

**PRELUDE**

**TRINITY CHIMES**

**INTROIT** "Prince of Peace" arr. Bill Ingram  
Starmount Ringers

**GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Rev. Kathryn G. N. Campbell  
Please take a moment to sign the friendship pad located at the end of the pew, and pass it to the person next to you.

**MINUTE FOR MISSION** Christmas Joy Offering

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE** Sarah Thaxton,  
Madie & Sophie Vachon

**\*HYMN 113** "Angels We Have Heard on High"  
words projected

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy God, forgive us. In this season of anticipation, the voices of advertisers and culture compete for our attention, drowning out your voice. We busy ourselves with tasks we *think* we're supposed to do and neglect those things we ought to do. Those things you call us to do, we do grudgingly and without joy. We lack the generous spirit of Mary, who heard your call and assented without question. Instead of feeling put upon, she lifted her voice in a song of honor and wonder. Renew our spirits. Fill our hearts with joy and song so others see in us the grace and mercy you have given us through your Son. Instill in us a spirit of gratitude. Open our eyes and ears, and prepare our hearts to receive the most precious gift of all.

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*HYMN 583** "Glory to God"  
(Sing 3 times: 1st time everyone in unison,  
2nd -3rd times as a round - Women starting, then men.)  
words projected

**\*PASSING THE PEACE**

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**  
Please share the Peace of the Lord with those around you.

**CONVERSATION WITH CHILDREN**

After the Children's Conversation, teachers lead children to Sunday School: age 3 - 4 in room 216; K - 2nd graders in Room 204. Childcare for Infants -2 years is in room 212.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

\*Those who are able may stand.

**SCRIPTURE READING** Hebrews 10:5-10, page 210 pew Bible  
Leader: This is the word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

**SCRIPTURE READING** Luke 1:39-45, page 53 pew Bible

**SERMON** "Follow the Star...Believe" Rev. Gaye Brown

**\*HYMN 121** "O Little Town of Bethlehem"  
words projected

**RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS**

QUESTIONS TO THE NEW MEMBERS

QUESTION TO THE CONGREGATION

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**WE BELIEVE in Jesus Christ and his gospel, born to us all so long ago in Bethlehem of Judea.**

**WE BELIEVE in Him whose birth glorified Bethlehem, but for whom there was no room in the Inn.**

**WE BELIEVE in Him whose guiding Star brought together to his Manger the humble Shepherds and the Wise Men.**

**WE BELIEVE in Him whose guiding Star can bring together in his Name the humble and the wise everywhere.**

**WE BELIEVE in Him who walked among the common people, and who was welcomed by those with open minds and yearning hearts, whom the poor, the oppressed, the discouraged, the sick and afflicted, welcomed and accepted as their Lord and Savior.**

**WE BELIEVE in Him whose life changed the course of history, over whom kings had no power, whose life humbled the proud, toppled the mighty, and elevated those of low degree.**

**WE BELIEVE in Him whose love changed human hearts for the better, and whose life and death on the Cross proved that it is more important to serve than to be served, and that the greatest are those who give their lives in service for others.**

**WE BELIEVE in Him who is the Prince of Peace, whose spirit makes for justice and peace among all peoples, everywhere.**

**WE BELIEVE that the Christmas spirit - the spirit of Christ - is the spirit that can change the world for the better through the power of love, faith and hope.**

**CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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.**

**OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND TITHES**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM** "Angel Glory" arr. Kevin McChesney  
Starmount Ringers

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE - HYMN 144**  
"In the Bleak Midwinter" (verse 4 only)  
words projected

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\*HYMN 110** "Love Has Come"  
words projected

**\*CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE, HYMN 88 (verse 7)**  
"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"  
Congregation

**\*POSTLUDE**

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We welcome Starmount's own Rev. Gaye Brown to worship this morning. Gaye is an honorably retired teaching elder who currently resides with her husband, George, at River Landing. George and Gaye enjoy traveling and spending time with their grandchildren.

**Acolyte:** Isabelle Gustafson **Reader:** Susan Preston

**Parking Lot Greeter:** Chris Wilson

**Church Opener:** Parks Williams **Church Closer:** Brownie Owens

**Sound Booth:** Richard Porter **Video Booth:** Josh Wilson

**Ushers:** Gary Anderson, Bryan Toney, Brownie Owens,  
Dan Johnson, Carter Walton, Frank Smith

**HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES** are available. Please ask an usher.

**PROFESSIONAL CHILD CARE** offered Sunday mornings, 9-11:30 a.m. in Room 212 for infants through age two.

**COMMON GROUNDS COFFEE CAFE** serves free, fair-trade coffee and tea in the Gathering Space adjacent to the Sanctuary from 8:45-11 a.m.

Please remember to wear your **name tags** at church events. If you would like a name tag and do not have one, please contact Brenda Triplett in the church office.

**PRAYER CONCERNS**

Flo Crutchfield (recent injury)  
Ray Penvose (recent injury)  
Matt Winters (recent surgery)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** The "Video Café" class in room 323 and the "Friendship" class in room 321 are currently available for adults from 9-9:45. "Very Important Presbyterians" (ages 3-2nd grade) room 204, 3rd-5th grade, a new class, and 6th-12th grade also meet from 9-9:45. Preschool Sunday School (3-4 year olds) and K-2nd (except for the 1st Sunday) will continue to meet following the Children's Conversation during worship. If you have any questions, please ask Pastor Kathryn.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE:** There will be **no Sunday School on Sunday, December 27** during the education hour. There will be Sunday School for Preschool and K-2 during worship. Sunday School for all ages resumes on January 3, 2016.

**STARMOUNT PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH (SPY!):** It is time to reunite with old friends as we celebrate Christmas and the beginning of Winter break! SPY! youth will be joining our returning college students for a reunion dinner at Friendly Center. Bring money for dinner and meet at the church at 5:18. We will return to the church after dinner. See you tonight!

**HONOR CARDS** will be sold through **TODAY**. There are cards for Habitat for Humanity, Congo Egg Farm, Greensboro Urban Ministry, and Out of the Garden. Cards are available for purchasing in the lobby.

**POUND CAKES FOR CHRISTMAS DINNER FOR THOSE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS** will be cut and bagged after worship **TODAY** in the Fellowship Hall kitchen. If you can, please stay and help.

**MARKET STREET BRASS CONCERT: TODAY**, 2-3 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Get in the holiday spirit with Market Street Brass, one of Greensboro's most popular ensembles. A love offering will be received.

**COLLEGE STUDENTS CHRISTMAS GATHERING: TONIGHT** all are invited to go out to dinner together (somewhere at Friendly Center), followed by dessert (on us). For more information, please contact Pastor Kathryn at 336-740-0555.

**GIVE A GIFT OF GREAT PROMISE** - When you give to the Christmas Joy offering, you are faithfully keeping those promises by supporting church workers through assistance in their time of need and cultivating racial ethnic leadership development. With your generosity we can continue to make and keep these meaningful promises with life changing potential. Please consider a gift this advent season.

**CHURCH OFFICES HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:** The church offices will be closed on December 25 and 28 in observance of Christmas.

#### **CHRISTMAS EVE AT STARMOUNT**

**4:30 - 5:15 p.m. FAMILY SERVICE**—Worship with family and friends at this fun, family-friendly, and spirit-filled service. The Children's and Youth Choirs will help lead worship. Hymns will be sung and congregational bells will be rung.

**5:30 - 6:30 p.m. CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER**—Join members and friends of the Starmount family for dinner between worship services on Christmas Eve in the Fellowship Hall. The meal, in its entirety, is provided for those who have made a reservation. We ask that you bring a canned good for Greensboro Urban Ministry Food Pantry. Sign up on the enclosed insert, e-mail Pastor Kathryn or online via the homepage link by Monday, December 21.

**7:00 p.m. CANDLELIGHT COMMUNION SERVICE**—Celebrate the birth of Jesus through scripture readings, Christmas carols, the Sacrament of Communion, a Christmas Story for All Ages, special music, culminating in the singing of "Silent Night" in the glow of individual candles. Childcare will be provided.

#### **THIS WEEK AT STARMOUNT**

##### **SUNDAY, December 20**

**9:00 a.m.**  
New Member Class, Parlor  
Sunday School  
VIPs & Childcare  
Handbells Rehearsal  
**9:25 a.m.**  
Youth Handbells Rehearsal  
**10:00 a.m.**  
Worship  
**10:15 a.m.**  
Children's Sunday School  
**11:10 a.m.**  
Children's Choir Rehearsal, room 420  
**11:15 a.m.**  
Session Meeting, room 319  
**2-3 p.m.**  
Market Street Brass Advent Concert  
**5:18-7 p.m.**  
SPY! Youth Group  
College Reunion

##### **MONDAY, December 21**

**7-8 p.m.**  
Building & Grounds Committee,  
room 414

##### **TUESDAY, December 22**

**10-11:50 a.m.**  
Staff Meetings, room 414

##### **THURSDAY, December 24**

**3:30 p.m.**  
Children's Choir / Youth Treble  
Choir Rehearsals  
**4:30-5:30 p.m.**  
Christmas Eve Family Service  
**5:30-6:30 p.m.**  
Christmas Eve Dinner, Fellowship Hall  
**6:15 p.m.**  
Choir Rehearsal  
**7-8 p.m.**  
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

##### **FRIDAY, December 25**

Merry Christmas!

##### **LOOKING AHEAD**

##### **SUNDAY, December 27**

**No Sunday School**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
Worship  
**10:15 a.m.**  
Children's Sunday School

**THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO PURCHASED POINSETTIAS:** Please remember to take them with you following the Christmas Eve services.

**YEAR-END GIVING CONTRIBUTIONS** may be delivered to the church office weekdays between (9am-5pm). **Please have all 2015 year-end contributions into the office no later than 1 p.m. on Thursday, December 31.** Stock transfers should be initiated no later than December 24 or visit our website to give online anytime on or before December 31.

**COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORTS** are due by **Monday morning, January 11.** Please email to Brenda Triplett at [brenda@starmountpres.org](mailto:brenda@starmountpres.org).

**BEING MORTAL BOOK DISCUSSION: January 27**, 6:30 p.m. Marcia Vanard is back to lead the book talk (she was our grief talk discussion leader). Books available in the Gathering space to sign out and read now.



**Starmount**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 20, 2015 · 10:00 a.m.

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Rev. Kathryn G.N. Campbell, associate pastor  
Rev. Dr. Ken Meeks, Jr., parish visitor  
Leslie Webb, parish visitor  
Robert Overman, director of music ministries  
Michael Parker, organist

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Welcome!

We are Christ's people, and this is Christ's house with its doors wide open.

If you are passing through, Godspeed. If you are looking for a worship home, stay with us.

We invite you to join us, but most of all, to return often.

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**Called to Worship. Empowered to Serve.**