



Third Sunday of
Advent

~ Gathering before the Word ~

Welcome

Eddie Spencer

Lighting of the Candles

Noah Walker

Prelude and Preparation

O Holy Night

Adam

Christy Heinz, alto saxophone; Kay Yates, piano

Chimes of the Trinity

*Call to Worship

During Advent we wait for the coming Savior who is our Prince of Peace.

The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

In the midst of conflict, we look to the One who brings harmony.

The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

In the midst of confusion, we look to the One who brings clarity.

The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

In the midst of division, we look to the One who brings unity.

The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

In the midst of separation, we look to the One who restores the broken.

The Lord gives strength to his people, and blesses them with peace.

*Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Christopher 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.

To Our Guests

Welcome! We are delighted that you are worshiping with us this morning. We hope you find today meaningful and refreshing. Visitors, please fill out the information card located in the pews. If you have a prayer request, fill out the prayer card or call the church office at 704-938-4623.

Children's Activity Bags are available for children age 3 to grade 5. They include a children's bulletin related to the Sunday sermon, crayons, and scrap paper. An usher would be happy to bring you one. **A nursery is available for newborns through age 4. It is located on the second floor of the Educational Building.**

UPCOMING EVENTS



THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN GIVING TREE!

is in the Narthex. This year, the Missions Team has chosen Kannapolis City Schools and Missionaries Don and Martha Wehmeyer as our recipients. Please take a gift tag and return it with your unwrapped gift under the tree by Sunday, December 26th. Donations to the Wehmeyer Mission may be placed in the offering plate with your tag.

SPREAD SOME CHRISTMAS CHEER!

We will go Christmas Caroling to our shut-ins on **Sunday, December**

19th. Meet at the church at

5pm if you would like to participate. We will enjoy some warm refreshments upon our return!

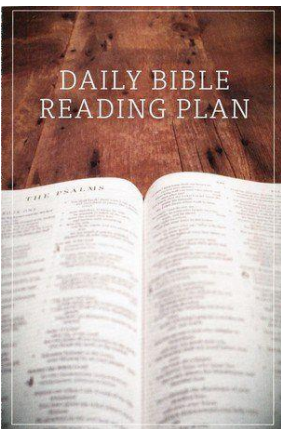


ALL ADULTS ARE INVITED TO A JOINT SUNDAY SCHOOL IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL ON DECEMBER 19! Roxanne Spencer will present Mary in the first person as we reflect on the miracle of Christmas.



CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE will be held on Friday, December 24th at 5pm. This year's love offering will be collected to benefit the Hamilton Family's fundraising efforts for Greater Europe Mission.

WOMEN WITHOUT RESERVATIONS are invited to the home of Raegan Swaringen on Thursday, December 30th at 6:00pm for a "My Favorite Things" party! Each lady is asked to think of a gift of \$10 or less that is a favorite of theirs, and bring 3 of that gift (unwrapped), as well as an appetizer or dessert. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex!



SIGN-UP FOR THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN 2022 BIBLE READING PLAN in the Narthex! Please list your name and your email address. Pastor Eddie will send you an introduction to each book we will be reading. We will read a chapter a day throughout the year. The principle is to read less and meditate more on our daily reading. In addition to the introductions, Eddie will send regular Bible reading and study helps.

The 2022 plan will take us through the historical narrative of the Old Testament beginning with Joseph (Genesis 37) and through the division between the northern tribes and the southern tribes of Israel (I Kings 14). It's a captivating history of how God interacted with His people. All four gospels, the book of Acts, three minor prophets, four New Testament letters, several of the Psalms, the Song of Songs and a few other timely chapters of the Bible are a part of the plan.

During Covid, we have not taken up offerings during the worship service. We invite you to give your tithes and offerings to the Lord. There are several ways for you to give. There are offering plates in the Narthex. You can send a check to the church office or give online. For any questions, please contact Terri Pruett or our treasurer, Debbie McDaniel. Terri's email is TerriPruett@FirstPresb.org. Debbie email's debmcDaniel77@gmail.com.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Please help us keep Prayer Concerns current with weekly updates.
Please email the church or write down
on a prayer card & place in offering plate.

MEMBERS

- **Opal Hallman**- recovery from three surgeries in two weeks
- **Carol Lowder**- good report on an inflamed cyst

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF MEMBERS

- **Glenda White**- (Sharon Cranford's friend) health concerns
- **Diane Futrell**- (Vicki Ellington's friend) Kidney illness
- **William Dalrymple**- (Betty Sechler's cousin) - dealing with debilitating post-covid symptoms
- **Mandy Graham**-(Raegan Swaringen's Medical Assistant) diagnosed with cancer
- **Tom Cavin's father, Eugene**- About the same
- **Ken Boucher** – Home and under Hospice Care
- **Wade & Mary Nunnery** – (parents of Karen Pless) Dementia worse
- **Madelyn Bost**- Praise the Lord- Cancer is in remission!

HOMEBOUND

- **Peggy Barnhardt** - at Morningside
- **Iris Efird**- in her home
- **Betty Overcash** - at Elmcroft in Salisbury
- **Barbara Wise** - Oaks at Hampton, Cummings, Georgia
- **Loretta Young** - at Five Oaks
- **Cindy Fisher** - Mother of Lucinda Stewart (At Transitional Health)

Dear First Presbyterian friends,

We are so grateful for your love and support! Thank you for your prayers and financial contributions towards our future ministry in Germany! We love you all dearly, and ask God's blessings upon you daily.

Love, David & Amy

Shannon Sechler would like to thank the congregation for their prayers, well-wishes, and the delicious food that was given following her surgery.

Thank you to one and all for the cards, phone calls, texts, food, flowers, visits and transportation but mostly for your prayers through my broken shoulder journey. I am slowly on the mend and very blessed by our church family. What a powerful God we serve!

Jane Jacobs



In Honor and Memory of Our Loved Ones



Given by

Jane & Dave Argabrite

The William Baker Family

Jean Bost

Hank & Sharon Cranford

Frank & Peggy Gibson

Steve & Judy Goodnight

Bill & Bonnie Goodnight

Bob & Opal Hallman

Judy, John, Faith, Tommy
& grandchildren

Amy Hurst

Jane, Anna Victoria
& Mary Elizabeth Jacobs

Alice Jeanes

Mike & Carol Lowder

Mal & Deb McDaniel

Jerry Anne Phillips

Peggy Snider & Brenda Ramsey

Bill & Sharon Stricker

Lucinda Fisher Stewart

In Memory Of

Dale & Eileen Argabrite
Harold & Pauleen Clegg

Family & Friends

Don Efird

Parents: Henry & Dora Cranford,
A.W. & Ilene Bradsher

J.C. Goodnight
Alice Raye Grisdale
Martha & C.L. Snuggs
Bruce & Bernice Davis

Kelly Rae Watts
Eloise Watts
Jima Eula Goodnight

Bill Hammond

Mr. & Mrs. Harold Belk
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Belk
Mr. Jerry Hurst

Mary Elizabeth & John Aiken
Bob Jacobs

(Husband)Cliff & (Son)Andy Jeanes

Our parents: Ray & Sue Hill
Baxter & Pauline Lowder

Floranne McDaniel & Gene Ritchie

Bynum H. Phillips, Jr.

Mrs. Bertie Coggins
Mrs. Evelyn Ramsey

The Fisher & Taylor Families
Francis Ward Black Holland

In Honor Of

Family & Friends

My big, big family

Pastor Eddie & Roxanne Spencer
Barbara & Donna Hancock

Barbara Wise

Lou Finger

Carson, Jackson & Benjamin Hurst

Pastor Eddie & Roxanne Spencer
David & Amy Hamilton & Family

Our children & grandchildren
Chris, Chariti, Caylin, Camryn
& Cierstyn Lowder
Ryan, Michelle,
Landon & Noah Walker

FPC Staff

Adam & Anna -Wyatt & Aiden
Allison & Alan – Malaina, Caelyn
& Robert

My husband, Jeff & children
Brandon, Kennedy and Sydney

SERMON NOTES

THIS WEEK@FIRST PRESB

TODAY

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

TUESDAY

- 12:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

WEDNESDAY

- 10:30 a.m. Moms in Prayer
- 6:30 p.m. Handbell Practice

THURSDAY

- 12:00 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous

SATURDAY

NEXT SUNDAY

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Service

