

Announcements

Welcome. We extend a warm welcome to all who worship with us today. Please feel free to pick up a blue informational folder outside the entrances to the sanctuary to learn more about our church. Also, please fill out a visitor card in the pew racks and place in the offering plate so we can have a record of your visit.

A Word About Our Worship Service. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper: In the Lord's Supper, we are fed by the Lord Jesus Christ in a special way. Christ reminds us of His work of redemption for us - that he obeyed and suffered in our place. He reminds us of his ongoing work in our lives now. And we are reminded that His promise of full communion with Him in eternity is indeed true. The Lord's Supper is for those who have trusted in Christ as he is freely offered in the Gospel and have united with his body, the church. If you are not resting in Christ alone for your salvation, please let the bread and cup pass by. Ask God to make himself real to you and consider your need of Christ to forgive your sins.

Christmas Caroling. Join us tonight! We will be taking our evening service out and about as we go caroling to our homebound members. We will leave our parking lot at 6 PM sharp to make our rounds and then return for cookies and hot drinks in the Fellowship Hall. Just as our recent visits and basket deliveries were a blessing, we hope this will be an important touch to our fellow members who are unable to attend worship with us each Sunday.

Christmas Eve. Make plans to join us on December 24 at 5 PM for our Christmas Eve service. The Lord's Supper will be served.

Missions Trip. In January 2016, Connie Bennett will be sent on her sixth trip for medical missions in Trinidad. Her gifts are well-utilized on the trip. You may participate in sending Connie by your prayers and financial support. The Presbyterian Church in America's (P.C.A.) Mission to the World is hosting the trip and provides all necessary administrative support for the trip. If you wish to contribute financially to the mission, please do so by sending your check to: MTW, PO Box 2589, Suwanee, GA 30024-0982. Note in the memo Account #10865 and all proceeds will support our sister's trip. Her financial goal for support is \$2,100. The Congregation will be commissioning Connie on Sunday, January 10.

2016 Contribution Envelopes. Please go by the Fellowship Hall and pick up your envelopes for 2016.

End of Year Giving. All offerings to be included in your 2015 contribution statement must be given by December 27, 2015. All offerings placed in the offering plate on January 3, 2016, even if dated 2015, will be recorded on your 2016 statement.

Men's Lunch. Join us on Monday, January 4, at noon at Southbound Sandwich Works on South Church Street. We will begin a study of *Masculine Mandate* by Rick Phillips. See Pastor Crotts if you need a copy of the book.

Office Hours. The office will be closed Wednesday - Friday this week.

Ministry Information

Nursery: Today: Nicole Newton and Dot Hutelmyer
Next Week: John Robinson and Sarah Ickes

Counter: Today: Doug Glass
Next Week: Gene Parks

Deacon on Duty: Today: Doug Glass
Next Week: Stephen Robinson

Last Week's Tithes and Offerings:

General Fund:	\$3,100.55
Memorials (Bill Huffman)	\$25.00

Pastor: Rev. Bryan P. Crotts
pastor@firstarpburlington.org
336-944-2892

Music Director/Organist: Ed Limon
limonfam6@hotmail.com

Admin Assistant: Gloria Hendry
gloria@firstarpburlington.org

Pianist: Julie Snow
jsnowmagic@aol.com

Church address:

2250 Saddle Club Road, Burlington, North Carolina 27215 / 336-584-6929
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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.
Isaiah 9:6

**The Lord's Day
December 20, 2015**

Order of Worship

11:00 AM

Greeting of the Saints *The Congregation & Visitors*

Prelude *Handbell Choir*
Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

Welcome and Announcements

Mission Moment Connie Bennett

Voluntary for Silent Prayer

Votum Psalm 124:8

Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Salutation Revelation 1:4-5

Call to Worship* Psalm 72:18-19

Hymn of Adoration*
#125 Joy To The World!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation*

Affirmation of Faith Hebrews 1 and Philippians 2

"I believe that in the past, God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom He made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of His being, sustaining all things by His powerful word."

"I believe that Jesus Christ, who, being in very nature God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to death – even death on a cross! After He had provided purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven. Therefore, God exalted Him to the highest place and gave Him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father."

Song of Praise*
#623 Gloria Patri

Corporate Confession of Sin

Eternal and Almighty Father, we acknowledge and confess before your holy Majesty that we are poor sinners, conceived and born in guilt and corruption, prone to evil, unable of ourselves to do any good; who, by reason of our sinfulness, transgress your holy commandments. O Lord, with heartfelt sorrow we repent and deplore our offenses! Be pleased then to have compassion on us, Father of all mercies, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. And in removing our guilt and corruption, grant us the daily increase of your Holy Spirit that we might put to death the sin that is within us and bear all the fruit of the Spirit in our daily lives. We trust you for these graces on the basis of the death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Personal Confession

Scriptural Assurance of Pardon Romans 5:17

"If, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ."

Hymn of Redemption*
#138 Go, Tell It On The Mountain

Reading of the New Testament Matthew 1:1-17

Pastoral Prayer and 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, 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.

The Lord's Tithes and Our Offerings

Offertory/Anthem *Handbell Choir*
O Holy Night

Hymn of Praise* Doxology
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

Reading of the New Testament Galatians 4:4-5

Prayer for Illumination

Preaching of God's Word Rev. Bryan Crotts
Born to Set Us Free

Prayer to Seal God's Word

Hymn of Hope in Christ
#144 How Great Our Joy!

Benediction*

Postlude *Ed Limon*

Sermon Notes

* Congregation Standing