

**Scripture passages** are read from the New Revised Standard Version.

**The Morning Meditation** is from John D. Witvliet and David Vroege, eds., *Proclaiming the Christmas Gospel: Ancient Sermons and Hymns for Contemporary Christian Inspiration*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Books, 2004; p. 86.

**The Hildegard von Bingen reading** is from Hildegard, *Scivias* (trans. Columba Hart and Jane Bishop). Mahwah, NJ: Paulist Press, 1990; p. 434.

**The John Wyclif reading** is from John D. Witvliet and David Vroege, eds., *Proclaiming the Christmas Gospel: Ancient Sermons and Hymns for Contemporary Christian Inspiration*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Books, 2004; p. 98.

**The Bernard of Clairvaux reading** is from Witvliet and Vroege, 2004, pp. 91-92.

**The Ann Weems reading** is from Weems, *Kneeling in Bethlehem*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1987; p. 61.

**Thank you for worshiping with us!** If you would like to look into joining our congregation, please speak with the pastor. **To receive our weekly e-newsletter, “The Montreat Memo,”** please add or update your e-mail address on the fellowship pad, or email us at [office@montreatchurch.org](mailto:office@montreatchurch.org).

**Montreat Presbyterian Church is a congregation of the PC(USA).**

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**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Ken & Sylvia Boyer, Andrew Brunson, Charlotte & Calvin Chesnutt, Marinell Davidson, David Duncan, Sissy Jones, Billie & Bob Martin, David Miller, Daniel Peterson, Kay Philips, Maggie Tuggle, Paul Willison.

**SVCM is in need of the following:** Canned-Red kidney beans, pinto beans, pork and beans, corn, cereal, oatmeal; hygiene items-bar soap, deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes. We are also in need of coats (all sizes, all ages), and blankets (new or used in good condition). Monetary donations designated to food are also welcome (send to P.O. Box 235). Drop off items at 101 N. Ridgeway Avenue, Black Mountain, NC 28711.



MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IS AN EARTH CARE CONGREGATION.

## MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

### CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25, 2016, 9:00 A.M.

#### Morning Meditation

Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153)

*A voice of gladness has resounded in our land.*

*In the dwellings of sinners a voice of joy and salvation has been heard.*

*The good news has been announced, news of comfort, news full of rejoicing,  
worthy of all acceptance. Rejoice and give praise, O you mountains.*

*All you trees of the forest applaud before the face of the Lord, for now he is coming.*

*Hear, you heavens; and you, earth, give ear.*

*Let the whole of creation be astounded and give praise; but you, O humans, above all others.*

*For 'Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is born in Bethlehem of Judah.'*

#### Chimes of the Trinity

#### Call to Worship

Psalm 97:1, 11-12

The LORD is king!

**Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!**

Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.

**Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,  
and give thanks to God's holy name!**

#### The Ritual of Fellowship and the Passing of the Christmas Peace

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you!**

Hymn 132	“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”	
Reading from the Old Testament	Isaiah 52:7-10	
Hymn 110	“Love Has Come”	
Gospel Reading	Luke 2:15-20	
Hymn 136	“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”	
Christmas Meditation	Hildegard von Bingen (1098-1179)	
Hymn 128	“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”	
Hymn 115	“Away in a Manger”	
Voluntary	SUSSEX CAROL <i>Clara Hare-Grogg, violin</i>	English Carol arr. R. Vaughan Williams
Hymn 144	“In the Bleak Midwinter”	
Christmas Meditation	John Wyclif (1324-1384)	
Hymn 147	“The First Nowell”	
Prayers of the People and the 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.**

Hymn 113	“Angels We Have Heard on High”	
Affirmation of Faith	“Christmas Comes”	Ann Weems (1934-2016)

**Christmas comes every time we see God in other persons.  
 The human and the holy meet in Bethlehem  
 or in Times Square,  
 for Christmas comes like a golden storm on its way  
 to Jerusalem—  
 determinedly, inevitably....  
 Even now it comes  
 in the face of hatred and warring—  
 no atrocity too terrible to stop it,  
 no Herod strong enough,  
 no hurt deep enough,  
 no curse shocking enough,  
 no disaster shattering enough.  
 For someone on earth will see the star,  
 someone will hear the angel voices,  
 someone will run to Bethlehem,  
 someone will know peace and goodwill:  
 the Christ will be born!**

*Hymn 119	“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”	
*Charge	Bernard of Clairvaux (1090-1153)	

\*Blessing



*\*The congregation is invited to stand.  
 Words in bold and double-indented are congregational responses.  
 A basket is available for those who wish to make a contribution of tithes or gifts  
 to Montreat Presbyterian Church and its mission.*