

**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**

www.locustpresbyterian.org

PO Box 277

607 West Main Street

Locust, NC 28097

**MINISTERS: All of the Members of LPC**

Pastor: Evan Amo

Choir Leader: Bob Remsburg

Organist: Kay Howell

Piano: Patsy Smith

Treasurer: Cindy Fish

Sound Board: Stephen Remsburg, Maverick Baucom, Lilly Hall



December 9, 2018

*\*All who are able please stand, acceptable to remain seated also.*

**Today we celebrate Second Sunday of Advent.  
We will light the candle on our Advent wreath, the candle of Love.**

**Prelude, Welcome – Rev. Evan Amo**

**\*Praise Song – O Little Town of Bethlehem**

Hymn #44 Presbyterian Hymnal

**\* Praise Song – Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates**

Hymn #8 Presbyterian Hymnal

**Children's Message - Lighting of Advent Candle**

**Prayer of Restoration**

**Anthem: The Messiah Has Come Medley LPC Choir**

*Words and Music by Isaac Watts, George Frederick Handel, Charles Wesley, Felix Mendelssohn, Arranged by Russell Mauldin*

"King of kings, forever and ever, and Lord of lords. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! And He shall reign forever and ever."

**First Reading of Scripture: Malachi 3:1-4**

**Second Reading of Scripture: Luke 3:1-6**

**Sermon: Prepare the Way Through Fire**

**Affirmation of Faith: Brief Statement of Faith**

See Side Box

**Responding in Faith: Faith Conversations**

**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 – Rev. Evan Amo**

**Postlude**



**PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER FOR:**

**Our Session and Our LPC Family**, Our Government Leaders, LPC Prayer Shawl Ministry, Our Youth, LPC Choir, Our Military. Our Police Officers, Bill Dehn Helen Smetts, Virginia Hartsell, Gay Troutman, Katherine Griffin, Joe Garzoni-Peggy's son, Ron Lane, Traci Baucom, Fannie Hathcock, Brandon Furr-son-in-law of Robin Hill, Family of Fetzer Hartsell, Allen Linker, Ruth Bowers, Christopher Rybicki-son of Donna, Carl Linker, Jeff Carson, Patsy Smith, Patty Amos.

**MUSIC NOTES:** We'll begin today's worship with a Christmas song, *O Little Town of Bethlehem*. This song was written by an Episcopalian rector who had traveled to Bethlehem from Philadelphia in 1865. The organist at his church composed the tune we traditionally use. The second song is *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*. This older song was written in Germany by a Lutheran pastor in the 1620s and published in 1842. It was translated into English in 1855. Today's anthem is a medley of three popular Christmas songs, *Joy to the World!*; *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*; and *Hallelujah Chorus*. Feel free to sing along during this medley!

**Praise Song:**

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates,  
Behold, the King of glory waits;  
The King of kings is drawing near;  
The Savior of the world is here!

Fling wide the portals of your heart;  
Make it a temple, set apart  
From earthly use for heaven's employ,  
Adorned with prayer, and love, and joy.

Redeemer, come I open wide  
My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide.  
Let me Thy inner presence feel;  
Thy grace and love in me reveal.

**Affirmation of Faith**

*Brief Statement of Faith*

In life and in death we belong to God.  
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,  
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,  
whom alone we worship and serve.  
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,  
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks  
and to live holy and joyful lives,  
even as we watch for God's new heaven and  
new earth,  
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"  
With believers in every time and place,  
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death  
can separate us from the love of God in Christ  
Jesus our Lord.

**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-Sprick*

**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.

**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.

**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 10<sup>th</sup> – Dec 15<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 15**. Questions-see Cindy Fish.

**SINGING AMERICANS** The Singing Americans Christmas concerts are **today** at Pleasant Grove Baptist in Frog Pond. Both concerts are at 3:00 PM and several of our choir members are participating. Mark your calendar and plan to attend. Questions – see Bob or Tammi Remsburg.

**GREETERS & HEAD USHER:** If you would like to serve as a Greeter or Head Usher please let Amy Bates know, I am working on the schedule for the next few months and need to update the volunteer list.

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Bulletin Announcements or prayer request:  
Amy Bates at [abbiv4@yahoo.com](mailto:abbiv4@yahoo.com) or 704.622.5003

**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.

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**Our Servanthood Schedule... No Service is too Small...**

December Greeters: Vicki Higgins  
December Head Usher: Eugene Colavito

**COLLECTION COUNTERS** – To Volunteer see Cindy Fish  
December– Joan Hall & Chris Fish

**NURSERY** – To Volunteer see Joan Hall

**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

**WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK** Dec. 9 -16

<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 – 2nd 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>Wednesday</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 – 3rd Sunday in Advent</b>
		<b>Choir Cantata</b>

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Community Wed. Meals (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed)  
Wednesday, December 19th, 6:00pm

**Meal (Lunch) for Habitat Home Build**  
**Monday – Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>**

Senior Lunch Bunch  
Tuesday, December 18, 11:00am

Session Meeting  
Tuesday, December 18, 7:00pm

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>st</sup> – Jan 5<sup>th</sup>

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

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

Annual Congregational Meeting & Lunch  
Sunday, January 27

**Session Committee Chairs:**

- Administration & Finance Chair:* Chris Fish
- Christian Education Co-Chairs:* Joan Hall, Matt Salyer & Nancy Bartlett.
- Building & Grounds Co-Chairs:* Matt Salyer, Ray Bradford & Lee Smith.
- Worship & Music Chair:* Michael Longhurst.
- Congregational Life Co-Chairs:* Diane Haggerty and Jane Blackman.
- Mission, Outreach & Membership Co-Chairs:* Diane Haggerty, Jane & Michael

**Weekly schedules are as follows:**

**Nov 26<sup>th</sup> – Dec 1<sup>st</sup> - Norwood**

**Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> – Dec 8<sup>th</sup> – Albemarle**

**Dec 10<sup>th</sup> – Dec 15<sup>th</sup> – Locust**

**Dec 31<sup>th</sup> – Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> - Locust**

**Jan. 21 – Jan 26<sup>th</sup> - Locust**

**And then rotate again in that order.**