

THE WORDS OF THE INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

(Please come forward, starting with the back row and moving forward down the center aisle to receive communion. Please return to your seats using the side aisles.)

PRAYER OF PRAISE AFTER COMMUNION

***HYMN 224** *“Joy to the World!”*

**He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders of His love.**

GIVING GOD’S TITHES & OUR OFFERINGS

Anthem *“Nativity Carol”* John Rutter
*Doxology 592 OLD HUNDREDTH

**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

THE SENDING

***A BLESSING/BENEDICTION**

***HYMN 236** *“Silent Night”*

**Silent night, Holy night! All is calm, all is bright,
Round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, Holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

**Silent night, Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing, Alleluias to our king;
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.**

† † † † †

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

TO OUR VISITORS

We welcome you to our worship, and we ask that you sign our Ritual of Friendship as it is passed along the pew. We hope that you will return to worship with us again! We have a nursery lovingly and carefully attended by church members.

MEMBERSHIP

We welcome into membership all who love Jesus Christ, accept him as Lord of all life, and seek to serve him as part of his body in the church. We invite you to speak to one of our elders, greeting you at the door as you leave the worship service.

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The Session and Staff of Bethpage Presbyterian Church of Kannapolis wish you a blessed and joyous Christmas. As we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, may he again be born in our hearts, may our faith be renewed, and may our commitment to follow him be strengthened.



Welcome to Bethpage Presbyterian Church!
December 24, 2018

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

We are excited that you have joined us in worshipping God today. If you are a visitor, please pick up a church information brochure, found in the pew holders. 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!

Christmas Eve Communion Service

December 24, 2018

8:00 P.M.

PRELUDE "He Shall Feed His Flock" Messiah George Frideric Handel

THE GATHERING

WELCOME & RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP

TRADITIONAL RINGING OF CHIMES The Youth Choir

*CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

"O Children Come" Kristyn Getty

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH Josey & Kirkman Families

BIDDING PRAYER

***HYMN 231** "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold Him, Born the King of angels!

Refrain

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:8-15 (responsively)

Leader: The story of God's gift of human redemption, which we celebrate this Christmas Eve began when Adam and Eve heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze. The man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?"

People: He said, "I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself."

Leader: God said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"

People: The man said, "The woman you gave to be with me, she gave me the fruit from the tree, and I ate."

(continued →)

Leader: Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?"

People: The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate."

Leader: The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

ALL: This is the story of our fall, the beginning of sins bondage and the purpose of Jesus Christ's redemption.

READING Lament Psalm Four Ann Weems - [Psalms of Lament](#)

THE SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7 (responsively)

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

People: You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Leader: For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire.

ALL: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

People: Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

ALL: The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

***HYMN 247** "Once In Royal David's City"

Once in royal David's city Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby In a manger for His bed.
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His own redeeming love,
For that Child so dear and gentle Is our Lord in heaven above;
And He leads His children on To the place where He is gone.

THE THIRD LESSON #217

Luke 1:26-38 (responsively)

TIME WITH YOUNGER CHRISTIANS

ANTHEM "For to Us A Child Is Born" Keith and Kristyn Getty

THE FOURTH LESSON #241

Luke 2:1-7 (responsively)

***HYMN 242** "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!

THE FIFTH LESSON #241

Luke 2:8-20 (responsively)

HYMN 222 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

Angels, from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye, who sang creation's story Now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain

Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherd, in the fields abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, Yonder shines the infant light: **(Refrain)**

THE SIXTH LESSON #199

John 1:1-14 (responsively)

MEDITATION

THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & 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.