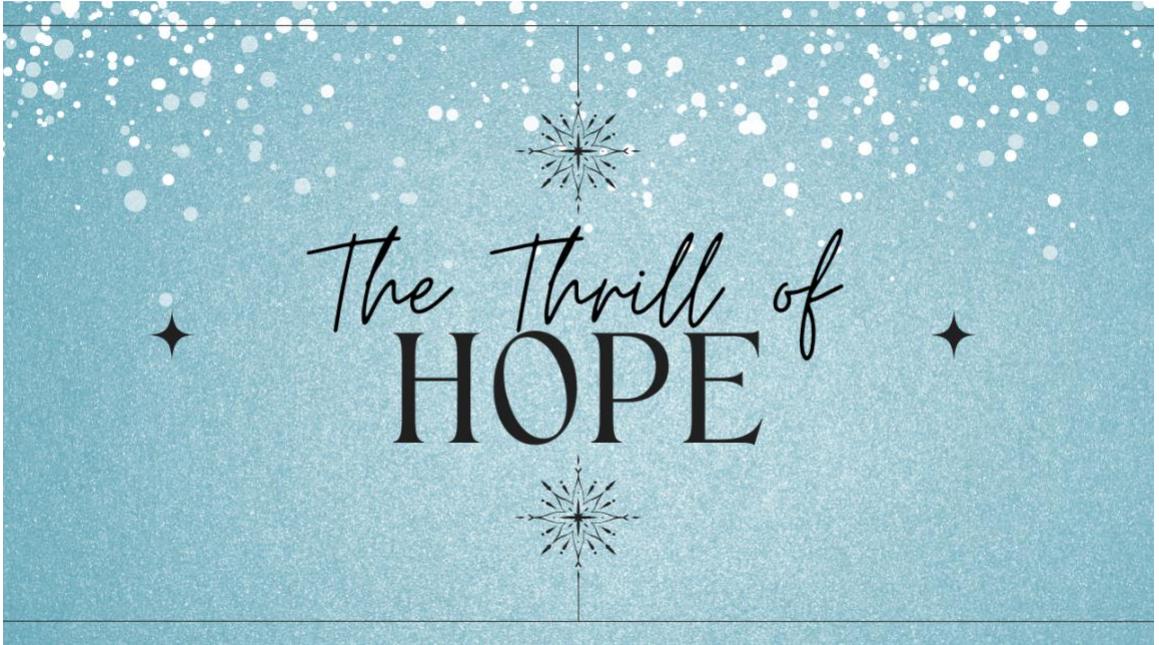




# BUFORD FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

PO BOX 329, BUFORD, GA 30515-0329

MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE TRANSFORMATION OF THE WORLD



WORSHIP PASSIONATELY - SERVE AUTHENTICALLY - DEMONSTRATE UNWAVERING HOSPITALITY

*Our mission is to empower all people to experience the transformative love of Jesus Christ through service, tradition, and education.*

*Our vision is to serve as a diverse community of faithful people who worship passionately, serve authentically, and demonstrate unwavering hospitality.*

**December 24, 2025**

**Christmas Eve**

**Thrill of Hope: *"The Mystery of Hope"***

## BFUMC Kids



Join us for a beautiful candlelight service as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

**December 24**

**5:00pm with Children's moment**

**8:00pm**

**Nursery (5:00pm only):** A nursery is provided for children age 3 and under in room 202 of the Christian Life Center.

For more information, contact Susan Rosenthal, [children.director@bufordfirstumc.org](mailto:children.director@bufordfirstumc.org)



## ABC Preschool News:

We wish you a very **Merry Christmas.**  
We hope you have a blessed holiday.



*The Ladies at the BFUMC Preschool*

For more information, contact Leandre Majerus, [preschool@bufordfirstumc.org](mailto:preschool@bufordfirstumc.org)

## Student Ministry



## Missions

Thank you to everyone who served in a Christmas Missions Project this year! As a church body, we were able to provide Christmas gift support to over 20 families with over 300 angels from the Angel Tree, over 700 meals to our non-profit community partners (ex: women's and children's shelters) and individuals in need in the community, and funding for 5 other missions organizations through the Alternative Christmas project.

*Thank you to everyone who contributed to these projects!*

If you would like to learn more about how to get plugged in and serve in 2026, reach out to Sydney! We have our weekly feeding mission, Sack Kids Hunger, our free community English classes, and so many other missions projects that you can serve in!

For more information, contact Sydney Yancey, [mission@bufordfirstumc.org](mailto:mission@bufordfirstumc.org)

## Adult Ministry

**Daniel & Revelation Bible Studies:** There are two Bible study options to choose from that started back in the Fall. For each Bible study, we will be going through the second half of the book starting in January. Revelation (Part 2) - Facilitator: Brendan. Tuesdays at 6:00pm in the CLC Media Room (312). Daniel (Part 2) - Facilitator: Pastor Jim. Wednesdays at 10:00am in the CLC Media Room (312). Part 2 of the Revelation and Daniel Bible studies will start **1/6** and **1/7**, respectively. You can join in the Bible studies even if you did not do Part 1 in the Fall. The facilitators just ask that you let us know so that we can provide you with materials from Part 1 so you can get caught up with the rest of the group!

**The Florence Garner Circle** will be hosting Ladies Game Night on **1/9** at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a dish to share, a favorite board game, and consider inviting a friend. All ladies are invited!

**Young at Heart: Bunco and Lunch** - Tuesday, **January 20**. RSVP with your sandwich choice. Cost: \$15.00 for a box lunch from *Main Street Deli*, drink, and prizes. Box lunch includes sandwich (ham/provolone or turkey/swiss on wheat bread), potato chips, chocolate chip cookie, and a pickle. Time: 11:00am - 2:30pm. Please RSVP with your choice of sandwich to Debbie Atcheson by January 13 at: [djatcheson@gmail.com](mailto:djatcheson@gmail.com) or 770-965-3729.

For more information, contact Sydney Yancey [adultministry@bufordfirstumc.org](mailto:adultministry@bufordfirstumc.org)

# The Worship of God

December 24, 2025

5:00 & 8:00pm

Christmas Eve | Liturgical Color: White

Hearing devices and large print hymnals are available in the narthex.  
If you have trouble hearing the sound, please alert an usher for help.

***Please place your electronic devices on silent mode and  
refrain from flash photography during worship.***

† *Stand as you are able.*

## GATHERING

Chiming of the Hour

Hank Morgan, Organist

Prelude

**“Prelude on a Luther Hymn”** by *Gordon Young*

Organist

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Jim Buckman

## PRAISING

†Call to Worship

(5:00) Niki Redstrom  
(8:00) Linda McQuaig

Leader: Christ is born; give him glory!

**All: Christ has come down from heaven; receive him!  
Christ is now on earth; exalt him!**

Leader: O you earth, sing to the Lord!

**All: O you nations, praise him in joy, for he has been glorified!**

†Hymn of Praise No. 238 **“Angels We Have Heard on High”** (v. 1, 3, 4)

GLORIA

Lighting the Advent Christ Candle

(5:00) the Marion family  
(8:00) the Thomas family

*Leader: ...Let us pray:*

**All: Gracious and Mighty King, we celebrate your goodness to us as we join  
the triumph and joy of Christmas. As your love has been revealed in all  
of its fullness, we pray that love may abound in our hearts during this  
special day. Grant us the spirit of Christ that we may live in the fullness  
of his character every day. In His name we pray. Amen.**

*Words: Sandra Dean, © 1986*

*AWAY IN A MANGER (Murray)*

***We honor Messiah with the Christ candle's flame;  
Our Christmas Eve candles glad tidings proclaim.  
O come, all ye faithful, rejoice on this night  
As God comes among us, the Christian's true light.***

(5:00) Children's Moment

Susan Rosenthal

## PRAYING

Time of Silent Prayer · Pastoral Prayer · The Lord's Prayer

Rev. Buckman

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## GIVING

Gathering of Tithes and Offerings

"Noel" *arr. Heather Sorenson*  
Soloist – Sarah Van Pelt

Chancel Choir

†Doxology No. 95

OLD 100<sup>th</sup>

***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.***

†Prayer of Consecration

Rev. Buckman

## COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving for Christmas Eve (*see insert*)

## LEARNING

Message in Song Hymn No. 219 "What Child is This" *all 3 verses*

GREENSLEEVES

Sermon

Thrill of Hope: ***The Mystery of Hope***  
*Scripture: John 1:1-14*

Rev. Buckman

## SERVING

†Candlelight Hymn

**"Silent Night, Holy Night"**  
*Sarah Van Pelt, guitar*

STILLE NACHT

†Benediction

Rev. Buckman

Postlude

**"From Heaven Above"** (Vom Himmel Hoch) *arr. Wilbur Held*

Organist

# Worship Preview

December 28 (10:00am only)  
January 4

**“Behold a New Thing”**  
**Testify: “Making It The Greatest”**

Isaiah 43:10-19  
John 1:15-18

Stephen Ministers for this week: If you would like someone to pray with you over the phone, discuss concerns in your life, or just learn more about the Stephen Ministry please contact Deena Rindfusz (404-375-6248) or Pat Stanley (404-406-9216).



*The Sanctuary flowers are given to the Glory of God*

**FLOWER SIGNUPS THROUGH DECEMBER 2026: [rebrand.ly/bfumcflowers](https://rebrand.ly/bfumcflowers)**  
or call the church office at 770-945-7438



## 5:00pm Worship

<u>Acolytes</u> – Eric Fonville ( <i>crucifer</i> ), Jacob Van Pelt ( <i>light</i> )	<u>Greeters</u> – Joan Burger, Gary Burger
<u>Ushers</u> – Mike Stebnicki, Melissa Stebnicki Mark Redstrom, Ken Stewart	<u>Liturgist</u> – Niki Redstrom
	<u>Sound</u> – John Alford

## 8:00pm Worship

<u>Acolytes</u> – Mike Rosenthal ( <i>crucifer</i> ), Susan Rosenthal ( <i>light</i> )	<u>Greeters</u> – Suzanne Clegg, Linda Chambers
<u>Ushers</u> – Ken Hiltgen, Darla Hiltgen Bill Ogles, Celina Countess	<u>Liturgist</u> – Linda McQuaig
<u>Live-stream monitor</u> – Adam Van Pelt	<u>Sound</u> – John Alford
	<u>Camera</u> – Jacob Van Pelt

## Ministry Staff

Senior Pastor | Rev. Jim Buckman  
Director of Adult Ministry | Sydney Yancey  
Director of Children & Family Ministry | Susan Rosenthal  
Director of Student & Outreach Ministries | Brendan Rossell Smith  
Interim Director of Music & the Arts | Jean Ann Crites

Director of Preschool | Leandre Majerus  
Facility Manager | Will Rogers  
Financial Secretary | DeeAnna Page  
Office Manager | Roy Foster  
Organist | Hank Morgan



**December 24, 2025**

GUEST & MEMBER REGISTRY

I attended the 5:00pm service \_\_\_\_\_

I attended the 8:00pm service \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Children \_\_\_\_\_

Children \_\_\_\_\_

Guest of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ First Time Visitor

\_\_\_\_\_ Attend, but Not a Member

\_\_\_\_\_ New Resident in Community

\_\_\_\_\_ Wish to Know More About the Church

\_\_\_\_\_ Desire a Call

\_\_\_\_\_ I am a Member of this Church

If you are new or your contact info has changed:

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to join BFUMC, please fill out the membership card located in the church pew, or call or email the church office.

CHURCH OFFICE

770-945-7438 ~ office@bufordfirstumc.org

Monday – Thursday 8:30am – 5:00pm

(Closed on Friday)

PRESCHOOL OFFICE

770-945-4161 ~ preschool@bufordfirstumc.org

FACILITY CONCERNS

facility@bufordfirstumc.org

MAILING ADDRESS

PO Box 329, Buford, GA 30515-0329

(MAIL CANNOT BE DELIVERED TO OUR STREET ADDRESS)

ONLINE

[bufordfirstumc.org](http://bufordfirstumc.org) [facebook.com/bufordfirstumc](https://facebook.com/bufordfirstumc)

[instagram.com/bufordfirstumc](https://instagram.com/bufordfirstumc)

[youtube.com/@bufordfirstunitedmethodist8610](https://youtube.com/@bufordfirstunitedmethodist8610)



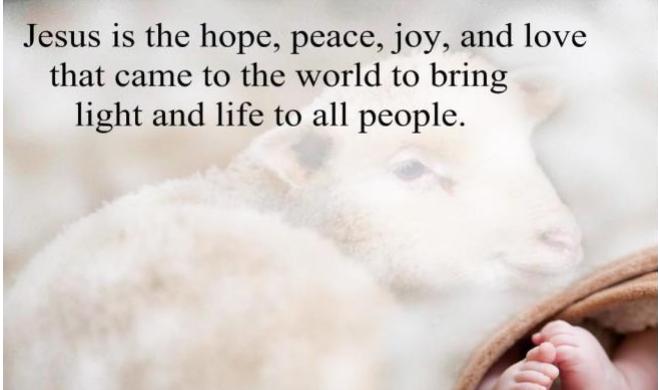
## Welcome to Buford First United Methodist Church

*We are honored that you have chosen to join us for worship on this joyous Christmas Eve. Our hope for you is that this worship service brings hope and peace to you and your loved ones.*

*We would count it a blessing for you to come back and join us each week for worship. We provide worship each Sunday at 9:00am in the Sanctuary, and at 11:00am in the Sanctuary and livestreamed. We offer Sunday School for all ages at 10:00am and would love for you to join us as we study God's word and fellowship together.*

*We welcome everyone to join us as we serve God through worship, fellowship, and service. We offer opportunity for spiritual growth through our Children's Ministry (including our 5-day a week Preschool), Youth Ministry, Adult Ministry, Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, Bible Study, and Missions.*

*Find more information at [www.bufordfirstumc.org](http://www.bufordfirstumc.org)  
or call the church office at 770-945-7438.*



Jesus is the hope, peace, joy, and love  
that came to the world to bring  
light and life to all people.