper—not to mention last-minute trips to the mall and visits to the in-laws. In all the hustle and bustle, we often lose sight of what's most important. This book of daily readings for the month of December by best-selling author Paul David Tripp will help you slow down, prepare your heart, and focus on what matters most: adoring our Savior, Jesus.

Available in the Resource Center or online.

CHRISTMAS AT HG

CHRISTMAS SERMON SERIES

Beginning next Sunday, December 8, Pastor will begin a 3-week Christmas sermon series looking at both the Old Testament and the New Testament as we begin to focus and celebrate on the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

ADORE NIGHT OF WORSHIP

Sunday, December 8, 5 PM, Worship Center

Come join us as we sing and pray together this Christmas season. Worship Pastor Gerald Malloy, will lead the congregation in a night of worship celebrating the birth of Jesus. A dessert reception will follow.

CHRISTMAS NIGHT OF WORSHIP

Sunday, December 15, 5 PM, Harris Campus

The choir, orchestra and kids' choir will lead as we worship and praise the Lord this Christmas season. A cookie fellowship will immediately follow this event.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Tuesday, December 24

Join us on Christmas Eve for a candlelight service as we worship and celebrate the birth of our Savior!

- Harris Campus: 4 PM
- Mallard Creek Campus: 5:15 PM

SCHEDULE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wednesday, December 4

- Dinner: 5 PM
- Awana: 6:15 PM
- Student Worship: 6:15 PM
- Pastors' Class: 6:30 PM

Sunday, December 8

- Worship: 10:15 AM
- Sunday School: 8:45 AM
- Adore Night of Worship: 5 PM

Wednesday, December 11

- Dinner: 5 PM
- HG Kids Christmas Musical
"Jingle Bell Beach": 6:30 PM

Sunday, December 15

- Worship: 10:15 AM
- Sunday School: 8:45 AM
- Christmas Night of Worship
(*Harris Campus*): 5 PM

Wednesday, December 18

- NO PM Ministry Activities

Sunday, December 22

- Worship: 10:15 AM
- Sunday School: 8:45 AM

Tuesday, December 24

- Christmas Eve Services
- Church offices closed

Wednesday, Dec 25 (Christmas)

- Church offices closed
- No PM Ministry Activities

Sunday, December 29

- Worship: 10:15 AM
- Sunday School: 8:45 AM

Wednesday, January 1, 2020

- No PM Ministry Activities
Church offices closed

HG STUDENTS: MISSION TRIPS

Philadelphia & Washington D.C.

(Current 7th - 12th grades):

April 15-19, cost: \$450

Caswell Beach (6th-8th grades):

April 16-18, cost: \$250

Register online: HickoryGrove.org.

DEACON ELECTION

Sunday, December 8

Next Sunday morning you will have the opportunity to vote on the 2020 deacon candidates during the morning worship service. Ballots will be available from the ushers. Please place your completed ballot in the offering plate.

Guest Information

If you are a guest, we welcome you and invite you to stop by any Guest Information Area to learn more about Hickory Grove and to get answers to your questions. Be sure to pick up a Guest Information Card, fill it out, and either drop it in the offering plate or leave it at any Guest Information Area.

