

O Radiant Dawn,  
splendor of eternal light,  
Sun of justice:  
Come, shine on those who live in darkness  
and in the shadow of death.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Ruler of the nations,  
Monarch for whom the people long,  
you are the Cornerstone uniting all humanity:  
Come, save us all,  
whom you formed out of clay.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Immanuel,  
our Sovereign and Lawgiver,  
desire of the nations and Savior of all:  
Come and save us, O Lord our God.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

*(silence)*

God of grace,  
ever faithful to your promises,  
the earth rejoices in hope of our Savior's coming  
and looks forward with longing  
to his return at the end of time.  
Prepare our hearts to receive him when he comes,  
for he is Lord forever and ever. **Amen.**

**First Reading of Scripture:** Isaiah 12:2-6

**Second Reading of Scripture:** Zephaniah 3:14-20

**Meditation**

**Offering & Benediction**

**PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER FOR:**

**Our Session and Our LPC Family,** Our Government Leaders, LPC  
Prayer Shawl Ministry, Our Youth, Our Military. Our Police Officers, Bill  
Dehn Helen Smetts, Virginia Hartsell, Gay Troutman, Katherine Griffin,  
Fannie Hathcock, Ruth Bowers, Family of Fetzer Hartsell, Allen Linker,  
Carl Linker, Jeff Carson, Patsy Smith, Patty Amos, Family of Vicki  
Higgin's Uncle Ray Dwiggin in California, Family of Harpo Ruttman.



*The First Noel*

*A Christmas Celebration  
Locust Presbyterian Church*

*December 16, 2018*

*Third Sunday of Advent*

*Our Mission:*

*To be a place where people want and need to be - where God is glorified in Jesus  
Christ and real human needs are met. We will do this as Christ's Church through  
the power of the Holy Spirit as we worship, study, serve and fellowship.*

# LOCUST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION SERVICE

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018; 11:00 AM

*Rev. Evan Amo, Pastor*

*We welcome any visitors who may be with us today. May the Lord bless our fellowship time together. We wish you a Merry Christmas.*

**Prelude, Welcome, Announcements**

**Children's Message Lighting the Candle of Joy**

**Opening Hymn: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

**#31 Presbyterian Hymnal**

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### Adult Choir Cantata

#### **The First Noel**

*Directed by Bob Remsburg; Arranged by Russell Mauldin*

*Created by Russell Mauldin and Sue C. Smith*

*Narrated by Maverick Baucom, Justin Baucom and James Baucom*

#### **The Birthday of a King Medley**

**For unto Us a Child Is Born; Sing We Now of Christmas; The Birthday of a King**

*Written by George Frederick Handel, William H. Neidlinger, French carol*

#### **Glory, Glory in the Highest**

*Solo by Scott Hall*

*Words and Music by Russell Mauldin, Sue C. Smith*

#### **The First Noel**

*Traditional French carol*

#### **Jesus, Born on This Day**

*Solo by Tammi Remsburg*

*Words and Music by Mariah Carey, Walter Afanasieff*

#### **Glory, Glory in the Highest**

*Solo by Scott Hall*

*Words and Music by Russell Mauldin, Sue C. Smith; Arranged by Russell Mauldin*

#### **Light of the Stable with Angels We have Heard on High**

*Words and Music by Steve Rhymer, Elizabeth Rhymer, French carol*

#### **In the First Light**

*Words and Music by Robert Kauflin*

#### **Jesus at the Center**

*Words and Music by Adam Ranney, Israel Houghton, Micah Massey*

#### **Birthday of a King Finale**

**For unto Us a Child Is Born, The Birthday of a King, The First Noel**

*Written by George Frederick Handel; William H. Neidlinger; French carol*

#### **Litany for Advent:**

O Wisdom,  
coming forth from the mouth of the Most High,  
pervading and permeating all creation,  
you order all things with strength and gentleness:  
Come now and teach us the way to salvation.  
**Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Adonai,  
Ruler of the house of Israel,  
you appeared in the burning bush to Moses  
and gave him the law on Sinai:  
Come with outstretched arm to save us.  
**Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Root of Jesse,  
rising as a sign for all the peoples,  
before you earthly rulers will keep silent,  
and nations give you honor:  
Come quickly to deliver us.  
**Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Key of David,  
Scepter over the house of Israel,  
you open and no one can close,  
you close and no one can open:  
Come to set free the prisoners  
who live in darkness and the shadow of death.  
**Come, Lord Jesus.**

**REV. EVAN AMO** has accepted a call to Peoples Presbyterian Church in Denver, Colorado. While we'll regret his and Lauren's upcoming departure, we can be thankful that God has blessed us with their presence for over a year and we have been a help in preparing them for their further ministry journey. Evan's last service with us will be Christmas Eve.  
*Upcoming Supply Pastors – December 30 – Rev. Ardy Skidmore;  
January 6 – Petra Wahnefried-Sprik  
January 13, 20 & 27- Rev. Ardy Skidmor*

**CONGREGATIONAL MTG:** The Session has called a Congregational Meeting, for the purpose of hearing the report of the Nominating Committee and electing an elder for the class of 2022. This will follow worship.

**SENIOR LUNCH BUNCH:** The Senior Lunch will be leaving LPC at 11:00am on Tuesday to travel to Pier 51 in Concord. This month will be hosted by Fred and Sarah Wickert. We hope you will plan to join them.

**SESSION UPDATES:** The Session is pleased to report that they have been working over the past couple of months on a new mission statement and core values for the church. They are doing some more planning over the next month and will be sharing these and some of the steps we are going to take to embrace our role as a community of God's people and as a light to His world. Please continue to pray for our church as we work together to implement God's will for us.

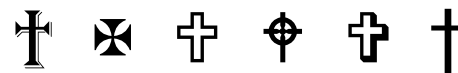
**CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST:** Larry & Kay Baucom would like to invite their church family to join them for Christmas Breakfast at 9:00am in the Fellowship Hall. Questions see Kay Baucom.

**HABITAT HOME UPDATES:** Habitat for Humanity Project work has begun. If you would like to schedule your time to work please see Michael Longhurst. Another great way to help is we will be making lunches to be delivered to the work crews on site. We are on a weekly rotation with the other 2 churches: **Dec 31<sup>st</sup> – Jan.5<sup>th</sup> – Locust will be responsible for the meals.** Questions- See Jane, Chris or Michael.

**LINKER SCHOLARSHIP:** If your college student is a member of LPC they are invited to apply for the Bill & Helen Linker Memorial Scholarship. Forms are available on the church office desk and need to be returned to the church by **December 19**. Questions-see Cindy Fish.

**MUSIC NOTES:** We'll begin today's worship with a Christmas song, *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*. This song was written by Charles Wesley in 1739, whose brother, John Wesley began Methodism. Charles was a prolific hymn writer. He preferred his songs to be sung with slow, somber tunes. We can be grateful that the jubilant tune we use today was adapted by Felix Mendelssohn in 1840 for a cantata that he wrote. The cantata that the choir sings today includes many French carols and other great Christmas songs. We hope you enjoy the musical presentation today.

**SINGING AMERICANS:** The final Singing Americans of Stanly County Christmas concert is this Saturday, December 22 at 3:00 PM at Pleasant Grove Baptist in Frog Pond. Several of our choir members are participating. Come and enjoy the musical presentation of *A Thrill of Hope*.



**Adult Choir Members:**

Patsy Smith	Leah Joyner
Greta Baucom	Robin Hill
Vicki Higgins	Tammi Remsburg
Joan Hall	Lauren Osga
Dennis Joyner	Charlie Higgins
Scott Hall	Skip Hall
Michael Longhurst	Bob Remsburg
Ruth Colavito	

**Adult Choir Narrators:**

Justin Baucom	Maverick Baucom
James Baucom	

**Organist:**

Kay Howell

**Pianist:**

Patsy Smith

**Sound Technician:**

Stephen Remsburg

**WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK** Dec. 16 - 23

<b>Today</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Choir Practice</b>
	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Connect Hour</b>
	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Worship –3rd Sunday in Advent</b>
	<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Congregational Mtg to Elect Elder</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>6:15 – 7:15pm</b>	<b>Girl Scout Troop Mts in FH</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Senior Lunch Bunch @ Pier 51 in Concord</b>
	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Session Meeting</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Community Wednesday Meal</b>
	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Choir Practice</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>7:00am</b>	<b>Rotary Breakfast Meeting in FH</b>
	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Weight Watchers Meet in FH</b>
<b>Saturday</b>		
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Choir Practice</b>
	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Connect Hour</b>
	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Worship – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent</b>

**BRIDGE TO RECOVERY BREAKFAST TEAMS**

- Team 1 – Bob R, Ruthi J, James B. – 12-31-18, 2-25-19
- Team 2 – Larry B, Vicki H, Chris F, - 1-14-19, 3-11-19
- Team 3 -Nancy B, John H, Cindy F. –1-28-19, 3-25-19
- Team 4 – Matt S, Fred W., Skip H. - 12-17-18, 2-11-19,4-8-19

**Elder Session Members Clerk of Session – Chris Fish**

Class of 18: Diane Haggerty, Matt Salyer, Lee Smith

Class of 19: Ray Bradford, Chris Fish, Joan Hall

Class of 20: Nancy Bartlett, Jane Blackman, Michael Longhurst

The church office phone number is  
704.888.4339. During other times  
Pastor Evan can be reached at  
714.397.4832.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion  
December 24, 6:00pm

Christmas Breakfast in Fellowship Hall  
December 25, 9:00am  
Hosted by Larry & Kay Baucom

Meal (Lunch) for Habitat Home Build  
Monday – Saturday, December 31<sup>th</sup> – Jan 5<sup>th</sup>

Community Wed. Meals (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed)  
Wednesday, January 2nd & 16th, 6:00pm

Session Mission Statement Team Meeting  
Monday, January 7, 6:30pm

Ordination & Installation of Elder Class 2021  
Sunday, January 13, 11:00am

American Red Cross Blood Drive  
Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup> 2:30 – 7:00pm

Meal (Lunch) for Habitat Home Build  
Monday – Saturday, Jan 21<sup>st</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>

Senior Lunch Bunch  
Tuesday, January 22, 11:00am

Session Meeting  
Tuesday, January 22, 7:00pm

Annual Congregational Meeting & Lunch  
Sunday, January 27