



SECOND SUNDAY OF *Advent*

~ Gathering before the Word ~

Prelude *Away in a Manger* Traditional carol

Welcome & Service of Friendship Rev. Darryl Evans

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

***Call to Worship** Walker 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

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.

***Hymn of Praise No 76**

ADESTE FIDELES

O Come, All Ye Faithful

***Prayer of Confession**

David Hamilton

**Forgive us God
for failing to live in service to your will.
We have sought our own paths instead of your way.
We bow to the demands of this world
more than we seek your coming Kingdom.**

**Yet You are our Creator;
we are the work of your hand.
Do not remember our iniquity.
Rule in us, and renew us by your Spirit,
that we may be ready to serve you.**

(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.

~ Proclaiming the Word of God ~

Word with our Children

Malaina Meeks

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed. The little Lord Jesus, lay down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky, look down where he lay. The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

(Four year olds through 2nd graders may now be excused to Children's Church. An adult will now escort the children to the Children's Church Classroom, which is on the 3rd floor of the education building, where they will be picked up by a parent after the service.)

Anthem

We Shall Light a Thousand Candles
Chancel Choir

Rasbach

Scripture Reading

2 Kings 23:1-14; Matt 1:10-12

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Darryl Evans

The Fathers of Jesus: Josiah, the Father of Jeconiah & His Brothers

~ Responding to the Word of God ~

*Affirmation of Faith – Psalm 139:7-12

David Hamilton

Where can I go from your Spirit?

Where can I flee from your presence?

If I go up to the heavens, you are there;

if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.

If I rise on the wings of the dawn,

if I settle on the far side of the sea,

even there your hand will guide me,

your right hand will hold me fast.

If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me

and the light become night around me,"

even the darkness will not be dark to you;

the night will shine like the day,

for darkness is as light to you.

Offering & Offertory

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Praetorius

*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

How Great Our Joy

German Melody

*All who are able please stand.

CCLI # 2221136

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.

Children's Church is available for children, 4 years to 2nd Grade. After the "A Word with Our Children," they will be escorted to the Children's Church. After worship, parents may pick up children in the Children's Church Classroom, which is on the 3rd floor of the education building.

Upcoming

The Missions Team has once again reserved a time for our Church to process Shoeboxes at the Operation Christmas Child Processing Center in Charlotte. Our assigned slot is on Wednesday, Dec. 13 from 5-10pm. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Please see Michelle Walker if you have questions.

On Monday, December 11, the Circle of Women will meet at the coffee shop on Main Street at 2:00 p.m.

The JOY Group will have a catered Christmas dinner on Friday, December 15 at noon in the fellowship hall. Cost is \$7.00 per person and paid reservations must be in by Sunday, Dec. 10th. Cash only please to Charlene Booth by that date. Signup sheet outside church parlor. There will be musical entertainment and a Christmas Grab Bag. If you wish to participate in the grab bag, please bring a \$5.00 wrapped gift.

On December 15th, parents are welcome to drop off their children at the church for a Parents' Night Out from 5:30-9:00pm. This will include pizza, games, crafts, stories, etc. Registration is required to ensure enough chaperones, food, and materials are available. Please see Tracy or office for registration form. Forms need to be completed and turned in by December 11th to reserve your child's spot.

On Sunday December 17 the chancel choir will perform a cantata that celebrates the legacy of early American carols and hymnody. Composed in the spirit of folk music, the *Appalachian Winter* combines traditional sounds with more rustic elements creating a blend that is fresh and pleasing. Popular American carols like *Away in a Manger* and *O Little Town of Bethlehem* dance with traditional spirituals such as *Children, Go Where I Send Thee* and *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*. Sacred Harp tunes are re-tooled for Advent and stand alongside new versions of Shaker hymns and Appalachian melodies. Thoughtful narration weaves the movements together in a meaningful tapestry of song and Scripture.

This year the Missions Committee has again chosen Heifer International and Meals on Wheels for our Christmas Tree Projects. We received positive feedback from you last year in supporting both an international and local ministry as \$1920 was collected for Heifer International along with all 10 of our Meals on Wheels clients adopted! To support Heifer International, please take an animal picture from the Missions Committee tree in the narthex. You will find varying amounts on the back of the photos. Please place the photo with your cash or check in the offering plate so that we will be able to keep count of how many animals were purchased. The last day to



www.firstpresb.org

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The Session

Rev. Dr. Darryl Evans, Moderator
Wren Philpot, Clerk of Session

Class of 2018

Danny Bost
Peggy Gibson
Mark Goodnight
Sam McAllister

Class of 2019

Garrett Brady
Mike Freeman
Allison Hammett
Carol Lowder

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Darryl Evans
Pastor

David Hamilton
Director of Music

Tracy and Adam Caskey
Youth Directors

Terri Pruett
Office Manager/Bookkeeper

Kay Yates
Organist

Irene Davis
Nursery Director

donate to Heifer International is December 17th. This year if you adopt one of the ten Meals on Wheels clients to purchase Christmas presents for, you may also deliver them if you wish. All of our clients live in Kannapolis. If you do not want to deliver, you can still adopt a client to shop for. If you choose to shop for MOW, please take the ornament and give it to Renee Goodnight and she will provide you with their wish list and address. Please plan to spend at least \$20 per client. Christmas Eve is the deadline for turning in money for Heifer International as well as having gifts delivered to clients. If you have any questions, please contact Renee Goodnight @ 704.920.0006. Thank you for your support of these projects!

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

Mark Goodnight, upcoming Prostrate Cancer surgery, Dec. 13.

The Brown Family (Julie, Ricky, Jason), friends of Caleb Goodnight, their son/brother, Josh Brown, lost his battle w/addiction last week at age 30.

Shane Kluttz, friend of Kay Yates, in an induced coma at Duke due to auto immune disease affecting his lungs.

Jennifer Williams, recovering at home, no visitors at this time, please.

Rev. Don Greer, grandfather of Chariti Lowder, open heart bypass surgery scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 5th.

Sharon Cranford, recovering from surgery.

A friend of the church, Dec 11 court case, pray it will be dismissed with no further charges, reconciliation of family members, multiple family health issues, revival to be manifested.

Betty Overcash, now at home.

Tink Wade, friend of Jill McLain, breast cancer, facing chemo, surgery and radiation.

Peggy Barnhardt, at Transitional with broken foot.

Special Church Member of the Week

Joe Crawford

Black Mountain Neuro-Medical
Treatment Center
932 Old US Hwy 70
Black Mountain, NC 28711

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."

Brian Landis, stage 5 renal disease.
Iris Efird, recovering at home.
Connie Rary had a good one year report, and is still fighting cancer.
Sharon Stricker, recovering from hip replacement surgery.
Farrar Griggs, Restoration process after fire at Rocky Creek Presbyterian Church plus health concerns.
Emily Griggs, back in Morocco
Lori Holder, daughter of Sam McAllister, has MS.
Teresa Alexander, friend of Renée Goodnight, brain tumors.
Mark McDaniel, lymphoma (Mal's brother), making good progress.
Ron Lisenby, leg and knee issues.
Gene Griggs, cousin of Farrar Griggs, suffered a stroke.
Donna Whitley, kidney disease.
Sherri Bridges, mother of Danielle Byrd, friend of Laura McLain, breast cancer.
Debby Baker, has cancer again.
Linda Bost, small, stable cerebral aneurysm.
Loretta Young, Alzheimer's is progressing and she is declining in health.
Dwight Goodnight, and his son, **Tod Goodnight** who is struggling with Parkinson's Disease.
Juanita Holt, continues to appreciate your calls, cards, and prayers while she continues to recuperate.
Christ the Word church plant in Rolesville, NC with Patrick Cherry.
Dave Viscount, friend of Mark Goodnight, suffering from ALS.
Beth Barnhardt, friend of Judy Hammond, is still having difficulty seeing clearly.
Susan (Hodge) Thomas, recovering from hip surgery.
Joyce Weaver, health issues.
Don Hamilton, Cookie's husband, is on dialysis.
Liam Debord, Hunters' grandson, fighting brain tumors.
Prayer request? Please write it down on the blue pew prayer card, & place in the offering plate.

Servants

Greeters: Peggy Gibson & Sam McAllister
Elder Lock-Up: Carol Lowder
Videographer: David Reed
Children's Message: Malaina Meeks
Children's Message Next Week: None
Children's Church Leader: Michelle Walker
Children's Church Leader next week: Tracy Caskey
Nursery: Lynn Efird
Nursery next week: Hannah Efird
Acolytes: Luke Burris & Fred Caskey
Acolytes next week: Ella Sechler & Caroline Smith
Ushers: Tony Hunter, Sam McAllister, Mal McDaniel & Daniel Pless
Ushers next week: Andrew & Jenna Baker; Doug & Amelia Goodnight

This Week

TODAY

9:00 a.m. - **Prayer Fellowship** – Parlor
All are welcome

9:30 a.m. - **Coffee Hour** -
Good News Class

10:00 a.m. - **Sunday School**

11:00 a.m. - **Worship Service**

MONDAY

2:00 p.m. - **Circle of Women**
(Coffee Shop)

8:00 p.m. - **Alcoholics Anonymous**

TUESDAY

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

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

WEDNESDAY

6:30 p.m. - **Chancel Choir Rehearsal**

7:30 p.m. - **Alleluia Ringers**

THURSDAY

10:30 a.m. - **Women's Bible Study**

12:00 p.m. - **NA**

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

8:00 p.m. - **AA**

FRIDAY

12:00 p.m. - **JOY Group Christmas Party**

5:30 p.m. - **Parents Night Out**

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**

11:00 a.m. - **Worship Service**
Cantata



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