

**God, you are always doing "a new thing" (Isaiah 43:19) in the world and in my life. On the cusp of this new year, open my heart to your good plans.**

**SPECIAL PRAYER IS REQUESTED:** Barbara Morgan, Alisha Dowell Dollar, Vera Kluttz, Unspoken prayer needs, Pete Skinner (son-in-law of Chuck & Ruth Quimby), Telka Gullett (sister-in-law of Donnie Whitesides), Linda Barraclough (sister of Nancy Malone), Johnny Myers, Joy Brown, Randy Grant, Charlotte Gehrke (great niece of Mary Helen Myers), Sherry Moore, Pat Chaffin, Ron Baldwin (Becky (Tom) Wetmore's cousin), Malcolm & Peggy Bullock, Sam & Gloria Correll, Kate Wilson, CC. & Peg Williams. **Public Safety Personnel:** Probation officers, firefighters, paramedics, sheriff and police officers. **Military:** James & Sarah Fullwood (Marines), Logan Willis (National Guard). **Missionaries:** The Raymer Family & The Riddle Family. **Pastor Nominating Committee, Next Pastor for Unity Church, Salem Presbytery, Our Nation.**

**DEACONS TO COUNT OFFERING:** Dick Moore & Rick Moore (Next week: Cody Haire & Ruth Quimby)

**NURSERY TODAY:** Margaret Kluttz (Next Sunday: TBA)

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to (27) Wade Moore (28) June Williams.  
**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY** to (28) David & Cheryl Correll.

**Pennies for Hunger** will be taken up next Sunday. Last quarter we collected \$290 for this great cause!

**Installation of new officers** will be Sunday, January 9, 2022.

The Session reviewed the results of the COVID Surveys at their last meeting. After a lengthy discussion, the decision was made to set a tentative date for returning worship services to the sanctuary and for resuming other church activities. However, a final decision will be made at the next Session meeting when information is available about any rise in illnesses due to holiday gatherings. If rates of illness do not increase, worship services will resume in the sanctuary on January 30. Other church activities will resume in February.

#### **MINISTERIAL STAFF**

Sue Moore, Certified Ruling Elder, Commissioned Lay Pastor

Church- 704-278-4248 Home: 704-278-2832

E-mail address: srmoore3175@yahoo.com

Mrs. Crystal Earnhardt, Admin. Assistant 704-640-2643

E-mail address: unitvres@att.net Home: chrissymow@carolina.rr.com

# Merry Christmas

Glory to God  
in the highest, and  
on earth peace,  
good will  
toward men.

LUKE 2:14





# UNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 26, 2021

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Pastor:** The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

**People:** And also with you!

## CALL TO WORSHIP from Isaiah 60

**One:** Arise, Shine, for your light has come!

**All:** And the glory of the Lord rises upon you.

**One:** See, darkness covers the earth and  
Thick darkness is over the people,

**All:** But the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you

**One:** Nations will come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn.  
Lift up your eyes and look about you.

**All:** Then you will look and be radiant, your heart will throb and swell  
with joy!

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

**HYMN** "Joy to the World" (see insert)

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Ageless God, forgive us if we have kept the young from worshiping with us by our insistence on old ways of worship and our refusal to accept new forms of worship and praise that can involve children and youth with us in our gathering. Excuse our demands for stillness and silence that ignore Your acceptance of children in their simplicity and sincerity. By the examples of Samuel and Jesus, open our minds to the service that can be given to You by the young in years and the young in heart. Amen

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## GLORIA PATRI

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## WORSHIP OF GOD WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

## SPECIAL MUSIC

## DOXOLOGY

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We are not foolish enough to believe that we can buy Your favor with these gifts. We make our offering and present ourselves a living sacrifice, that Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. In the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, we pray. Amen

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE

**Luke 2:21-40**

### MESSAGE

**"Our Hope Fulfilled"**

**Sue Moore**

## STATEMENT OF FAITH "Apostle's Creed"

**HYMN** "Go Tell It On the Mountain" (see insert)

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

**Luke 2:21-40** 21On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived. 22When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord 23 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), 24and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons." 25Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. 26It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. 27Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, 28Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: 29"Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. 30For my eyes have seen your salvation, 31which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: 32a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel." 33The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. 34Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, 35so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too." 36There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, 37and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. 38Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. 39When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. 40And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.