

**November 12, 2023**

**24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**GATHERING MUSIC**

**HYMN 701**

*Lord, Prepare Me*

**PRAYER**

**OPENING MUSIC**

*Come Ye Thankful People*

arr. Kinyon

Chancel Handbells

**SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Giver of every good and perfect gift,  
you have blessed us with so, so much.

However, we confess that we are poor stewards of your  
gracious bounty.

You give us time, but we waste it.

You give us life, but we use it to glorify ourselves.

You give us gifts and abilities, but we use them only for  
our own benefit and pleasure.

You give us wealth, but we make it serve only our own  
comfort and security.

As a result, we miss out on the joy you give us when we  
are generous.

We miss the opportunity to be participants in your work in  
the world.

So, change our hearts, O God, that they would reflect  
your heart, your love, and your generosity to us.

(Silent prayers)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

**RESPONSE**

**HYMN 425**

*Son of God, Whose Heart is Peace*

**CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION**

**\*HYMN 468**

*In My Life*

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Jeremiah 32: 1 – 3a, 6 – 15

**SERMON**

“Seventeen Pieces of Silver”

Rev. Ron Shive

**ANTHEM**

*El Shaddai*

arr. Geschke

Chancel Handbells

**OUR LIFE TOGETHER**

**INVITATION TO GENEROSITY**

Offering boxes are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Gifts may also be made online at [starmountpres.org](http://starmountpres.org).

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We believe in God,  
Creator of the universe,  
Giver of every good gift,  
Author of life itself.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,  
who reminded us of the coming of God's kingdom,  
who commanded us to care for those in need,  
who taught us to store up treasures in heaven, not on  
earth, and who gave us the example of self-giving love.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
who inspires us to faithful stewardship of God's gifts,  
in whom we live and move and have our being,  
by whom all things are possible.**

**We believe that God has given us gifts to be shared  
freely and generously, in a spirit of love and joy.  
We acknowledge that we are merely stewards of all that  
is God's, caretakers of God's home.**

**We believe that faithful stewardship is an act of worship,  
a means of praising God who has blessed us so  
abundantly.**

**We believe that God has great things in store for us,  
for it is in giving that we receive.**

(Allen & Sara Ewing-Merrill, 2004)

**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 693**

*Though I May Speak*

**BENEDICTION**

**\*Please stand in body or spirit**

**Announcements**

**Thank you for joining us for worship this Sunday!** We hope you will find it to be an uplifting and meaningful experience. If you are a **guest or visitor**, we invite you to stop by our information desk in the Narthex (entry space). We have a gift for you as well as some information about our wonderful community of faith. If you feel comfortable sharing your contact information, we invite you to also fill out a visitor card.

**Families with young children** are invited to stop by the children's corner in the Narthex. Here you can check in your children for nursery care and staff can direct you to our downstairs classrooms. There are also worship/activity bags available.

**Please help us welcome, Ron Shive, our guest preacher.** Ron served as the Sr. Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Burlington for twenty years until his retirement in June 2022. Prior to that, he served three churches in South Carolina: Greenville, Travelers Rest, and Chapin. Ron has been and still is very active in the Burlington community in educational and housing concerns. He participates with local and national groups working for justice and peace in Palestine and takes a group annually on a pilgrimage to Jordan, Israel, and Palestine. In retirement, he is also organizing other small group trips: Footprints to Paul (Turkey and Greece), Egypt, and Scotland.

**Join the stewardship campaign!** Stop by the table in the narthex to share with us why you give to the church. We want the entire community to see how our giving makes an impact!

**Donations to Orange Feather Community School:**

The Missions Ministry will be making a donation on behalf of the congregation to this program that we heard about from our Oct. 8 guest in worship, Frank Twum-Barimah. If you care to make an additional donation to this project, you may do so through the church **until Nov. 12.**

**Just Lunch** - Join us after worship **today**, for lunch at K & W Cafeteria. Visitors are welcome as our guests. Children are welcome as well!

**Starmount Connects!** Movie night on **Wed., November 15, 6:30 p.m.** Join us to watch **Amazing Grace**- a movie about possibly the most impactful Christian you may have never heard of- William Wilberforce. Bring dinner or a snack if you wish.

**Interested in joining the church?** We will welcome new members into the congregation in worship on **Nov. 19.** If you are interested or would like to hear more information about what "membership" in the church means, please contact [charlie@starmountpres.org](mailto:charlie@starmountpres.org)

**Thanksgiving Supper** – Love Thanksgiving with all the trimmings but don't want to cook? Join an old-fashioned Covered Dish at 12:00 noon on Thanksgiving Day at Springwood Presbyterian Church, Whitsett (Pastor Scott's wife's church). Turkey and gravy provided. Bring a side dish or dessert to share. If you do not cook at all, then you can help with set up or clean-up. Please RSVP to Pastor Scott and let him know what you can contribute. Grace and gravy abound!

**Triad Health Project Stocking Stuffer Project** - The Mission Ministry provides ongoing support throughout the year to THP, and we provide a special focus for THP during the Advent season. Please check your church email, or call the church office, for the list of items to stuff the stockings and consider purchasing one of these items. Items can be placed in the collection bin in the Gathering Space **before Sunday, November 26.**

**2023 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 at the end of November. Choose a tag off the tree with item(s) to purchase, wrap them with the tag on it and **return by December 10.**

**Advent Workshop, Sunday December 3, 11:30 am** in Fellowship Hall. Join us for Fellowship, Crafts and Activities for all ages. Register by November 30.


**Drop & Shop** - Do you need to get some holiday shopping done without the kids? Children 3 years old to 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join us on **Saturday, December 16, 9 am – Noon.** Registration is required by December 13.

**Homework Helpers** meets weekly on Thursday from 4-5:30pm. We need transportation, snack and dinner providers, and homework helpers to work with students. Contact Laura ([laura@starmountpres.org](mailto:laura@starmountpres.org)) for more information!

**Starmount Presbyterian Youth (SPY)** activities for November:  
**November 19** – Game Night! – Come for a night of pizza, Mario Kart and other games. Invite a friend!

**November 26** – Sermon Talk-Back – Meet after church to debrief and explore the themes of the sermon of the day. Lunch will be provided!

Contact Laura for additional information  
[laura@starmountpres.org](mailto:laura@starmountpres.org)

**Plastics Recycling Update** – Congratulations, we're halfway there! As of October 31, you have kept 278 pounds of plastic out of the landfill. Way to go! Just a couple of reminders: if it has a symbol like this  or it's crinkly, it **CANNOT** be recycled. We will be collecting **through the end of January** so as you do your holiday shopping, keep in mind that the plastic mailers that online retailers use and the air pillows that come in the boxes from online retailers **CAN** be recycled.



### **Starmount Presbyterian Church Program Staff**

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Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee, Pastor

Rev. Scott Lawson, Parish Associate

Sarah Downey, 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  
November 12, 2023 · 10:00 a.m.**