



**FIRST SUNDAY**  
OF  
*Advent*

## ~ Gathering before the Word ~

Welcome

Dr. Stuart Bond

Prelude

Wildwood Honey

Chimes of the Trinity

Choral Call to Worship

*God with Us, Emmanuel*

Joel Raney

### \*Call to Worship

During Advent we wait for the coming Savior who is our Wonderful Counselor.

**Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you.**

We anticipate the One who hears our prayers.

**Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you.**

We anticipate the One who heals our infirmities.

**Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you.**

We anticipate the One who renews our faith.

**Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you.**

We anticipate the One who ignites our hope.

**Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you.**

### \*Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Lowder Family

Words and Music by  
JOEL RANEY

Congregation:

Ev-er-last-ing Fa - ther, Prince of Peace,  
 Won-der-ful Coun - se-lor, Al-might-y God.  
 Em-man-u - el, Em-man-u - el. God with  
 us, Em - man - u - el.

**\*Prayer of Confession**

**O God, forgive us for our lack of hope. We are jaded and we live as if you are not in our world. Remind us again, Lord, that you have broken into the world over and over, and you can do it again. Jesus born unto us is proof that you are a God who fulfills his promises. Help us to hope in you.**

*(In silent prayer, let us offer GOD our confession and our hope)*

**Leader:** Believe the Good News of the Gospel:

**People:** **In Jesus Christ we are all forgiven!**

**Thanksgiving & Prayers of the People**

**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.**

**~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~**

**Word with our Children**

Michelle Walker

**Scripture Reading**

Isaiah 9:1-7

**Leader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

Dr. Stuart Bond

Prepare Him Room: Making Room in our World

**~ Responding to the Word of God ~**

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;  
and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified,  
dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.**

**Song of Reflection**

*Mary Did You Know*

Greene/Lowry

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

Wildwood Honey

**\*All who are able please stand.**  
CCLI # 2221136

## **Announcements**

**Please extend a warm welcome to Wildwood Honey Band** as they help lead our worship today! Members are Tori Jones, Katie Jones, Samantha Ann Elling, and Elli Jones. A love offering will be accepted for the Band on the table in the Narthex.

**Thank you to all who donated:** Thanks to your generosity, First Presbyterian was able to pack 349 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes.

**You are invited to a combined adult Sunday School class** in the Sanctuary each Sunday at 10:00 am! Join us for socially-distanced learning and fellowship. If you can't make it in person, join us as we go live on YouTube.

- 11/29- Rice & Bean Packing for CCM
- 12/6- Renee Goodnight

**Christmas Poinsettias:** It's that time of year, Advent is quickly approaching, and we will again have beautiful Poinsettias in our sanctuary. You may purchase as many as you would like in Honor or in Memory of a loved one by completing the form in today's bulletin. **Deadline for orders is Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>.**

**OCC Shoebox Drop-off** thank you again to all who volunteered this past week, we saw 854 shoeboxes dropped off for children around the world!

**Men mark your calendar,** Saturday December 12, 8:30am for Men's ministry Coffee & Biscuit fellowship.



**[www.firstpresb.org](http://www.firstpresb.org)**

201 Vance Street  
Kannapolis NC 28081-4383  
Phone - 704-938-4623

## **The Session**

Jeff Barnhardt, Clerk of Session

Class of 2021

Jeff Barnhardt  
Frank Gibson  
Phil McLain

Class of 2022

Debbie McDaniel  
Gip Rumble  
Bill Stricker

Class of 2023

Dave Agrabrite  
Renee Goodnight  
Ryan Walker

## **Church Staff**

Dr. Stuart Bond  
Transitional Pastor

David Hamilton  
Director of Music

Michelle Walker  
Director of Children's Ministries

Terri Pruett  
Bookkeeper/Videographer

Angela Simpson  
Office Manager

Kay Yates  
Organist

Irene Davis  
Nursery Director

**If you would like to contribute flowers for worship, please see the sign-up poster on the bulletin board just outside the church office. The cost for an arrangement is \$56.**

## Prayer Concerns

*New Prayer requests will be placed  
in the bulletin for two weeks.*

*Please help us keep Prayer Concerns current with  
weekly updates emailed to [firstpresb@firstpresb.org](mailto:firstpresb@firstpresb.org).*

### HOMEBOUND

**Peggy Barnhardt** - at Morningside

**Iris Efir**

**Betty Overcash** - at

Elmcroft in Salisbury

**Barbara Wise**

**Loretta Young** - at Five Oaks

### MEMBERS

**Judy Goodnight** - Cancer

**Bill Hammond** - Health concerns

**Paul Barnhardt** - Health concerns

**Debby Baker** – Cancer

### Special Church Member of the Week

**Mrs. Peggy Deal Barnhardt**

507 Queens Gate Dr

Kannapolis NC 28083-4056

Send a card, make a visit or a call, or  
offer a prayer. All to say, "God loves you  
and the church cares about you."

### FAMILY & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS

**Laneece Ramsey**-Cousin of Mark Goodnight (Throat Cancer)

**Shari Blackman**- neighbor to the Stricker's (Had both heart & lung transplant this past week, she is struggling to recover.)

**Tammi Ford**- friend of the Stricker's (In the hospital with Covid 19)

**Cindy Fisher**-Mother of Lucinda Stewart (At Transitional of Kannapolis with Covid 19 & pneumonia, she is doing much better with breathing treatments.)

**Sam McAllister**-(2 grandchildren recovering from Covid)

**Farrar Griggs**- (At home recovering from Covid 19.)

**Susan Gibson**-Daughter in Law of Frank Gibson (Undergoing treatment for cancer.)

**Krystle Tacia**- friend of Chariti Lowder (Breast Cancer, has begun radiation treatments.)

**Cindy Barnhardt**-Cousin of Bonnie Goodnight (Diagnosed with ALS)

**Amy Ritchie** - friend of Jane Jacobs (Undergoing new chemo treatment at Duke)

**Roxanne Debord** - daughter of Tony & Judy Hunter (chemo)

**Wade Nunnery** - father of Karen Pless

**Barbara Coffey** - friend of Judy Hunter (Cancer treatment)

**Lori Holder** - daughter of Sam McAllister (MS)

**Prayer request?** Please write it down on the blue pew prayer card, & place in the offering plate.



**FIRST**  
**PRESBYTERIAN**  
**CHURCH**

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