



THIRD SUNDAY
OF
Advent

~ Gathering before the Word ~

Prelude *People, Look East* Wood

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

Welcome & Service of Friendship Pastor Darryl Evans

Announcement Reneé Goodnight

***Call to Worship** The Argabrite Family

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**

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

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 5th graders may now be excused to Sunday School. An adult will now escort the children to the Sunday School classrooms located on the 3rd 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
Jennifer Linn, soprano
David Hamilton, tenor
Chancel Choir

Paris

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

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Young

***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

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Karvonen

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

CCLI # 2221136



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

Due to the snow cancellation last Sunday, the poinsettia deadline has been extended to today. If you would like to order poinsettias (\$12.00 each) in honor or memory of your loved ones, please fill out the order form in the bulletin and place in the offering plate along with your check marked "Poinsettias". The poinsettias will decorate our sanctuary today and next Sunday. The Honor/Memory booklet will be inserted in next Sunday's bulletin.

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 Circle of Women has been rescheduled for Tuesday, December 18 at 2:00 pm at Editions Coffee shop due to snow.

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. 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.

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

Mike Freeman - upcoming neck surgery.

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.

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."

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, has begun radiation treatments.

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.



www.firstpresb.org

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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 Rumble

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

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: David Reed

Nursery: Lynn Efirid

Nursery next week: Jenna Baker

Acolytes: Will Evans & Ella Sechler

Acolytes next week: Toby Caskey & August Williams

Ushers: Mark Goodnight, Amy Hurst, Phil & Jill McLain

Ushers next week: Paul Barnhardt, Danny Bost, Fred Caskey & Lynn Sechler

This Week

TODAY

- 9:30 a.m. - **Coffee Hour** -
Walter Goodman 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)**

WEDNESDAY

- 5:30 p.m. - **Supper**
6:30 p.m. - **Christmas Caroling**

THURSDAY

- 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** -
New Connection Class
- 10:00 a.m. - **Sunday School/
Children's Church**
- 11:00 a.m. - **Worship Service**
- Lessons & Carols



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