

THE GATHERING

Prelude: *Carols of Christmas Medley*
Chiming of the Hour
Welcome and Church Family News
The Passing of the Peace of Christ

arr. by John Prifoy

PREPARATION FOR THE WORD

Choral Call to Worship: *Come and Hear the Joyful Singing*

words by Michael Perry
music by Hal H. Hopson

***Call to Worship:**

Nearby, shepherds were living in the fields, guarding their sheep at night. The Lord's angel stood before them, the Lord's glory shone around them and they were terrified.

The angel said, "Don't be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you – wonderful, joyous news for all people. Your savior is born today in David's city. He is Christ the Lord!

This is a sign for you: you will find a newborn baby wrapped snugly and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great assembly of the heavenly hosts was with the angels praising God. They said:

"Glory to God in heaven, and on earth, peace and goodwill towards all people." When the angels returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go right now to Bethlehem and see what's happened. Let's confirm what the Lord has revealed to us."

Hymn of Praise # 113 *Angels We Have Heard on High

GLORIA

Morning Prayer

Response to God's Grace and Mercy # 121 *O Little Town of Bethlehem (Verses 1 &4)* ADESTE FIDELES
O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie! Above they deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.

Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;

THE WORD PROCLAIMED

First Lesson: Psalm 149:1-3 and 9b

Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise in the assembly of the faithful.

Let Israel be glad in its Maker; let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.

Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.

to execute on them the judgment decreed. This is glory for all his faithful ones. Praise the LORD!

Choir Anthem: *Were You There on That Christmas Night*

words & music by Natalie Sleeth

Second Lesson: Luke 2:21-38

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many

will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too." There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

Sermon: "Two Turtledoves"

Rev. Maggie Lauterer

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Hymn of Meditation # 110 *Love Has Come

BRING A TORCH

A Christmas Affirmation of Faith

We believe in God, the creator and giver of life, who brought all creation to birth, who mothers us and fathers us, protecting, nurturing, and cherishing us.

We believe in Jesus Christ: God born among us as a fragile baby, embodying both love and the need for love, and calling us to rest in God as trustingly as a tiny child.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, breathed into us at our birth, always drawing us on to be born again, encouraging, exhorting, comforting, nourishing our growth and inspiring our living.

We believe in the reconciliation of the world to God, through Christ. Hunted at birth and humiliated at death, Christ entered our fearful darkness so that we might enter his glorious light and share the life of his resurrection.

And we believe that each new child is a glimpse of the face of God, a sign of the life to come, and a call to live in peace and celebrate living together. Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth. Amen.

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *Emmanuel*

by Bob McGee
arr. by Fred Bock
OLD HUNDRETH

Doxology # 606 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

***Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

For all that you have given us, we thank you. In return, we have brought our tithes that your love and care may be made manifest in our works here on earth. Thanks be to God, Amen.

THE SENDING

Closing Hymn # 136 *Go Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude: *Three English Carols

arr. by John Prifoy

SERVING US TODAY

Preacher: Rev. Maggie Lauterer, Director of Music: Kathy Hutcheson

Announcements

We warmly welcome you to worship this morning. We hope that you will experience God's presence in this time of worship and fellowship.

The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service was attended by around 200 people. We worshipped Jesus, the baby King and Ruler of the Universe and our lives with singing, prayers, scripture and message, and offered our money and our lives in Christian service to those in need. The sanctuary was lighted only by candlelight as we sang "Silent Night" as we ended the service taking home the holy gifts of peace, hope, joy, and love.

The Church Office will be closed Tuesday and Wednesday, December 31 and January 1.

Wednesday Bible Study will resume on January 8, 3-4:30 p.m.

Please keep the following people in your prayers...

****Burl Duncan** passed away peacefully Wednesday, December 18. His funeral service was held at the church on December 21. He was 91 years old and lived a long, faithful, and rich life. Alberta's brother, Cliff Rose, passed away on December 23. Alberta Duncan and family would appreciate your prayers as they begin their journey of both grief and gratitude. Burl and Alberta have been members of our church for over 20 years. Cards may be sent to Alberta Duncan, P.O. Box 910, Linville, NC 28646. ****Ron Seeger** has been placed in hospice care. Cathy and he would appreciate your prayers during this time. Their address is 464 Carmine Drive, Cocoa Beach, FL 32931. ****Janis Kenyon** had successful knee replacement surgery on Tuesday, December 17. She is at home recovering. Her address is 24 Hanging Rock Estates Lane, Banner Elk, NC 28604. ****Bill and Laura Lind's daughter, Diana Farrington**, is struggling with her multiple sclerosis and the medicine is beginning to have some positive effect. Her address is: 15000 Wyndham Oaks Dr. Charlotte NC 28277-1566. Bill and Laura's address is: 3334 Land Harbor, Newland, NC 28657. ****Karen Phillips**, Pastor Kathy's sister had successful surgery-- her bleeding has stopped and she is feeling like she has gotten her life back. She wants to thank everyone for their prayers. Her address is: 1816 111th St., Omaha, NE 68154. ****Pepe Abrusci** had cataract surgery on one eye. She expects a full recovery. Her address is: 195 Jaynes Road, Apt. # 30, Newland, NC 28657. ****Mark Blich** is recovering from two surgeries on his hand. His address is 5511 31st Ct. E, Ellenton, FL 34222. ****Joe Jordan** had successful surgery on his shoulder and is recovering; he will not be able to wrestle for the next six months. Joe's address is P.O. Box 523, Pineola, NC 28662-0523. ****Beth Gacek** continues her recovery from foot surgery. She is at home and Greg is doing a great job taking care of her. She would love visits and Greg would love a few meals. Her address is 3223 Land Harbor, Newland, NC 28657. ****Frances Magruder** is making preparations for her surgery on January 13 to replace her bladder. Her address is: P.O. Box 154, Linville, NC 28646. ****Marilyn Gascho** had her eye surgery on Nov. 18 and is recovering. Her address is 19 Plantation Drive, Chula, GA 31733. ****Nicholas (Cole) Gretz, the grandson of Birte and Jack Hogan**, is undergoing intensive chemo and still needs our prayers as he battles leukemia. Birte and Jack's address is 2784 Land Harbor, Newland, NC 28657, and cards can be sent to Nicholas and his family in care of his parents, Raymond and Gayle Gretz, 352 Marba Road, Serverna, MD 21146-2016. ****Ashlyn DeWitt** has begun her chemotherapy. Jason and Ashlyn are encouraged and positive and would appreciate any prayers and support that will help them as they trust in God and find joy and laughter during this journey. Their address is 1911 Land Harbor, Newland, NC 28657. ****Tom Tessin, Jenny Duncan's brother**, lost his job because of his hearing issues, but due to his former employer's errors, he was denied unemployment and is appealing. He is praying for short-term unemployment until he can find another job. Jenny is a part of our church family as a long-distance member and a dear friend of Pastor Kathy's. Her address is 1302 Cornerstone Court, Essexville, MI 48732. ****Susan Hartley**, daughter of Bob and Linda Taylor, continues to have health concerns. She enjoys cards! Her address is P.O. Box 35, Crossnore, NC 28616. ****Lorraine Alls** appreciates your prayers and cards. Her address is Apt. 208, 507 Linville Street, Newland, NC 28657. ****Mary Agnes Smith**, Rachel Deal's sister, is in the Banner Elk Life Care Center. Her address is Life Care of Banner Elk, P.O. Box 2199, Banner Elk, NC 28604.

OUR ELDERS

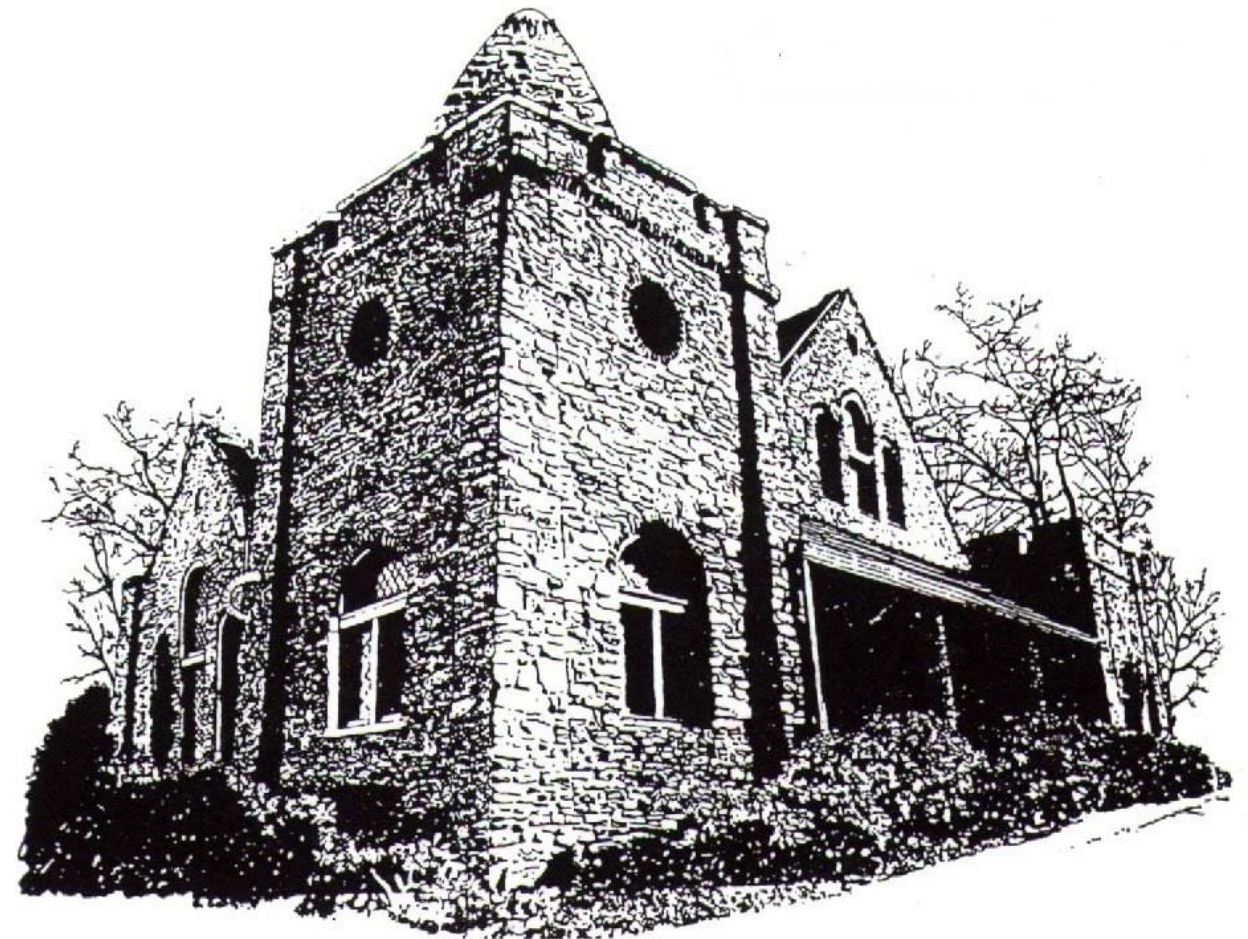
Class of 2019: Charlie Sims
Class of 2020: Jason DeWitt, Linda Berkley
Class of 2021: Charlotte Davila, Janis Kenyon (Clerk of Session),
Mimi Sloop, George Riggsbee
Ashlyn DeWitt: Administrative Assistant
Kathy Hutcheson: Director of Music
Barbara Ross: Voluntary Church Administrator
Attendance: 12-22-19 - 40, 12-22-19 - 200

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Rev. Kathy Campbell may be reached at the church office: 828-733-1939; cell phone: 828-260-2512, email: rev.kathy.campbell@gmail.com. Her office hours are Tuesday-Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., weather permitting. Please call to ensure Pastor Kathy will be there.

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THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY



CROSSNORE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

"GROWING DEEPER IN FAITH, REACHING OUT IN LOVE"

CROSSNORE, NORTH CAROLINA

REV. KATHY CAMPBELL, PASTOR
1st SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS, DECEMBER 29, 2019
ELEVEN O'CLOCK A.M.