

November 27, 2022

First Sunday of Advent

GATHERING MUSIC

HYMN 667

When Morning Gilds the Skies

HYMN 347

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Art & Judy Fitchett

God's house is a house of peace.

Liturgy from Reverend Julia Seymour

OPENING MUSIC

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Starmount Ensemble

SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy Lord, in this time of Advent, we confess we often are distracted by the season's busyness, by the stress of commitment, and even by putting our own traditions ahead of the true meaning of Christmas. We confess we also often prefer being sentimental to being sacrificial. Forgive us for all the times we have missed seeing You in our midst, for all the times we have doubted Your presence, and for all the times we have failed to hold the holidays as holy days. Pour peace into our lives and let us be bearers of Your peace to others. Remind us that this is a season of waiting and preparation for the greatest Gift of all. In the holy Name of our Savior, Jesus, we pray. Amen.

(silent prayers)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

RESPONSE

HYMN 821

My Life Flows On:

How Can I Keep from Singing?

**The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing!**

All things are mine since I am his!

How can I keep from singing?

No storm can shake my inmost calm

while to that Rock I'm clinging.

Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,

how can I keep from singing?

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

***HYMN 82**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 2: 1 - 5

SERMON

"Hope in a Time of Despair"

Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee

ANTHEM

Advent Longing

Joseph Martin

Starmount Chancel Choir

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Offering boxes are available at the back of the sanctuary. Gifts may also be made online at starmountpres.org.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *from The Confession of 1967*

With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God. "Now to God who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all we ask or think, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen."

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

***HYMN 772**

Live into Hope

BENEDICTION

***Please stand in body or spirit**

**The flowers today are given by Cynthia & Stan Dixon –
We thank God for all the gifts we've received. We are grateful for the times
our hands are held through crisis as well as for actual, acknowledged gifts.
It's overwhelming but oh so special to have a time we can actually say:
Thank you, God. So, let's all do just that: Thank you, God, for all the support
and gifts.*

Announcements



Serve with us! Scan the QR code to open our "Serve with Us" webform. Complete and submit the form on your phone, tablet, or computer!

Advent Devotionals – Each Sunday in Advent there will be a new weekly devotional available for you on the welcome desk and can also be found on the website under the "Inspire" tab.

2022 Angel Tree - Each year our church provides Christmas gifts for the children of Triad Health Project's clients. This year the Angel Tree will be up in the Narthex the first Sunday in Advent, **November 27, 2022**. You can choose a tag off the tree with item(s) to purchase that we would like wrapped with the tag on it and returned by December 11.

Honor Cards - The Mission Ministry will be selling Christmas Honor Cards beginning on November 27, the first Sunday of Advent, and continuing each Sunday through December 18. You can buy cards to honor your friends with your donation to Greensboro Urban Ministry, Habitat for Humanity, UKirk or Congo Farm/Nutrition Program. Each card is \$5.00. You will be sending Christmas greetings as well as helping a good cause. Check out your Starmount email and the website for links to purchase honor cards online.

Christmas Lunch sponsored by the Women of the Church. Join us **Thursday, December 8th, 11:30 am** in Fellowship Hall for lunch and to hear Laura Oxner, Director of local nonprofit "RePurpose" food recovery. Register by December 5th by following the link in your email or calling the church office. A love offering will be collected.

Drop & Shop on Saturday, December 10, 9 am – Noon. Children ages 3 through 5th grade are invited to join us for a morning of crafts, games, and cookie decorating while their parents go shopping. You can register online or contact Cindy Lee, cindy@starmountpres.org for more information or to register.

Starmount Homework Helpers is up and running! If you are interested in supporting by transporting students, providing meals or snacks, or serving as a homework helper please contact Laura, laura@starmountpres.org, or use the QR code.



Starmount Presbyterian Youth (SPY) activities for the month of December: December 4 – Carousel and Cocoa, meet at the Greensboro Science Center for lights, carousel riding and hot chocolate!; December 12 - Second Monday Moe's, come for dinner at Moe's @Friendly, Laura will be there from 6 – 7:30 pm; December 18 – Gather at the church from 5:18 – 7:00 pm for our annual Christmas Party! We will have games, dinner, and an ugly sweater contest. Contact Laura for additional information laura@starmountpres.org.

Hammers Ready! The Mission Ministry is excited to announce that Starmount will be partnering with Tiny House Community Development (THCD) and Glenwood Together on a tiny house building blitz. Glenwood Together is a non-profit community focused organization in the Glenwood neighborhood with ties to local churches, schools, and residents. Site preparation and foundation work are underway for a loft tiny house (sponsored by Greensboro Day School), a single bedroom tiny house (sponsored by Peak Academy), and a two-bedroom tiny house that Starmount is sponsoring. Workdays could start soon so watch for more information in the coming weeks on dates of workdays and how to volunteer/signup. Contact Kevin Kattmann with questions. Kkattmann62@yahoo.com



Starmount Presbyterian Church Program Staff

Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee, Pastor

Rev. Scott Lawson, Parish Associate

Michael Parker, Pianist/Organist

Cindy Lee, Director of Children's Ministries

Laura Roberson Hadas, Director of Youth & Refugee Ministries

Welcome to Sunday Worship
November 27, 2022 · 10:00 a.m.