

# Boulevard United Methodist Church



The antiphons beg God with mounting impatience to *come and save your people*. The order of the antiphons climb climatically through our history of Redemption. In the first, *O Sapientia*, we take a backward flight into the recesses of eternity to address Wisdom, the Word of God.

- Jennifer Gregory Miller

## November 11, 2018

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25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
4:00 pm at 1837 W Broad St.

Greeting Rev. Drew Willson

Opening Words

O Wisdom, you came forth from the mouth of the Holy One.  
**Mighty and sweet your ordering of life: teach us prudence!**

Hymn *Praise the Source of Faith and Learning 1-2* 2004

Time with Children

Hymn *Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom*

Prayer

Music

Reading *Canticle of Wisdom* 112  
*O Come, thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh;  
To us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Gospel Reading Mark 12:38-44

Sermon Rev. Rachel G. May

Hymn *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*

Offering

Prayer

The Lord's Supper

Hymn *City of God*

Dismissal with Blessing

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Holy God...*

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*In the fullness of time, you sent Jesus...*

And so,

in remembrance of these, your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving  
as a holy and living sacrifice,  
in union with Christ's offering for us,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*Pour out your Spirit on us, and pour out your Spirit on these gifts...*

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 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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER

# NURTURE

*caring for one another and for our growth as disciples*

## {Inward}

WE ARE PRAYING for those grieving the deaths of Dot Hechler, Rita Callis, Deanna Spain, and Charlie Ruxton. Also on our prayer list: Nancy Tate and Leslie. Wish to add or restore a name? Say so via the offering plate or the church's e-mail address.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH for infants - 5 year olds begins after the children's moment (approximately 4:15). They rejoin us for Communion. Ms. LaRonda is an experienced childcare provider currently employed by Grace Covenant Child Development Center.

RECOMMENDED FOR ADVENT 2018 are these resources, listed below. Each book is designed to be read a little at a time. The ask is that you pick one and order it in time to have it by December 2.

*Jesus Calling for Christmas*, Sarah Young

*Why This Jubilee? Advent Reflections on Songs of the Season*, James C. Howell



*Pauses for Advent: Words of Wonder*, Trevor Hudson

*Celebrating Abundance: Devotions for Advent*, Walter Brueggemann

*Waiting on the Word: A poem a day for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany*, Malcolm Guite

*All Creation Waits: The Advent Mystery of New Beginnings*, Gayle Boss & David Klein, illustrator

Sample copies are available for you to flip through before or after our service. You may also be able to get a feel for them online by searching the titles and using the "look inside" tool. If you run into any difficulty obtaining a copy of the book of your choice, please let Rachel know.

# OUTREACH

*participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy*

## {Outward}

THANK YOU for \$385.00, now bound for hurricane recovery workers. Churches and individuals in the Alabama-West Florida Conference, the North Carolina and South Carolina Conferences are grateful for the funds that come to them in the midst of such a difficult and long recovery.

# WITNESS

*telling our stories, offering expressions of faith, being Christ-like*

## {Together}

FINANCIAL GIVING BEARS WITNESS to a caring and sharing God, as do our prayers, presence, and acts of service. October's spending reflects our move to a new space.

	Ministry Costs	Your Contributions
October 2018	16,600	7,674

WISDOM COMES FROM GOD. It is the first of six names that we will look at between now and Christmas – names for the Messiah, whom Christians believe has come (and continues to come) in the person of Jesus.

Why are we consider God as wisdom this Sunday? In short, the “O” Antiphons. The O Antiphons are one way to tap into the fullness of what we long for in this season of the church year. We are using them to enter into the Advent state of heart and mind.

The hope is that while we engage something ancient, we will experience something new or something that is *being* renewed within and among us.

<i>O Sapientia</i>	Wisdom	November 11
<i>O Adonai</i>	Lord	November 18
<i>O Rex Gentium</i>	Ruler of nations	November 25
<i>O Radix Jesse</i>	Root of Jesse	December 2
<i>O Clavis David</i>	Key of David	December 9
<i>O Oriens</i>	Light from the east	December 16
<i>O Emmanuel</i>	God with us	December 23

Fun fact: The "O" Antiphons form the verses for the hymn *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*. The first letter of the Messianic titles: Emmanuel, Rex, Oriens, Clavis, Radix, Adonai, Sapientia—spell out Latin words ERO CRAS, meaning, "*Tomorrow, I will come.*"

#### Mark 12:38-44

<sup>38</sup>As he taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, <sup>39</sup>and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! <sup>40</sup>They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

<sup>41</sup>He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. <sup>42</sup>A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny.<sup>43</sup>Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. <sup>44</sup>For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”



## Storefront Inklings

*with Rev. Rachel*

### **FOR WISDOM WILL COME** - Proverbs 2:10

When the Proverb says that wisdom will come, it says, wisdom will come into our hearts. That is our first clue that biblical wisdom is not as head-y as it sounds.

There is plenty to be found in the Scriptures regarding knowledge and understanding. The human brain is helpful for these pursuits. But if we are going to enter into the realm of wisdom and in any way experience what others before us *meant* by the wisdom of God or the wisdom that *is* God, we may have to put aside our modern associations.

The wisdom that we speak of this Sunday is mysterious. It is hard to spell out where it came from or even what precisely it is. That is one of the reasons why wisdom is personified in the Scriptures. Putting flesh on a thing helps.

Enter Lady Wisdom in the Book of Proverbs, who posts up in the busiest part of town to tell folk the error in their ways. The writer of Wisdom of Solomon (which is in some, not all bibles) got the idea to personify wisdom as a woman from Proverbs.

The she-factor gets a certain crowd all kinds of worked up, as though it were snuck in there by whomever happens to be held in a suspicious light. Why it strikes a nerve and how I feel about that is an essay for another day or never.

What matters to me presently, is that you and I wonder about this Wisdom from on high that so many before us have asked for...or prayed or sung for, as it were.

Were they asking for order? For a way to walk in? For access to the meaning implanted by God in creation (G. on Rad)? Is the prayer for God to post up in the streets Lady Wisdom-style or is it for creation to happen again?

That last bit is perhaps the hardest for us to wrap our heads around. The biblical testimony to Wisdom being at God's side in the beginning and having a role with God and human beings from the get-go is pretty "out there". Hence, why, when it comes, the good Lord-willing, it will come into our hearts.