

Rock Creek Fellowship
Worship
December 21, 2025
9:00AM

Prelude Song
“O Come All Ye Faithful”
1. O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him,
born the King of angels.
Refrain:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!
2. Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heav’n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest
Refrain
3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee, be all glory giv’n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing
Refrain

Call to Worship *The Hulsey Family*

Today we relight the first three candles of the Advent Wreath — the candles of **HOPE**, **PEACE** and **JOY**. Now we light the fourth candle of Advent. This is the candle of **LOVE**.

Our Savior has embodied love in his monumental act of self-giving on our behalf. It is his loyal love and sacrificial generosity that permits the righteous and unrighteous alike to enjoy so many benefits. And it is our calling to broadcast his generous love through our edifying words and sacrificial deeds for the benefit of the world that he intends to rescue.

In the Book of Deuteronomy we find these words:
“For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.”—
[Deuteronomy 10:17-19a](#)

And from the Gospel of John we hear:
“I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”—[John 13:34-35](#)

Let us pray: Give us an increase of generous love, O Lord, for you, for one- another, and even for our enemies. May we mimic your ardent concern for the stranger, the orphan, the widow, and the lonely poor. As we actively strive to demonstrate your affection in all our work and play, grant that your steadfast love would be made complete in us. Come Lord Jesus, satisfy us and this world you adore with your unfailing love that all may praise you and be glad all our days. Amen

Worship in Song
“Good Christian Men, Rejoice!” **Hymnal, pg. 273**

Confession of Faith *From Westminster Shorter Catechism*

Q. 23. How is Christ our redeemer?
A. As our redeemer, Christ is a prophet, priest, and king in both His humiliation and His exaltation.
Q. 26. How is Christ a king?
A. As a king, Christ brings us under His power, rules and defends us, and restrains and conquers all His and all our enemies

Worship with Tithes and Offering
“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly,” **Hymnal, pg. 279**

Prayer of Thanksgiving *Kathaleen Hughes*

Welcoming One Another
“Doxology”
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

Confession of Sin
O promised Christ:
We are a world at war. Our peace depends on your coming. We are a sinful people. Our pardon depends on your coming. We are full of good intentions but weak at keeping promises; our only hope of doing God’s will is that you should come and help us do it. Lord Christ, Word made flesh, our world waits for your peace, for your pardon, and for your grace. Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

(Offer silent prayers of confession.)

Assurance of Pardon
Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.
The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.
People of God, through the coming of Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate, the Lord has comforted and redeemed us too!
In Christ we receive the salvation of our God. Glory to God in the highest!
—based on Isaiah 52:9-10; Luke 2:14

Scripture Reading *Pat Wilson*
Daniel 7:13–14

¹³ “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man,^[a] coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. ¹⁴ He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

Reader: The grass withers, and the flowers fall,
All: but the Word of our God stands forever.

Hebrews 1:6–9; 2:5–11
⁶ And again, when God brings his firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.”⁷ In speaking of the angels he says, “He makes his angels spirits, and his servants flames of fire.” ⁸ But about the Son he says, “Your throne, O God, will last forever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom. ⁹ You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has set you above your companions by anointing you with the oil of joy.”

⁵ It is not to angels that he has subjected the world to come, about which we are speaking. ⁶ But there is a place where someone has testified: “What is mankind that you are mindful of them, a son of man that you care for him?” ⁷ You made them a little lower than the angels; you crowned them with glory and honor ⁸ and put everything under their feet.” In putting everything under them, God left nothing that is not subject to them. Yet at present we do not see everything subject to them. ⁹ But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor because he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. ¹⁰ In bringing many sons and daughters to glory, it was fitting that God, for whom and through whom everything exists, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through what he suffered. ¹¹ Both the one who makes people holy and those who are made holy are of the same family. So Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters.

Reader: The Word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God!

Sermon *Pastor Eric*
O Come Let Us Adore Him: “Christ, The Reigning King”

Closing Song
“Hark, the Herald Angels Sing,” **Hymnal, pg. 277**

Benediction

Announcements

NEW HERE?

We welcome you to Rock Creek! If you would like more information about Rock Creek, please fill out the “Welcome Cards” located in the foyer and place in the wooden box also located in the foyer. If you have any questions, please contact Kristen in the office: Kristen@rockcreekfellowship.org

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Please join us on December 24 at 5PM at Durham Rd. for our Candlelight Christmas Eve service.

2025 Contributions

The leadership of RCF is deeply grateful for your generosity and steadfastness in giving thus far and through the remainder of 2025. As an annual reminder all your gracious donations to RCF will need to be received or postmarked by 12/31/25 to be included in the 2025 contribution statements. Contribution statements will be mailed in January.

HIGH SCHOOL WINTER RETREAT

All 9th-12th graders are invited to our 2026 Winter Retreat. We will be partnering with First Presbyterian, Chattanooga and heading to a cabin in Blairsville, GA where we’ll be hiking, fellowshiping, and learning how the gospel applies to our lives. Cost is \$200, but please don’t let that be an issue. Let Paul know if you plan to come or if you have any questions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday school meets in the fellowship hall after church until 11 a.m. A lively discussion of the sermon is always our topic. Deacon James Bevill leads us.

Children’s Sunday School is on break. We’ll resume on Sunday, January 25.

NEW HERE? We welcome you to Rock Creek! Nursery is available for ages 0-5 during the worship service in the children’s wing behind the Sanctuary. If you prefer to be with your nursing and/or crying child, please use the cry room located in front of the Sanctuary. You are also more than welcome to keep your children in the service with you.

GIVE TO RCF

There are several ways that you can contribute financially to Rock Creek Fellowship: 1. Drop a check in the offering basket, 2. Mail a check to the church, or 3. Make a payment electronically using the paypal QR code below.



Elders (* indicates elder attends Durham)

Dave Boozer*	423-598-2144
Don Dutton	423-488-7130
Henry Henegar	423-364-2388
Matt Jelley*	423-503-8505
Ron Jones	575-618-1051
Scott Jones*	423-903-5279
Sandy Shaw*	631-942-6337
Dave Worland	423-322-5369
Thomas Hayes*	423-802-7107
John Conrad*	423-605-3444
Matthew Bryant	423-432-7236
Matt Brown*	423-503-5202

Deacons (* indicates deacon attends Durham)

James Bevill	423-618-8669
Joel Bostrom*	423-503-5635
Nathan Brauer*	706-996-4011
Stephen Bontekoe*	423-421-2543
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