

Prayers of the People

Offering *Doxology

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.

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, Those traveling during Christmas.



LOCUST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION SERVICE

4th Sunday of Advent

December 23, 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

Lighting the Candle of Peace

Songs of Praise: Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Hymn #27 Presbyterian Hymnal

Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;
There He lay, the undefiled, to the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place, can He be the Savior?
Aske the saved of all the race who have found His favor.

Angels sang about His birth, wisemen sought and found Him;
Heaven's star shone brightly forth, glory all around Him.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, heard the angels singing;
All the plains were lit that night, all the hills were ringing

Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;
He is still the undefiled, but no more a stranger,
Son of God, of humble birth, beautiful the story;
Praise His name in all the earth, hail the King of Glory!

Songs of Praise: Go Tell It on the Mountain

Hymn #29 Presbyterian Hymnal

Children's Message

Prayer of Restoration

Anthem: Bethlehem Morning

LPC Choir

Music by Morris Chapman, Arranged by Russell Mauldin
"Bethlehem morning is more than just a memory, for the Child that was born there has come to set us free. Bethlehm sunrise, I can see Him in your eyes, for the Child that was born there, His Spirit never dies."

Scripture: Luke 1:39-55

Sermon: Yes--Mary Did She Know!

Affirmation of Faith (from A Declaration of Faith)

**Jesus, the long expected Savior,
came into the world as a child,
descended from David,
conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of Mary, a virgin.
He lived as a Jew among Jews.
He announced to his people
the coming of God's kingdom of justice and peace on earth.
We affirm that Jesus was born of woman
as is every child,
yet born of God's power
as was no other child.**

**In the person and work of Jesus,
God himself and a human life
are united but not confused,
distinguished but not separated.
The coming of Jesus was itself
the coming of God's promised rule.
Through his birth, life, death, and resurrection,
he brings about the relationship between God and humanity
that God always intended.**

Faith Conversations

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. PLEASE JOIN US for a celebration lunch following worship today.**
*Upcoming Supply Pastors – December 30 – Rev. Ardy Skidmore;
January 6 – Petra Wahnefried-Sprik
January 13, 20 & 27- Rev. Ardy Skidmor*

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.

CONGREGATIONAL MTG: The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on January 13 following a covered dish lunch after worship. Make plans to stay that day as we look toward the future of our church

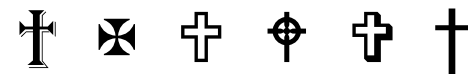
INTERIM MODERTOR: The Session is pleased to report that Rev. Elizabeth Ayscue of First Presbyterian Church in Albemarle will be our interim Moderator. She will serve in this role as the Session seeks a long-term Supply Pastor.

HABITAT HOME UPDATES: If you would like to schedule your time to work please see Michael Longhurst. LADIES..save the date of Monday, January 21 for an ALL LADIES BUILD DAY. 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: **Jan. 11th -16th – Locust will be responsible for the meals.** Questions- See Jane, Chris or Michael.

MUSIC NOTES: Christmas has been celebrated for many centuries. We open today's worship with a song whose lyrics were written in the early 1900s in Canada by a Methodist pastor and attached to music written in 1582, *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*. The other hymn is an African-American spiritual, *Go Tell it on the Mountain*. The choir anthem is a beautiful arrangement of a song from the 1980s, *Bethlehem Morning*.



*Join us for our Community
Christmas Eve Candlelight
Communion Worship.
6:00pm*



WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK Dec. 23 – January 6

Today	9:30am	Choir Practice
	10:00am	Connect Hour
	11:00am	Worship – 4th Sunday in Advent
	12:00pm	Covered Dish Lunch Honoring Evan & Lauren
Monday	6:00pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion
Tuesday	9:00am	Breakfast in Fellowship Hall Hosted by Larry & Kay Baucom MERRY CHRISTMAS
Wednesday		
Thursday	6:00pm	Weight Watchers Meet in FH
Saturday		
Sunday	9:30am	Choir Practice
	10:00am	Connect Hour
	11:00am	Worship
		Rev. Ardy Skidmore

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. - 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.

www.locustpresbyterian.org

PO Box 277, Locust, NC 28097

UPCOMING EVENTS

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

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

Meal (Lunch) for Habitat Home Build
Monday – Saturday, Jan 11th – 16th

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

Annual Congregational Meeting & Lunch
Sunday, January 13

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

ALL LADIES BUILD @ Habitat House
Monday, January 21, (Badin Home Build)

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

Session Meeting
Tuesday, January 22, 7:00pm

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.