

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 13, 2020 11:00 a.m.

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; To all who mourn and long for comfort; To all who struggle and desire victory; To all who sin and need a Savior; To all who are strangers and want fellowship; To all who hunger and thirst for righteousness; And to whoever will come – This church opens wide her doors And offers her welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INSTRUMENTAL INTROIT

* **Responsive Call to Worship**

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus. Being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Philippians 2:5-8

* HYMN OF PRAISE

Blest Be The King Whose Coming

Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God! For him let doors be opened, no hearts against him barred! Not robed in royal splendor, in power and pomp, comes he; But clad as are the poorest, such his humility!

Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God! By those who truly listen his voice is truly heard; Pity the proud and haughty, who have not learned to heed The Christ who is the Promise, who has atonement made.

Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God! He only to the humble reveals the face of God. All power is his, all glory! All things are in his hand, All ages and all peoples, till time itself shall end!

Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God! He offers to the burdened the rest and grace they need. Gentle is he and humble! And light his yoke shall be, For he would have us bear it so he can make us free!

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PRAYER OF ADORATION AND INVOCATION

THE 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.

CONFESSION OF SIN

From John Knox's Liturgy of 1560

- Leader: Almighty God, we are unworthy to come into your presence, because of our many sins. We do not deserve any grace or mercy from you, if you dealt with us as we deserve.
- All: We have sinned against you, O Lord, and we have offended you. And yet, O Lord, as we acknowledge our sins and offenses, so also do we acknowledge you to be a merciful God, a loving and favorable Father, to all who turn to you.

Leader: And so we humbly ask you, for the sake of Christ your son, to show mercy to us, and forgive us all our offenses. Forgive the sins of our youth, and the sins of our old age.

- All: By your Spirit, O God, take possession of our hearts, so that, not only the actions of our life, but also the words of our mouths, and the smallest thought of our minds, may be guided and governed by you.
- Leader: Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.

1 John 2:1

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE IN SONG



OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 45, ESV page 672

Message to Baruch

45 The word that Jeremiah the prophet spoke to Baruch the son of Neriah, when he wrote these words in a book at the dictation of Jeremiah, in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah: ² "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, to you, O Baruch: ³You said, Woe is me! For the LORD has added sorrow to my pain. I am weary with my groaning, and I find no rest.' ⁴ Thus shall you say to him, Thus says the LORD: Behold, what I have built I am breaking down, and what I have planted I am plucking up—that is, the whole land. ⁵ And do you seek great things for yourself? Seek them not, for behold, I am bringing disaster upon all flesh, declares the LORD. But I will give you your life as a prize of war in all places to which you may go."

THE CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Nicene Creed

- We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
- And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.
- And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets; and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE GLORIA PATRI

Trinity Hymnal No. 734

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen, Amen.

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THE PRAYER FOR CHURCH AND WORLD



Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

A great company of the heavenly host [was] praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests." Luke 2:13, 14



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THE PREACHED WORD OF GOD

"The Blessedness of Receiving Christ"

Galatians 4:12-16, ESV page 974

¹²Brothers, I entreat you, become as I am, for I also have become as you are. You did me no wrong. ¹³You know it was because of a bodily ailment that I preached the gospel to you at first, ¹⁴ and though my condition was a trial to you, you did not scorn or despise me, but received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus. ¹⁵What then has become of your blessedness? For I testify to you that, if possible, you would have gouged out your eyes and given them to me. ¹⁶Have I then become your enemy by telling you the truth?

* HYMN OF RESPONSE

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Trinity Hymnal No. 208



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* DOXOLOGY

Trinity Hymnal No. 731

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below: Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost: Amen

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* Congregation Standing

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

At this time, we do not plan to collect the offering by passing the plate. These are available in the back of the sanctuary. Online or mail-in giving are still encouraged, but you can drop a check in the plate if that is more convenient.

ONLINE: http://www.ballantynepres.com/giving/

MAIL: Please mail tithe checks (no cash) to the treasurer's address. She will immediately deposit to the church's account and forward the Wells Fargo e-mail confirmation to you:

Marilyn Spencer - BPC Treasurer 3020 Shaker Drive Charlotte, NC 28210

THIS SUNDAY AT BPC

11:00 a.m. Morning Worship – In Person and Live Streamed <u>https://www.ballantynepres.com/webcast</u>

5:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

A Festival of Lessons of Carols

In Person and Live Streamed <u>https://www.ballantynepres.com/webcast</u> Please invite friends and neighbors, and plan to join us for a candlelight Festival of Lessons and Carols. By weaving readings from Scripture with beloved music of the season, the wonder of the Christmas story is heard anew.

THIS WEEK

Tuesday Night 7 p.m. Young Adults meet via Zoom

Michael Moon leads our group on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. https://zoom.us/j/95762871957

Wednesday Night 6:30 p.m. Congregational Prayer Meeting IN PERSON & via ZOOM

Dr. Nance leads with a devotional and then we will pray together on a Zoom call hosted by Michael Moon. **The ZOOM meeting password is the same as the Prayer List password** <u>https://zoom.us/j/97617806601</u>

Wednesday Night 6:30 p.m. Youth Group IN PERSON & via Google Meet

Josh Duemler leads our Youth Group using Google Meet. Our current series is called "Who is Jesus?", where we are looking at the book of Mark, as we seek to discover how Mark answers this question and grow in our faith and knowledge of Jesus. Google Meet link: <u>https://meet.google.com/udm-kagp-gfy</u>

Friday Morning 7 a.m. Men's Bible Study IN PERSON & via Zoom

Keith Kowadlo leads Men's Bible Study, which meets at church at 7 a.m., in person, while simultaneously broadcasting live via Zoom - https://zoom.us/j/93124082779

SAVE THE DATES

- Dec. 15 Young Adults meet via Zoom, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 23 No Prayer Meeting or Youth Group
- Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Worship, 6 p.m.
- **Dec. 25** No Men's Bible Study
- Dec. 27 No In-Person EVENING Worship Live-Stream Only
- **Dec. 30** No Prayer Meeting or Youth Group
- Jan. 1 No Men's Bible Study

SESSION

Dr. Mantle Nance	Senior Minister	980-329-8458
Mr. Kenneth Jackson	Missions	704-604-0331
Dr. Brian Jerby	Women's Ministry	704-574-0678
Mr. Dennis Kachmarsky	Clerk	704-996-9561
Mr. Bob Stone	Personnel	704-442-0109
Mr. Mark Seeley	Elder Emeritus	

DIACONATE

Mr. Sam Bullard	Mercy	704-451-1569
Mr. Rob Kelley	Building/ Grounds	704-907-5474
Mr. Keith Kowadlo	Men's Ministry	704-618-6181
Mr. Jake Spencer	Chair/ Finance	704-617-0197
Mr. Tim Teague	Clerk	704-770-1421

STAFF

Miss Aimee Jobe	Pianist	803-389-5395
Mr. Joshua Duemler	Intern	616-647-7743
Dr. Catie Jackson	Music Coordinator	704-604-0330
Mrs. Christie Kelley	Administration	704-953-1951
Mr. Michael Moon	Intern	828-989-7356
Miss Phoebe Pritchett	WIM Intern	770-823-2508
Mrs. Marilyn Spencer	Treasurer	704-617-0304

MISSIONARIES AND SUPPORTED MINISTRIES

Scott & Victoria Andes	RUF International - USC	Columbia, SC
John Baber	RUF - UNCC	Charlotte, NC
Michael and Laura Cochran	World Witness	England
Drew & Lauren Goodman	World Witness	Sully, Wales
Josh & Ashley Grimm	RUF - Queens	Charlotte, NC
John & Judy Lehner	Pilgrim Grace for Spain	Charlotte, NC
*Human Coalition	1505 E. 4 th Street	Charlotte, NC
Rob & Rachel Turner	Arsenal Hill Presbyterian	Columbia, SC
Michael & Lauren Wenzler	RUF - CSU	Ft. Collins, CO
Justin & M. Westmoreland	Trinity Presbyterian Church	Norman, OK

*Missionary of the Month

CHURCH FINANCIAL UPDATE

11/30/20 YTD	Actual	Budget	Variance
Income	\$285,603	\$310,933	(\$25,330)
Expenses:	\$310,113	\$310,933	(\$820)
Net Income/ (Deficit)	(\$24,510)	\$ 0	(\$24,510)