

# ORDER FOR WORSHIP

## FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DECEMBER 31, 2017

CALL TO REVERENCE

PRELUDE "Once In Royal David's City"

Young

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\* OPENING SONG (#136) "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

*Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born!*

*While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens  
there shone a holy light. [Refrain]*

*The shepherds feared and trembled  
when lo! above the earth  
rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Savior's birth. [Refrain]*

*Down in a lowly manger  
the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn. [Refrain]*

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We wake up in the morning and see the sunrise:

**All: How majestic is Your name in all the earth!**

One: We are warmed by the sun; the rain cleanses all creation:

**All: How majestic is Your name in all the earth!**

One: We watch the moon light up the night, we fall asleep to the lullabies of the stars:

**All: How majestic is Your name in all the earth!**

One: We worship the Lord Jesus Christ this day with hearts full of joy and thanksgiving.

**All: How majestic is Your name in all the earth!**

\* HYMN #131 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

\* PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

*God of every moment, we admit that we always find the time to fill our stomachs, but not our souls. We spend hours watching television, but not the wonders of Your creation. We arrange outings with our friends, yet ignore Your invitation to sit and talk. We make resolutions to change every aspect of our lives, except for that which pertains to You. Forgive us, God of Glory, and make us new. In the moments to come this year, remind us that if there is a time for everything, then we do have those moments for grace, for hope, for joy, for a relationship with your son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. In his name we pray. Amen.*

\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the good news: The time is now! The place is here! God has redeemed us from sin; God has claimed us as the children of hope.

**All: Praise God, all people, for life is given to us anew; eternity is our home. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\* SHARING THE PEACE OF JESUS CHRIST

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

\* HYMN #140

“Once In Royal David’s City”

FIRST LESSON

Galatians 4:4-7

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 2:22-40

One: This too is the Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

“Mary Did You Know”

Lowry and Greene

SERMON

“And a Little Child Shall Lead Them”

Stacey Steck

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

OUR OFFERING

Offertory: “Do You Hear What I Hear”

Regney & Shayne

\* 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

\* HYMN #141

“On This Day Earth Shall Ring”

\* BENEDICTION

Congregational Response

#133, refrain

**O come, let us adore him;**

**O come, let us adore him;**

**O come, let us adore him,**

**Christ, the Lord!**

\* POSTLUDE

“Swiss Noel”

Daquin

\*Those who are able, please stand.

Some resources used in today’s service from [lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com](http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com)

**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.

**LITURGIST:** Today – Phares Sechler

Next Week – Doug Patterson

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

This Sunday – Flora Calderón-Steck, Abby Covington

Next Sunday – Ashlie Wilkie, Melissa Klutz

**SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS (2’s & 3’s and Preschool):**

Today – Aaron Richmond

Next Sunday – Leigh Anne Wetmore

**GENEROSITY UPDATE:** For the first four weeks in December we have reached 87% of our monthly goal. Let’s finish 2017 strong!

**YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS:** Any gifts made to or through the church that you would like to have reflected on your 2017 year-end statement must be received this morning.

**2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are outside the church office. Please pick them up before you leave. If anyone needs theirs mailed, please contact Sharon at 704-636-1595.

# JOYS AND CONCERNS

## THYATIRA PRAYER CONCERNS

<u>Lutheran Home:</u>	Mullie Varner
<u>C/O George Calhoun:</u>	Mary Alice Calhoun
<u>White Oak Manor, Charlotte:</u>	Ruby Erwin
<u>At Home:</u>	JoAnn Kerr Ted Deal

- Tom Wilson, nephew of Brenda Ward, suffering from blood clots following knee surgery
- Joyce Caldwell, facing health challenges
- David Grimes, being treated for brain cancer
- Julie, a co-worker of Jada, recently diagnosed with cancer
- Chris, facing health challenges
- Monique's family, following the death of her mother
- Kitty Harris, dealing with health issues
- Thelma Walton in rehab at Liberty Commons
- Phares Sechler, recovering from surgery on her hand
- Barbara, in rehab at a nursing facility
- Carol King, receiving cancer treatment
- Evaun Bulman, friend of Sharry Davis, undergoing cancer treatment
- Bill Hall
- The situation in Puerto Rico following the hurricane
- A friend of Keith Townsend, being treated for cancer
- Betty Morgan, sister of Ruth Albright, recovering after serious car accident
- Alice Sloop's friend, Nancy, under hospice care
- Mike Hawkins' mother, Elizabeth, now at Genesis
- Linda Gaylor's mother, Barbara
- Jay Foster, a nine-year-old with heart issues
- Ada Jo Sloop, serving in the Peace Corps
- OC Shoaf
- A friend of Phares, Cindy Pope, being treated for some serious health issues
- Bill Bergstrom is being treated for leukemia
- Sharry Davis is being treated for cancer
- Drema Clemens' mother, Bertha Warden
- Millicent Hoffner's brother, Joe Kerr
- Mike Hawkins who has RA
- Jimmy's mother and father, Ernestine & Bill Hoffner
- Paul Rogers' daughter and family in Pakistan
- The Raymer family serving in Tanzania, Africa

# ANNOUNCEMENTS & CALENDAR

**BIRTHDAYS:** December 31 – Sandra Swanson, Bill Hall, Jr  
January 1 – Janet Lambert  
2 – Carly Moore, Josh Daniels

**RAYS ADDRESS:** If you would like to send a card or note of encouragement to Jody, Rebecca, Isaac, Josiah & Caleb Ray serving in Pakistan, you may send them to: Shikarpur Christian Hospital, c/o Ray Family, New Faujdari Road, Shikarpur, Sindh 78100, Pakistan.

## **HAPPENING THIS WEEK:**

Today 9:30am The Happy Place  
10:00am Sunday School for All Ages  
11:00am Worship

Monday HAPPY NEW YEAR! (Church office is closed)

Tuesday 8:15am Preschool

Wednesday 8:15am Preschool  
5:30pm Tutoring Orientation  
6:30pm Prayer, Song & Study

Thursday 8:15am Preschool  
6:00pm Girl Scouts

Friday 8:15am Preschool

Next Sunday 8:00am Men of the Church Breakfast  
9:00am Deacons Meeting  
9:30am The Happy Place  
10:00am Sunday School for All Ages  
11:00am Worship / Communion  
5:00pm Youth Meeting  
6:30pm Adult Choir