

January 1, 2023

First Sunday of Christmas

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

HYMN 137

He Came Down

OPENING MUSIC

SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God of new beginnings,

We come with a desire to renew our commitment to you.

May your angels sing again to us of peace and goodwill.

Forgive us for when we let our desires lead us astray.

May your star, once more, set our course firmly in your direction.

Forgive us when we do not match our faith with our actions.

May your manger call us again to expressions of love and devotion.

Forgive us when we do not freely share that which you have given us.

May the Magi help us embrace the spirit of giving.

Lord, may your Spirit shine in our hearts and renew our sense of calling to follow you.

(silent prayers)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

RESPONSE

HYMN 39 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!**

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning, new mercies I see.

All I have needed thy hand hath provided.

Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

***HYMN 128**

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 2:13-23

SERMON

What Child is This?

Rev. Scott Lawson

ANTHEM

HYMN 120

Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

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

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God.

All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.

What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness,

and the darkness did not overcome it.

The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him.

He came to what was his own,

and his own people did not accept him.

But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God,

who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us,

and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

—John 1:1-5, 9-14, NRSV

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 110**

Love Has Come

BENEDICTION

***Please stand in body or spirit**

Announcements

Holiday Office Hours – The church office will be closed on Monday, January 2.



Have you made your 2023 pledge? If not, you can easily submit a pledge by scanning the QR code. You can also submit a pledge card or call the church office and ask for Sheila.

Chili Cookoff, January 13, 2023, 6 pm. Sign up to bring your championship chili at the welcome desk in the narthex.

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.



2023 Offering Envelopes Please stop by the welcome desk in the Narthex to pick up 2023 Offering Envelopes. Envelopes are not named or numbered, so you have the option to pick up envelopes for weekly or monthly donation.

Mission Trip Interest - Salem Presbytery is looking to sponsor a second trip to Fort Myers Florida to help with clean-up from Hurricane Ian. The trip date is 1/23-1/28/23, Monday to Saturday. If you're interested, please contact Neil Huffman, mnhuff@earthlink.net

If you are interested in **reserving flowers** for a Sunday in 2023 please contact Jinny Buchanan at jinnybug@mindspring.com or (336) 549-4674 to reserve your Sunday.

Prayer Concerns & Celebrations

Do you have a prayer concern or celebration to share? Please feel free to add it to the prayer wall in the narthex or you can email or call Anne in the church office at anne@starmountpres.org, (336) 299-8131 ext. 110.

Starmount Presbyterian Church Program Staff

Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee, Pastor

Rev. Scott Lawson, Parish Associate

Jada Poteat, Interim Director of Music

Michael Parker, Pianist/Organist

Cindy Lee, Director of Children's Ministries

Laura Roberson Hadas, Director of Youth & Refugee Ministries



**Welcome to Sunday Worship
January 1, 2023 · 10:00 a.m.**