

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Dear Lord, We have been nourished and fed by your Spirit. Send us out as wise men and women, seeking you and your revelation. Open our eyes to your presence and inspire us on our journeys. In the name of the Risen Savior we pray. Amen.

THE SENDING

***HYMN #63** "As with Gladness Men of Old"
(The Presbyterian Hymnal)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Leader: Gabriel foretold it.

People: The angels heralded it.

Leader: The shepherds came to see for themselves.

People: The wise men brought gifts.

Leader: And it is true.

People: God is with us through Jesus Christ, the babe of Bethlehem and our resurrected Lord.

Leader: The world will never be the same;

People: we ourselves will never be the same.

Leader: Go then and tell the world – Jesus Christ is born.

RESPONSE (sung)

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"
(verse 3)

**Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!
Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.
Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

***POSTLUDE** from "Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion!" The Messiah
G.F. Handel

† † † † †

*An asterisk indicates that all who are able may stand.

TO OUR VISITORS

We welcome you to our worship. We have a nursery lovingly and carefully attended by church members and childcare following the Time with the Children for ages two through kindergarten. If you have questions, please see an usher and they will be happy to assist you.

THIS WEEK AT BPC

The Cabarrus County LunchPlus Club for Seniors provides a Drive Thru Lunch Pickup at BPC Fellowship Hall, Monday – Friday, 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM.

Sunday, January 2

10¢-A-Meal Offering to be received
9:00 AM – Children's Sunday School - Room 202
9:00 AM – Sunday School - Room 200
10:00 AM – Worship Service with Communion

Monday, January 3

Church office closed
7:00 PM – Worship Committee

Wednesday, January 5

7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 9

Baptism of the Lord
9:00 AM – Children's Sunday School - Room 202
9:00 AM – Sunday School - Room 200
10:00 AM – Worship Service

LOOKING AHEAD

Monday, January 10

Annual Meeting Reports due to church office
7:15 PM – Mission/Evangelism Committee

Tuesday, January 11

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM – Quilting 101 in BPC Fellowship Hall
8:00 PM – Communications Committee via Zoom

Wednesday, January 12

7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal

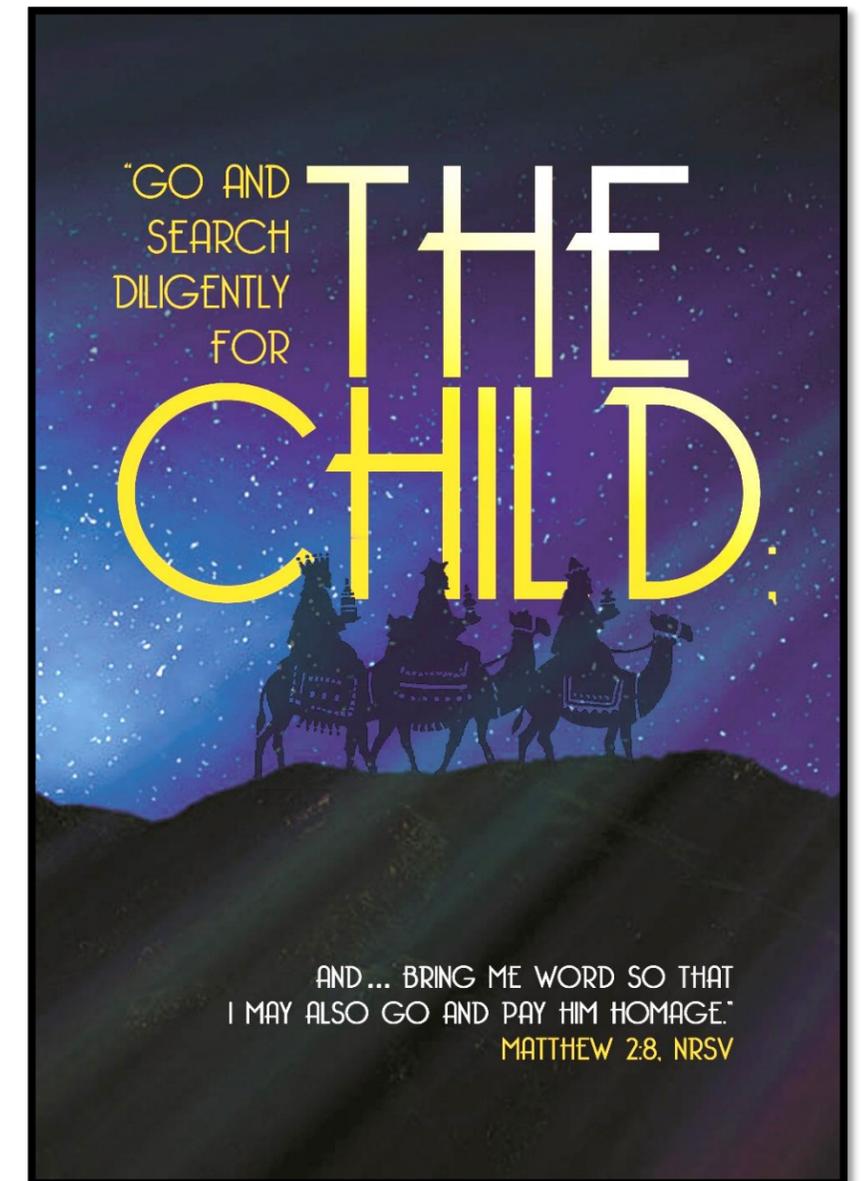
Thursday, January 13

6:30 PM – Personnel Committee

Sunday, January 16

9:00 AM – Children's Sunday School - Room 202
9:00 AM – Sunday School - Room 200
10:00 AM – Worship Service

THE SESSION OF OUR CHURCH	CLASS OF 2022
Valerie Hicks, <i>Moderator</i> Sherry Shifflett, <i>Clerk</i>	Connie Goodman, <i>Worship</i> Christel Josey, <i>Property</i> Dougie Kirkman, <i>Property</i>
CLASS OF 2023	CLASS OF 2024
Richie Goodman, <i>Stewardship</i> Ed Kuser, <i>Nurture</i> Carrie Paxton, <i>Christian Education</i>	Chris Ferguson, <i>Mission/Evangelism</i> Hannah Jackson, <i>Communications</i> Sherry Shifflett, <i>Personnel</i>



Welcome to Bethpage Presbyterian Church!
January 2, 2022

**"A family of faith in Jesus Christ,
yesterday, today, and tomorrow."**

We are excited that you have joined us in worshipping God today. Whether you are just visiting, looking to stay or have worshipped here your whole life, it is great to worship the Lord together this day!



6020 Mooresville Road • Kannapolis NC 28081
704-933-2209

website: www.bethpagechurch.org
e-mail: info@bethpagechurch.org

Rev. Valerie Hicks
704-712-7533 • valerie@bethpagechurch.org

The Service for the Second Sunday of Christmas The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

January 2, 2022

10:00 A.M.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE from "Partita on Duke Street" attr. John Hattie (1793),
setting by Charles Callahan (1988)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRINITY CHIMES

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Welcome, travelers.

People: Welcome.

Leader: Sometimes it is harder to cross an unrepaired sidewalk than travel a thousand miles.

People: Sometimes it is harder to forgive an old friend than to welcome a stranger.

Leader: But God teaches us that we should welcome the stranger as we would welcome Jesus Christ.

People: However far we have come this week, we bring gifts of ourselves, our minds, our compassion, our love, and our dedication.

Leader: Let us continue our journey together. Let us worship God.

*OPENING PRAYER

Interrupt our lives, O God, with stars we cannot refuse to see. Set before us today those life-changing possibilities which will send us on better paths than we have known. Go with us as we explore the mysteries of Christ. Fill us with awe and wonder, with joy and confidence, with generosity and praise. Reveal to us in new ways the promises of the gospel, that we may be bold to proclaim good news by the way we live. Amen.

***HYMN #66** "We Three Kings of Orient Are"
(verses 1 & 2, The Presbyterian Hymnal)

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, spirit of Power, we confess that at times we come to you seeking miracles, but only for ourselves and our families. We confess that we withhold the gifts you bestow on us for service, using them only for our own benefit. Open our eyes, that we may trust your wonder-working power and allow that power to work in us, and through us for others. We pray in the mighty name of Jesus Christ. Hear our prayers . . . *(Please take a moment for silent confession.)*

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: This is the good news in Jesus Christ: God loves us more than we love ourselves. God forgives us, encourages us, and frees us to love others. Thanks be to God.

People: Alleluia, Amen!

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE** *(sung)*
"Angels We Have Heard on High"
(refrain only)

**Gloria in excelsis Deo;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

THE WORD

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

ANTHEM "Joy Has Dawned" Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

(The congregation is invited to join the choir in the last verse of this hymn which is in our Hymns of Grace hymnal, #237.)

Words for the 4th verse:

Son of A - dam, Son of heav'n,
Giv - en as a ran - som;
Rec - on - cil - ing God and man,
Christ, our might - y cham - pion!
What a Sav - ior!
What a Friend!
What a glo - rious my - st'ry!
Once a babe in Beth - le - hem,
Now the Lord of his - t'ry.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Jean Brown

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 60:1-6 (Pew Bible, p. 690)

NEW TESTAMENT READING Matthew 2:1-12 (Pew Bible, p. 2)

SERMON "The Wise Travelers" Rev. Valerie Hicks

***HYMN #68** "What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright"
(to tune 423 - Duke Street, The Presbyterian Hymnal)

GIVING GOD OUR OFFERING and OUR 10¢-A-MEAL OFFERING

Offertory "Bethlehem Morning"
composed by Morris Chapman, arr. by Sandi Patty
Vocalist, Pat Kluttz

*Doxology *(sung)*

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

*Prayer of Dedication

O God, as wise rulers of old brought gifts and worshiped a young child, so also we bring offerings in praise of him whom you sent. The star that we follow is the light of Christ's teachings, calling us to be faithful in service to all in need. Accept what we bring, the products of our energy and efforts. By our gifts may a sad and needy world be enriched and comforted. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader continues . . .

All: 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.

THE WORDS OF THE INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE