

# HEARING AND PROCLAIMING GOOD NEWS

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2019

CALL TO REVERENCE

OPENING VOLUNTARY “Christmas Chimes”

arr. Wells

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Watch and wait for Christ’s coming! Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

**All: We light this candle in hope.**

*(The First Advent Candle is lit.)*

One: Let us speak again God’s promise brought by the prophet Isaiah:

**All: In days to come the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.**

One: Many peoples shall come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.”

**All: For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.**

One: He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;

**All: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.**

One: Let us pray: Faithful God, out of war’s chaos, you bring the order of peace. Renew us in hope, that we may work toward Christ’s advent of peace among all nations.

**All: God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come.**

\*OPENING HYMN #82

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

\*PRAYERS OF CONFESSION *(Silently and personally, and then in unison)*

**Gracious God, we have not been loving towards you or your creation. We have lived in darkness, furthering despair and fear and division. We want you to tell us “Peace be with you,” yet we do nothing to bring that peace to fruition. We do not seek your good or the good of strangers or even our neighbors. We have fallen into a deep sleep and do not know how to exit the night. Forgive us, please. Wake us up. Help us heal our own divisions and let loose love to ready the way for your Son. Help us live into the hope of tomorrow for us and all of your creation. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Dear ones, hear the good news: even before you can finish asking, God has forgiven your sins in the name of Jesus Christ.

**All: We will live in the hope, responsibility and joy of that assurance. Amen.**

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF JESUS CHRIST

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

\*HYMN #658

“God Is So Good”

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE GOOD NEWS OF THE WEEK

ANTHEM “Creator of the Stars of Night” Sarum Plainsong

FIRST LESSON Romans 13:11-14

One: This is the Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God.**

GOspel LESSON Matthew 24:36-44

One: This too is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON “Getting Ready for the Right Thing” Stacey Steck

SPECIAL MUSIC “Call to Advent” arr. Williams

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

OUR OFFERING

Offertory “O Little Town of Bethlehem” arr. De Coy

\* Doxology Hymnal, #606

\* Prayer

\*HYMN #100 “My Soul Cries Out With a Joyful Shout”

\*BENEDICTION

Advent Response, #647 “Come, Come Emmanuel”

**Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel. (Repeat)**

\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY Episode on “Truro” arr. Wells

\*Those who are able, please stand.

Some resources used in today’s service are adapted from ruachwords.org and pcusa.org

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WELCOME VISITORS! We are delighted to welcome you today and hope your time here is a blessing. If you are not active in another church, we hope you will consider making Thyatira your church home. If you would like to find out more about us, please contact Pastor Stacey Steck at 704-245-8100.

USHERS: **December Team** – Jada Ware-Guy (captain), Ben Watts, Ted Fuller, Paul Rogers, Mike Corriher

LITURGIST: **This Sunday** – Flora Calderón-Steck  
**Next Sunday** – Leigh Anne Wetmore

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP: All children are strongly encouraged to remain in worship following the Time with Young Disciples. The Nursery is located on the first floor of the educational building, and is available for infants and very young children.

**This Sunday** – Flora Calderón-Steck, Lydia Richmond

**Next Sunday** – Dana Milam, Nora Dellinger

GENEROSITY UPDATE: For the month of November, we reached 76% of our monthly anticipated contributions. Your generous gifts do so much toward making us be the Good News Capital of Rowan County! You can now also give conveniently online using the GivePlus+ app.

## THYATIRA PRAYER CONCERNS

Please keep in your prayers the Session, Deacons, and Staff of the Church, as well as all who faithfully serve one another and our community through the ministries of the church.

Mocksville Senior Living: Mary Moon

At Home: JoAnn Kerr

- Jewell Shoaf
- The family of Fred Stamper
- Joyce Caldwell, recovering from hip surgery
- Eric Scarborough, Candace McKnight's uncle, recovering from colon cancer surgery
- Martha Simerson's grandson, recovering following a car accident
- Cindy, Kaye Hawkins' cousin, diagnosed with cancer
- Communities affected by Hurricane Dorian
- Kitty Harris, recovering from hip injury
- Linda Albright
- Families affected by gun violence
- Barbara Karriker, Joyce Caldwell's cousin, diagnosed with cancer
- Whitaker Raymer, being treated for leukemia
- Mike Hawkins, ongoing health issues
- Drema Clemens' brother, Arthur Warden
- Edna Stamper
- Julie, a co-worker of Jada, diagnosed with cancer
- Mike Hawkins' mother, Elizabeth, at Genesis
- Linda Gaylor's mother, Barbara
- Bill Bergstrom is being treated for leukemia
- Millicent Hoffner's brother, Joe Kerr

**PHONE PRAYER CHAIN:** If you, a family member, or friend would like to be added to our Phone Prayer Chain, please call Jim Albright at 704-279-3317. Thyatira's Phone Prayer Chain is different from being added to our electronic newsletter, mailed newsletter, and bulletin. We have three people that spread the word by calling approximately 25 prayer list members, who add your request to their daily prayers. Whatever your prayer need may be, finding peace of mind provides a foundation of strength to face any situation. Your request is a sacred trust and is kept confidential among our prayer list members.

### **BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:**

Dec 02 Richard Luther

Dec 03 David Kern, Meredith Graham

Dec 04 Rachel Moss

Dec 06 Ronald Goodnight, Tommy Ingram, Matt Moore

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR

**ONE CHURCH ONE CHILD** is in need of \$30 gift certificates and generic toys to help deliver Christmas to children in Rowan county. Please bring donations to the church by December 15. See Lydia Richmond with questions.

### **ROWAN HELPING MINISTRIES – WEST CURRENT NEEDS:**

Canned vegetables (not green beans or corn), peanut butter, jelly, cold cereal, and spaghetti sauce. If you would like to give cash donations through the church, please write the check out to Thyatira with RHM-W in the memo. These donations are used to purchase groceries as needed throughout the year and let you skip the shopping trip. Thank you for all the support!

**YOUTH POINSETTIA SALE:** Thyatira Youth Group is holding their annual Poinsettia Sale. The cost is \$12 for a 6” plant with red flowers. The pot is wrapped in green foil with a red bow attached. The poinsettia(s) may be placed in memory of, or in honor of a special loved one. Red order forms are in the pew card holders and can be placed in offering plate after filled out. Deadline to order is Sunday, December 15.

### **HAPPENING THIS WEEK:**

Today	9:00am	Deacon Meeting
	9:30am	Happy Place
	9:30am	Children’s Choir (Big Kids)
	10:00am	Children’s Choir (Preschool)
	10:00am	Sunday School for all ages
	11:00am	Worship
	12:00pm	Congregational Meeting
	6:30pm	Adult Choir
	6:30pm	Confirmation Class (Parlor)
Monday	8:15am	Preschool
	6:30pm	Boy & Cub Scouts
Tuesday	8:15am	Preschool
Wednesday	8:15am	Preschool
	11:00am	Meals on Wheels
	7:00pm	Prayer, Song & Study
	8:00pm	Feasibility Team Meeting
Thursday	8:15am	Preschool
	11:00am	Meals on Wheels
Friday	8:15am	Preschool
	11:00am	Meals on Wheels
	7:00pm	Book Club at Monterrey’s
Next Sunday	8:30am	Session Meeting
	9:30am	Happy Place
	9:30am	Children’s Choir (Big Kids)
	10:00am	Children’s Choir (Preschool)
	10:00am	Sunday School for all ages
	11:00am	Worship
	6:30pm	Adult Choir

# THYATIRA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

220 White Road  
Salisbury, NC 28147  
704-636-1595  
PASTOR STECK: 704-245-8100

Office Hours Monday – Friday 8:30am – 1:30pm  
EMAIL ADDRESS: office@thyatirapresbyterian.org  
WEB SITE: thyatirapresbyterian.org

## STAFF AND OFFICERS

### STAFF

Pastor . . . . . The Rev. Stacey Steck  
Faith Community Nurse . . . . . Nora Patterson, RN, FCN  
Faith Community Health Promoter. . . . . Georgia McCorkle  
Office Manager . . . . . Sharon Gantkowski  
Treasurer. . . . . Doug Patterson  
Assistant Treasurer. . . . . Keith Vaughan  
Director of Music . . . . . Angela Moore  
Organist . . . . . Charles Chandler

### THE SESSION

Moderator . . . . . The Rev. Stacey Steck  
Clerk of Session. . . . . Glenn McCorkle

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
David Hall	Robin Luther	Beth Bates
Norma Lauder	Doug Patterson	Abby Covington
Eric Rouse	Phares Sechler	Ed Hall
Juanita Turner	Brian Waller	Glenn McCorkle
Elder Emeriti. . . . .	Jim Albright, Charles Newsome	

### THE DIACONATE

Chairman of the Diaconate. . . . . Paul Gaylor

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
Jeremy Deal	Mike Hawkins	Bill Bergstrom
Jada Ware-Guy	Randall Patterson	Mike Corriher
Daniel Milam	Paul Rogers	Ted Fuller
Aaron Richmond	A.J. Waller	Paul Gaylor
Steven Wetmore	Ben Watts	Melissa Waller

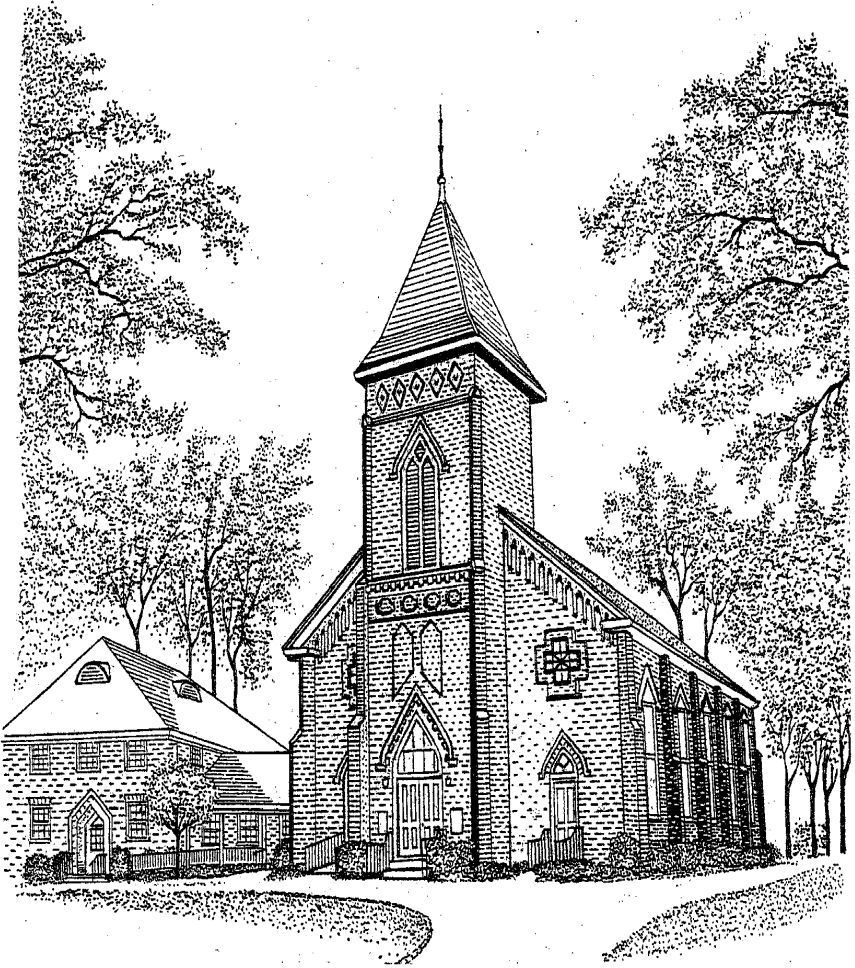
### CONTACT PERSONS

Thyatira Memorial Association President. . . . . Ed Hall  
Church School Superintendent . . . . . Jimmy Hoffner  
Men of the Church President. . . . . Greg Hager  
Presbyterian Women Moderator. . . . . Jada Ware-Guy  
Boy Scouts. . . . . Greg Hager  
Cub Scouts. . . . . Norma Lauder  
Girl Scouts. . . . . Jada Ware-Guy

# WELCOME

## THYATIRA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AT MILL BRIDGE

*The Good News Capital  
of Western Rowan County*



Organized by 1750

A Living Legacy of Love, Faith, Service,  
and Patient Endurance