

HEARING AND PROCLAIMING GOOD NEWS

First Sunday of Christmas

December 29, 2019

OPENING VOLUNTARY “Echo Noel”

D'Aquin/Bish

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: It is ancient.

All: As old as the first word.

One: For it is the first word ever spoken by our God

All: who was feeling the divine voice for the first time.

One: Its sound has taken many forms through the ages,

All: But it speaks still, the single truth it always has.

One: Some hear it beating swords into ploughshares.

All: Others hear it hammering spears into pruning hooks.

One: And still others hear the original word that shaped these others:

All: The first word.

One: The word,

All: Love!

*HYMN #108, vs. 1,2, 6

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

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

We could proclaim your name, God of this holy season, but we spend too much time talking about celebrities. We could tell others about all your gracious deeds, but are comparing notes about the exploits of our favorite athletes. We could let your Word guide our lives, but instead we do what the politicians think is best. Why? Because we forget who we are called to be. But you remember, Faithful God. You remember that we put our trust in others, not you; you remember how we chase after idols, not follow you. But you also remember to save us in our distress, and you sent Jesus for that very purpose. Forgive us, we pray, in his holy name. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: In the silence, in the dreams, in the wonder, in the words, God comes to save us and have mercy on us.

All: It is fitting that we offer our thanks and praise to the One who forgives us. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF JESUS CHRIST

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN #133

“O Come, All Ye Faithful!”

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (*concluding with the Lord’s Prayer*)

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

First Lesson

Genesis 3:8-15

First Carol, #144, vs. 1-2

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

Second Lesson

Genesis 22:15-18

Second Carol, #150, vs. 1, 4

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

Third Lesson	Isaiah 9:2, 6, 7
Third Carol, #121, vs. 1-2	“O Little Town of Bethlehem”
Fourth Lesson	Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9
Fourth Carol, #129	“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”
Fifth Lesson	Luke 1:26-35, 38
Fifth Carol, #140, vs. 1, 2	“Once in Royal David's City”
Sixth Lesson	Matthew 1:18-25
Sixth Carol, #132	“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”
Seventh Lesson	Luke 2:8-16
Seventh Carol, #113	“Angels We Have Heard on High”
Eighth Lesson	Matthew 2:1-11
Eighth Carol, #152	“What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright”
Ninth Lesson	John 1:1-14
Ninth Carol, #134	“Joy to the World”

OUR OFFERING

Offertory: “Berceuse”	Jarnefelt/Broughton
* Doxology	Hymnal, #606
* Prayer	

*HYMN #123 “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

*BENEDICTION

Christmas Response (#133, Chorus) “O Come, All Ye Faithful”
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY Arr. Chandler
 “God Rest You Merry Gentlemen”

*Those who are able, please stand.

Some resources used in today's service are adapted from lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com.

* * *

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
Upcoming January Team – Greg Hager (captain), Mike Hawkins, Bill Bergstrom, Steven Wetmore, A.J. Waller

LITURGIST: **This Sunday** – Phares Sechler
Next Sunday – Flora Calderón-Steck

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 – Carly Moore, Alice Sloop
Next Sunday – Robin Luther, Beth Bates

GENEROSITY UPDATE: After the first four Sundays in December, we have reached 73% 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

- Kaye Hawkins' family member, Mitchell
- Ernestine Hoffner
- Tony Albright
- Jewell Shoaf, under hospice care
- Bill and Carolyn Haggerty, as Bill is being treated for cancer
- Joyce Caldwell, recovering from hip surgery
- Eric Scarborough, Candace McKnight's uncle, recovering from colon cancer surgery
- Cindy, Kaye Hawkins' cousin, diagnosed with cancer
- Communities affected by Hurricane Dorian
- Kitty Harris, recovering from hip injury
- 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 29 Drema Clemens

Dec 31 Bill Hall, Jr., Sandra Swanson

Jan 01 Janet Lambert

Jan 02 Josh Daniels, Carly Moore

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR

2019 OFFERINGS: Monday, December 30 is the last day to have any gifts to Thyatira credited to your 2019 statement. If you would like a summary of your giving-to-date, please contact Sharon at the church office.

2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available for pickup on the table in the hallway across from the office. If you haven't already picked yours up, please stop by before leaving today.

PASTORAL NEEDS: Pastor Stacey will be away from December 25 – January 4. If you have a need of any kind, please contact one of Thyatira's Elders or the church office. The Rev. Don McCann will be available for pastoral needs.

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!

HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

Today	8:30am	Men of the Church Breakfast
	9:30am	Happy Place
	10:00am	Sunday School for all ages
	11:00am	Worship
	12:15pm	Adult Choir Practice
Wednesday	Happy New Year! – Office Closed	
	11:00am	Meals on Wheels
Thursday	11:00am	Meals on Wheels
Friday	11:00am	Meals on Wheels
Next Sunday	9:00am	Deacon's Meeting
	9:30am	Happy Place
	10:00am	Sunday School for all ages
	11:00am	Worship
	6:30pm	Adult Choir Practice

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

Class of 2019

David Hall
Norma Lauder
Eric Rouse
Juanita Turner

Class of 2020

Robin Luther
Doug Patterson
Phares Sechler
Brian Waller

Class of 2021

Beth Bates
Abby Covington
Ed Hall
Glenn McCorkle

Elder Emeriti. Jim Albright, Charles Newsome

THE DIACONATE

Chairman of the Diaconate. Paul Gaylor

Class of 2019

Jeremy Deal
Jada Ware-Guy
Daniel Milam
Aaron Richmond
Steven Wetmore

Class of 2020

Mike Hawkins
Randall Patterson
Paul Rogers
A.J. Waller
Ben Watts

Class of 2021

Bill Bergstrom
Mike Corriher
Ted Fuller
Paul Gaylor
Melissa Waller

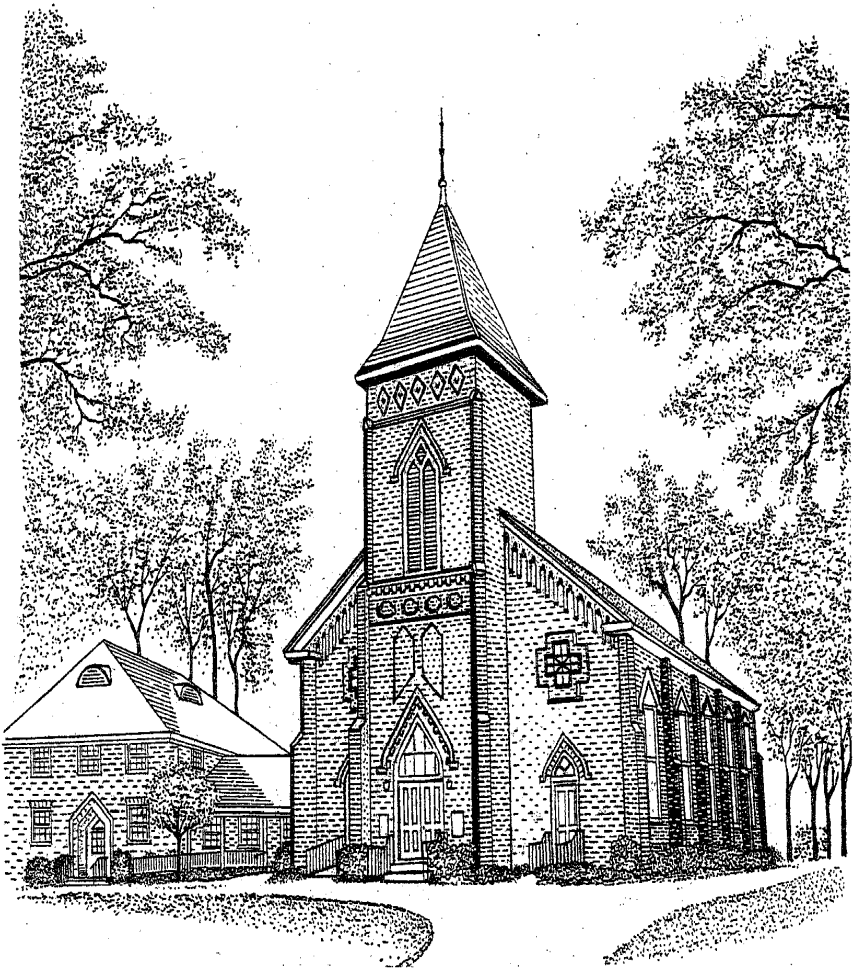
CONTACT PERSONS

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