

# ~ Gathering before the Word ~

**Prelude** Infant Holy Lezy

**Choral Call to Worship** *God with Us, Emmanuel* 

Joel Raney

**Welcome & Service of Friendship** 

Pastor Darryl Evans

Missions Moment Jenna Baker

\*Call to Worship

The McLain Family

During Advent we wait for the coming Savior who is our Mighty God.

You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

We look to the One in whom we find redemption.

You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever. We look to the One who forgives our sins.

You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

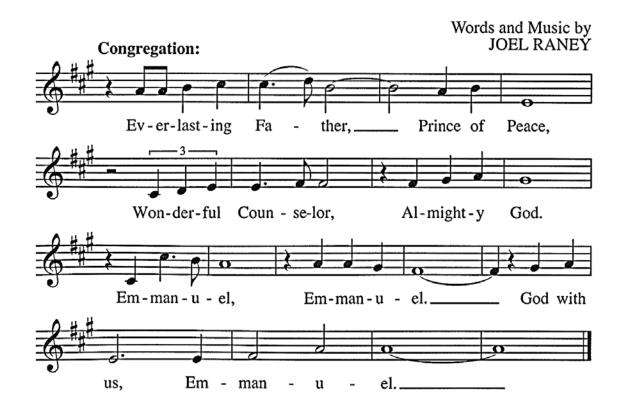
We look to the One who overcomes the darkness.

You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

We look to the One who has come to set us free.

You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

# \*Lighting of the Advent Wreath



\*Hymn of Praise No. 76

O Come, All Ye Faithful

\*Prayer of Confession

**David Hamilton** 

ADESTE FIDELES

Dear Heavenly Father, You are ever with us. You call us to rejoice, to delight in You, yet frequently we become distracted and know stress.

Our priorities can become all mixed up. We can get stuck in unhealthy routines that lead us away from your peace.

Forgive us, touch us, renew us again that our hearts might be centered in You and full of thanksgiving.

(Please continue in a moment of silent, personal confession.)

Leader: Believe the Good News of the Gospel: People: In Jesus Christ we are all forgiven!

# \*Song of Response

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

# Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer

Darryl Evans

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.

(Pre-k through 5<sup>th</sup> graders may now be excused to Sunday School. An adult will now escort the children to the Sunday School classrooms located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the education building where they will be picked up by a parent after the service.)

# ~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

**Anthem** Come, Emmanuel Paris

Jennifer Linn, soprano David Hamilton, tenor Chancel Choir

Scripture Reading Philippians 4:1-9

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

# God Completing a Good Work in You: Practicing

Darryl Evans

"Do not be anxious about anything..."
-Philippians 4:6

# ~ Responding to the Word of God ~

#### \*Affirmation of Faith

Psalm 37:3-7a

Trust in the Lord and do good;

dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture.

Take delight in the Lord,

and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Commit your way to the Lord;

trust in him and he will do this:

He will make your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun.

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him.

Offering & Offertory

Still, Still, Still

Austrian carol

\*Doxology

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 Thanksgiving

# \*Hymn of Commitment No. 80

**MENDELSSOHN** 

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

\*Benediction

**Postlude** 

Sing We Now Of Christmas

French Carol



Photo courtesy of Jessica Bell

#### To Our Guests

**Welcome!** We are delighted that you are worshiping with us this morning. We hope you find today meaningful and refreshing. You are warmly invited to stop by the Welcome Center just outside the sanctuary. If you have a prayer request, please see Darryl or call us 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.

# **Upcoming**

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in honor of Chance and August Williams' birthdays.

This year, the Missions Team has designated our Christmas Tree in the Narthex the "Giving Tree". You may select items to purchase for the Salvation Army Hope Shelter or items to adopt for Sole Hope. Please return items or donations by Christmas Eve.

Blankets for the Homeless - There is a labeled box in the vestibule to collect blankets for the homeless in our community. If you have any gently used blankets of any size that you can donate, they will be greatly appreciated as the weather gets colder. If you would like to purchase a blanket to donate, Walmart has fleece blankets for less than \$10. What a difference a warm soft blanket makes! If you have any questions, please see Tana Nichols.

The 60 voice Piedmont Choral Society will present its annual free Christmas concert today, Sunday, December 9 at 3 pm at Forest Hill UMC, 265 Union St N, Concord. Familiar seasonal favorites and beautifully arranged carols will be accompanied by professional orchestra. All are

invited. Info: <u>kayy2000@gmail.com</u>, 704-699-6053, find us on Facebook and the web at <u>www.piedmontchoralsociety.org</u>.

Wednesday night activities will continue in December! (All are welcome!) For your convenience, meals will be provided each Wednesday beginning at 5:30. Please join us for these fun activities!

Wed., Dec. 12 - Choristers (K-8) rehearse with choir 6:15-6:30. Make gifts baskets for shutins and bags for school children until 7:30. Meal: Tacos.

Wed., Dec. 19 - Go Christmas caroling with Chancel Choir at 6:30pm and deliver gift baskets to shut-ins. Meal: Country Ham, Pinto Beans, Cabbage/Greens; Dessert on return from caroling.

On December 13<sup>th</sup>, the Thursday morning Bible Study will meet at Breakfast Time at the usual meeting time. Please let Kay McAllister know if you will be attending so that reservations can be made. We will resume our study on January 3<sup>rd</sup> at the church.

The **JOY Group will have a covered dish lunch** at the home of Ron & Alpha Barger on Friday, December 14 at noon. Please bring a cover dish. Ham and drinks will be provided. Directions will be put with the sign up sheet which is located outside the parlor.

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. Or, if you like to purchase something permanent that can be rotated during the weeks we don't have a live arrangement, please contact Jill McLain.

# **Prayer Concerns**

**Iris Efird -** recovering from surgery.

Mike Williams - at rehab.

**Sharon Stricker -** broken knee.

Mary Johns - done with surgeries and is doing well.

Emily Griggs - teacher in Casablanca.

**Donna Whitley -** recovering from surgery, now at home.

Juanita Holt - back at home.

Loretta Young - at Five Oaks.

**Peggy Barnhardt -** at Morningside with Dementia.

**Lynn Efird -** continuing treatment.

**Ellen Little -** continued prayers for the health issues of Ellen and family.

Connie Rary - still fighting cancer, went to Duke specialist.

**Debby Baker -** participating in a cancer clinical trial.

# **FAMILY OF MEMBERS**

Alex - Kaitlyn Maxwell's 9 year old nephew, struggling with depression.

**Jason Gibson -** youngest son of Frank, suffers from Crohn's Disease and is facing major surgery for the third time. Surgery will take place at Vanderbilt University Hospital in February.

**Travis Boan & Family -** friend of Chariti Lowder, recent cancer diagnosis and trying to determine treatment plan.

# Special Church Member of the Week

## **Dwight Goodnight**

311 Brook St.

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."



# www.firstpresb.org

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

#### The Session

Rev. Dr. Darryl Evans, Moderator Jeff Barnhardt, Clerk of Session

Class of 2019
Garrett Brady
Mike Freeman
Allison Hammett
Carol Lowder

Class of 2020 Jeff Barnhardt Frank Gibson Phil McLain Gip Rumple

### **Church Staff**

Rev. Dr. Darryl Evans Pastor

David Hamilton
Director of Music

Michelle Walker Director of Children's Ministries

Terri Pruett Office Manager/Bookkeeper

> Kay Yates Organist

Irene Davis Nursery Director **Brenda Park -** friend of Carol Lowder, facing a serious colon surgery.

**Amy Ritchie -** friend of Jane Jacobs, dealing with stage 4 Breast Cancer.

**Nancy Barger -** friend of Jane Jacobs, dealing with cancer. **Jay -** brother of Ellen Little, home from hospital and

awaiting update for surgery.

**Mark McDaniel -** brother of Mal McDaniel, in remission and making great progress!

**Barbara Coffey -** friend of Judy Hunter: stage 4 Breast Cancer, undergoing chemo.

**Thomas Dishman -** friend of Judy Hunter: problems with LVAD, awaiting heart transplant.

**Chuck Rogers -** friend of Judy Hammond: suffered stroke following surgery.

**Shelia & Steve Dobson -** friends of Judy Hammond: Steve had brain surgery.

**Russell Gardner -** friend of Mike Freeman: cancer and recurring pneumonia.

**Ernest Miller -** friend of Mike Freeman: lung cancer and PTSD (Viet Nam Vet)

**Lori Holder -** daughter of Sam McAllister: Suffering with MS.

**Arthur Fu** - brother of Jessica Bell: Fighting cancer.

**Teresa Alexander -** friend of Renee Goodnight: Diagnosed with brain tumors and staph infection.

**Hope Community -** church plant in Wilmington, NC with Nate Stratman.

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

### **Servants**

Greeters: Jeff Barnhardt & Phil McLain

Elder Lock-Up: Carol Lowder Videographer: Michael Martens

**Nursery:** Allison Hammett

Nursery next week: Lynn Efird

**Acolytes:** Toby Caskey & Abigail Malinovsky **Acolytes next week**: Will Evans & Ella Sechler

Ushers: William Baker, Jeff Barnhardt, C.J. Semcho &

Tony Sherrill

Ushers next week: Mark Goodnight, Amy Hurst, Phil &

Jill McLain

#### **This Week**

TODAY

9:30 a.m. - Coffee Hour -

Good News Class

10:00 a.m. - Sunday School/

Children's Church

10:00 a.m. - Final New Covenant

**Partners Class** 

11:00 a.m. - Worship Service

**MONDAY** 

8:00 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous

**TUESDAY** 

12:00 p.m. - Narcotics Anonymous (NA)

7:00 p.m. - **Session** 

**WEDNESDAY** 

5:30 p.m. - **Supper** 

6:15 p.m. - Choristers

6:30 p.m. - Make gift baskets/bags

6:30 p.m. - Chancel Choir Rehearsal

7:30 p.m. - Handbell Rehearsal

**THURSDAY** 

 $10{:}30\ a.m.$  - Women's Bible Study

at Breakfast Time

12:00 p.m. - NA

6:30 p.m. - **Boy Scouts** 

8:00 p.m. - AA

**NEXT SUNDAY** 

9:00 a.m. - Prayer Fellowship - Parlor

All are welcome

9:30 a.m. - Coffee Hour -

Walter Goodman Class

10:00 a.m. - Sunday School/

Children's Church

11:00 a.m. - Worship Service

