

**January 28, 2024**      **Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**GATHERING MUSIC**  
**HYMN 205**

*Live In Charity*

**PRAYER**

**OPENING MUSIC**

**SEEKING GOD'S FORGIVENESS**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Lord, Your word says love is patient and kind.

**But we confess the times when we have been impatient and unkind.**

Your word tells us that love does not envy, that it does not boast, and that it is not proud.

**But we confess that sometimes we have been envious, and boastful, and proud.**

Your word says that love is not rude, and that it is not self-seeking,

**But we confess that in many ways we have been inconsiderate of those around us, thinking only of ourselves.**

Your word tells us that love is not easily angered, and that it keeps no record of wrongs.

**But we confess how quickly we fly off the handle, and how carefully we keep score when we feel we have been wronged.**

Your word says that love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth, that it always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

**Lord, help us to choose the way of trusting You, putting our hope in You, and persevering in Your ways, knowing that love never fails, and that You never fail. Amen.**

(silent prayers)

**ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE**

**RESPONSE**

**HYMN 795** (Refrain only)      *Healer of Our Every Ill*

**CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION**

**\*HYMN 693**      *Though I May Speak*

**SCRIPTURE READING**      1 Corinthians 13: 1 - 8

**SERMON**

*"The Rule of Love"*

Rev. Dr. Charlie Lee

**ANTHEM**

*O Lord, You Know My Heart*

by Sandra T. Ford

**OUR LIFE TOGETHER**

**INVITATION TO GENEROSITY**

**Carol Carpenter**

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** (excerpted from Confession of 1967)

**God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.**

**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 300**

*We Are One in the Spirit*

**BENEDICTION**

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

The flowers today are given to the glory of God by Cynthia Knust in celebration of the birth and life of Kenard M. Knust.

**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.

There is still time to **invest in the impact that Starmount Presbyterian** has on our own church community, our local Greensboro community, and the world. Session will be approving a budget for fiscal year 2024 in the next few days - please **prayerfully consider making a pledge** if you have not done so already.

**Nominating Committee recommendations:** Nominations are currently being solicited from the congregation for individuals to serve on the 2024 nominating committee. Please submit your recommendations to the church office prior to **February 11th**. Submit by email to [anne@starmountpres.org](mailto:anne@starmountpres.org).

**2024 Offering Envelopes** - Please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Narthex to pick up 2024 Offering Envelopes. Envelopes are not named or numbered. You have the option to pick up envelopes for weekly or monthly donations.

**2024 Women's Retreat at Montreat Conference Center – Save the date!** March 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>. Further details and registration information can be found in your weekly emails.

**Starmount Summer Mission Trip:** Mark your calendars! **July 14th through July 20th**. Intergeneration for all ages. We will be traveling to Craven County, New Bern, NC this summer to work in the community. More information will be shared in the coming months. If you have questions, please contact Neil Huffman.

We have a **new way to sign up for flowers!** We have placed a sign-up calendar in the Narthex so you can sign up for a Sunday. Please use the dry erase pen that is next to the calendar. Or you can email Jinny Buchanan at [jinnybug@mindspring.com](mailto:jinnybug@mindspring.com) or call her at 336-549-4674.

**Starmount Presbyterian Youth (SPY)** activity for January - **28<sup>th</sup> – Mad Splatter** – Meet from 5-7 at the Mad Splatter to paint bowls with friends! Painting and dinner will be provided!

The **January/February edition of Star Press Newsletter** was emailed a few days ago. Check your email, physical mailbox or pick one up in the Narthex **today**.

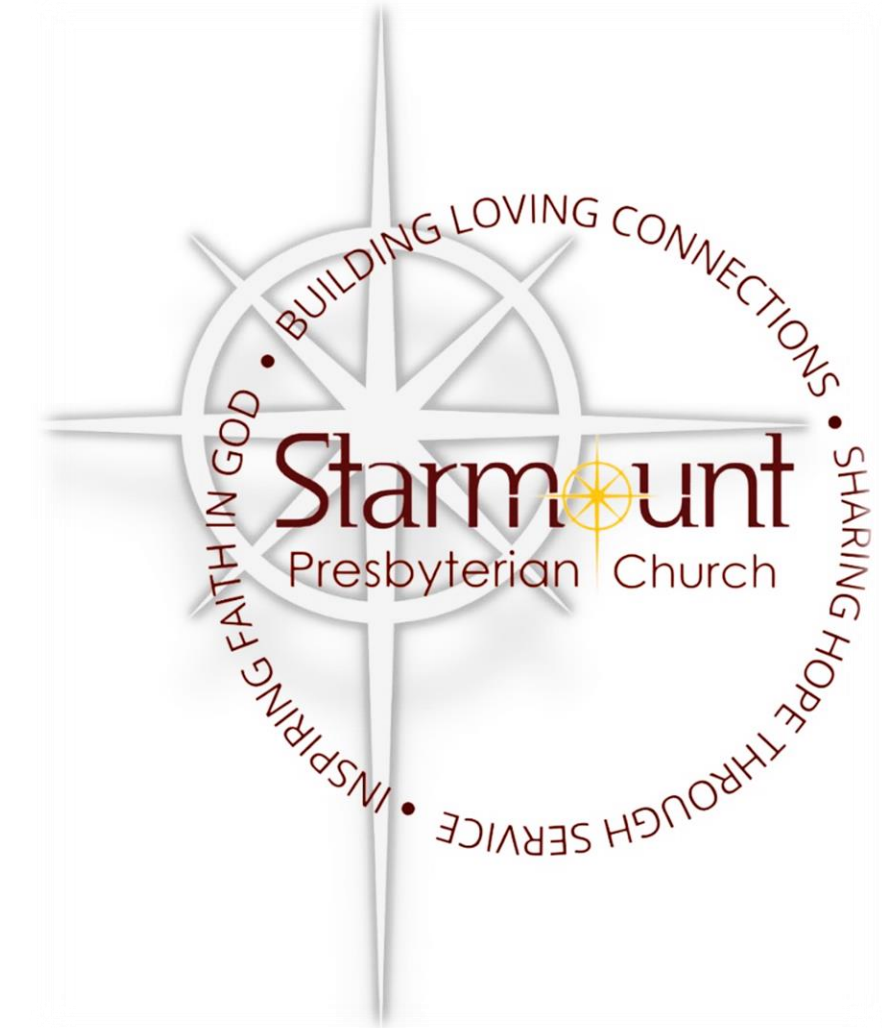
Come join us for an **Ash Wednesday service, February 14 at 6pm** in the Chapel. It will be **preceded by a potluck meal** in the Fellowship Hall. Childcare will be provided starting at 5:45 for children in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and younger.

The Session has called a **Congregational Meeting** after worship on **Sunday, February 25**. This will serve as the Annual Meeting of the congregation.

**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!

**Plastics Recycling Update – We have reached our goal of 500 pounds of plastic film recycling** and will be getting a bench from Trex in recognition of that accomplishment. Congratulations! After January 28, you can take your plastics to any grocery store. Thank you all!

**Volunteers needed for Sunday morning nursery care.** Starmount is looking for help to care for our youngest members (ages 2 and under) while their parents worship. If you are interested in helping, please email Cindy, [cindy@starmountpres.org](mailto:cindy@starmountpres.org).



### **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

Starmount Presbyterian Church  
[starmountpres.org](http://starmountpres.org)  
(336) 299-8131

**Welcome to Sunday Worship**  
**January 28, 2024 · 10:00 a.m.**