

December 10, 2023

Cantata

CALL TO WORSHIP

GATHERING MUSIC

Hymn 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
(v. 1-4)

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Women of the Church

SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, as we watch and wait for signs of your expansive love, forgive our narrow thinking. During this season we repent in the wilderness with John the Baptist. We visit the home of Elizabeth along with Mary. We hear the witness of the angels and shepherds. All the while, we confess our apathy and lack of wonder as we wait for your coming. Forgive us and renew our sense of anticipation of your promised redemption.

(Silent prayers)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

RESPONSE

HYMN 92

While We are Waiting, Come (v. 1)

A Cantata for Christmas - "A Weary World Rejoices"

by Joseph M. Martin

Overture of Joy

A Weary World Rejoices

Arise and shine, your light has come. Rise and see what the Lord has done.

Redeem, Restore, Renew

Lord, come and melt our hearts of stone. Remind us we are not alone. Lord, come and make in us Your home.

Arise! Rejoice!

Hosanna! Hosanna! Lift high your voice and sing! Hosanna to the King of kings!

Come, Graceful Rose

Let mercy fall. Let healing start. Come, grace Rose, from heaven's heart.

Away in a Manger

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay close by me forever, and love me I pray.

Sing, O Heavens

Sing, O heavens and be joyful. Let the earth break forth in song.

Beautiful Star

Then heaven gave us a star we could follow, a sign of hope for all time.

Cantique de Noël (O Holy Night)

A thrill of hope, a weary world rejoices. O night divine!

BENEDICTION

Starmount Chancel Choir

Soprano

Megan Clark*
Jean Fisher
Doreen Heard
Kris Kattmann
Mary Palmieri
Sofia Pandolfo*
Mary Schneider
Debbie Stubbs
Megan Weiss

Tenor

Frank Burton
Jim Fisher
Kevin Kattmann

*denotes guest singer

Alto

Jennifer Dowler
Cathy Ingram
Kris Landrum
Margaret Parker
Billie Toney
Bronwyn Weikert

Bass

David Clark*
Drake Dowler
Parks Williams

Readers

Jan Epps-Dawson
David Stubbs
Frances Kallam
Matt Winters
David Wallace
Scott Lawson
Jaimie Irvan

Orchestra

Jeannie Sykes, Violin 1
David Mullikin, Violin 2
Joel Wenger, Cello
Ryan Mack, Double Bass

The flowers today are given to the glory of God by Bob and Sue Ramger in celebration of their 66th wedding anniversary, on Dec. 20.

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.

During the season of Advent, we are celebrating all the different ways we connect. We are honored to have different groups from our church family leading worship through lighting the Advent candles.

10th Women of the Church

17th - Children & Youth

24th – Homework Helpers & Mission Team

Join us for a **service of remembrance** following worship **Today, Dec. 10th**. For many, the weeks between Thanksgiving and New Year's are not always the "most wonderful time of the year." Instead, they are often filled with pain, stress, and grief. We will gather in the columbarium for a brief service of music and prayers to give voice to those feelings and make space for God's Spirit.

Poinsettias! Put your order in **today** for a Poinsettia in memory or in honor of your loved ones. Sign-up forms can be found on the welcome desk in the Narthex. All orders must be in by **tomorrow, Monday, December 11 at 12:00pm.**

Join us for an Advent Small Group Study: It will meet Wednesdays at 12:15, in person or online on **Dec. 13 & Dec. 20**. This study is based on the book *Holy Disruption*, by Traci S. Daub. Reading the book is not required to participate, but if you would like to purchase the book, look for the link in the weekly email. If you would like to attend the class via zoom, contact the church office for a link.


Honor Cards - The Mission Ministry stated selling Christmas Honor Cards the first Sunday of Advent. This year you can buy cards to honor your friends with your donation to Greensboro Urban Ministry, Habitat for Humanity or UKirk. Each card is \$5.00 and we can accept cash or check. Check out your Starmount email and the website for links to purchase honor cards online at www.starmountpres.org. Contact Cathy Ingram with questions at csingram@gmail.com.

All Children of the church are invited to join us for Children's Choir! We will be rehearsing during worship **on December 17**. We will then perform what we've learned during the **10 am service on Christmas Eve**. Please contact Sarah Downey, sarah@starmountpres.org for more information.

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

Please join us, on **Monday, December 18 at 3:00 p.m.** for **caroling at WhiteStone**, 700 S. Holden Road. We will gather at 2:30 in the WhiteStone Fellowship Hall. Song sheets will be provided.

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) for more information!

Plastics Recycling Update – Congratulations, we're halfway there! As of October 31, you have kept **375** 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.

Christmas Joy Offering- During this season of Advent, Starmount Presbyterian Church will be collecting for "The Christmas Joy Offering" for PCUSA, which provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need. Please mark "Christmas Joy" in the memo line of your check if you wish to contribute.

Starmount Presbyterian Youth (SPY) activities for December - **17th** – Sermon Talk-Back

Meet after church to debrief and explore the themes of the sermon of the day. Lunch will be provided!

22nd – Youth & Alumni Christmas Party

Come celebrate the last day of school for the Christmas break! We will have dinner, play games, and have an ugly sweater contest. Time and Location TBA.

Have you ever wondered where you can find out all that is happening at the church? A link to the church calendar can be found at the bottom of the church website homepage or by going directly to: <https://starmountpres.org/calendar/>

Starmount Presbyterian Church Program Staff

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

Starmount Presbyterian Church
starmountpres.org
(336) 299-8131



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