



FOURTH SUNDAY
OF
Advent

~ Gathering before the Word ~**Welcome**

Dr. Stuart Bond

Prelude*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

BROOKS/REDNER

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 Everlasting Father.

From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

During Advent we look to the One who knows our deepest thoughts.

From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

During Advent we look to the One who cares for our deepest needs.

From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

During Advent we look to the One who knows our most pressing concerns.

From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

During Advent we look to the One who knows our innermost being.

From everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

***Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

David Hamilton

Hymn of PraiseAngels We Have Heard on High*

Traditional French Carol

***Prayer of Confession**

Gracious God, Bethlehem had no room for Jesus. And, too often, that is the case for us as well. We confess that in the midst of all our anxieties, we have not made room in our hearts for others. We confess that in the busyness of Christmas time, we have not made room in our lives for you. Lord, forgive us and renew us. Use this season to break open our hearts. Open our eyes to your presence and open our arms wide to welcome you.

(time of silent prayer and confession)

In Jesus' name. Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. (John 3:16-17)

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Word with our Children

Melania Meeks

Special Music *Lo! How a Rose E're Blooming* 16th Century German Carol

Scripture Reading Luke 2:16-20

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon **Prepare Him Room: Room in our Hearts** Stuart Bond

~ 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.**

***Hymn of Commitment** *Joy to the World* WATTS/HANDEL

***Benediction**

Postlude *Good Christian Men Rejoice!* 14th Century German Melody

***All who are able please stand.**

CCLI # 2221136

Announcements

Join us for Christmas Eve Services on Thursday, December 24th First Presbyterian will be offering a virtual Christmas Eve service will be up by 6pm You may also choose to attend an in person service. **The live service** will be in the sanctuary at 4pm and will be a brief service of scripture and music. A special offering will be collected for Habit Missions/Watchmen of the Streets.

Please visit the Giving Tree in the narthex! This year, the tree will benefit Kannapolis City Schools and Cooperative Christian Ministries. Tags on the tree will feature items requested by these organizations. You may also participate by signing up to purchase items at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0A4AAbAC2EA1FB6-giving> Please place your unwrapped gifts under the tree by December 24th.



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.*

HOMEBOUND

Peggy Barnhardt - at Morningside

Iris Efirid

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

Mike Lowder- and family in the passing of his sister Gail Burgess, due to complications from Covid-19.

Special Church Member of the Week

Mr. Dwight Goodnight

311 Brooks Street

Kannapolis, NC 28083-6005

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

Dwight Goodnight-Bob Faust Brother In Law (Stage 4 Cancer in his lungs & liver)

Anna Claire-Gran-daughter of Barbara Hancock (Has Covid 19)

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.

In Honor and Memory of Our Loved Ones

Given By:

Dawn & Tom Cavin

Mike Freeman

Frank & Peggy Gibson

Bill & Bonnie Goodnight

Steve & Judy Goodnight

Steve Goodnight

Amy Hurst

**Jane Aiken Jacobs
Anna Victoria &
Mary Elizabeth**

Todd & Karen Pless

Jerry Anne Phillips

**Peggy Snider &
Brenda Ramsey**

Bill & Sharon Stricker

In Memory Of

Jim & Eula Goodnight

**Mary Freeman
Clinton Freeman**

Larry Phillips

**Kelly Watts
Eloise Watts
Jim & Eula Goodnight**

**Martha & C.L. Suggs
Bruce & Bernice Davis
J.C. Goodnight & Alice Grisdace**

**Mr. & Mrs. Howard L. Belk
Mr. & Mrs. Harold E. Belk
Mr. Jerry Hurst**

**Robert (Bob) Jacobs Jr.
Mary Elizabeth & John S. Aiken**

Bynum H. Phillips Family

**Bertie Coggins
Evelyn Ramsey**

In Honor Of

**Rachel Hinson
Justin Bailey**

**Susan & Jason Gibson
Jeff & Paul Barnhardt
Barbara Hancock
Jean Skillman**

**Judy Goodnight
Barbara Wise**

**The Wedding Anniversary
of Richard & Jean Roberts**

Staff of First Presbyterian

**Allison, Alan,
Malaina Caelyn, Robert,
Adam, Anna, Wyatt &
Aiden**





FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

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