

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Church Family and friends, we would like to create a Newsletter with your help that captured events in 2024. Please e-mail photos of church events as soon as possible to [sapcusa@gmail.com](mailto:sapcusa@gmail.com) .

With such a positive show of support to all who donated Word Search, Crossword, and Sudoku Number Games books, Thank You!!! we have extended our campaign until January 26, 2025.

Tiki's Dance Class Rehearsals Thursdays from 6-7:30 p.m.

Mr. Lovette Grier, your artistic talents are beyond description and especially our "2024 Manger Display"!!!

Thank you to all who make our services a true learning experience.

Treasurer Offerings online: Here is one of two ways to give:

[www.statesvilleavenuepresbyterianchurchusa.org](http://www.statesvilleavenuepresbyterianchurchusa.org) and a [QR Code](#).

\*Let's not forget to reach out to our sick and shut-ins.

*The Pastor and staff of Statesville Avenue Presbyterian Church (USA) wish you, your family and friends a safe, healthy and prosperous*



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**HOLIDAY OFFICE HOUR**

**Monday, December 30<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Pastor's Study – Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> – 9:00 a.m. - Noon**

**QR Code**



\*The [QR Code](#) can be scanned from the bulletin and through the church website.

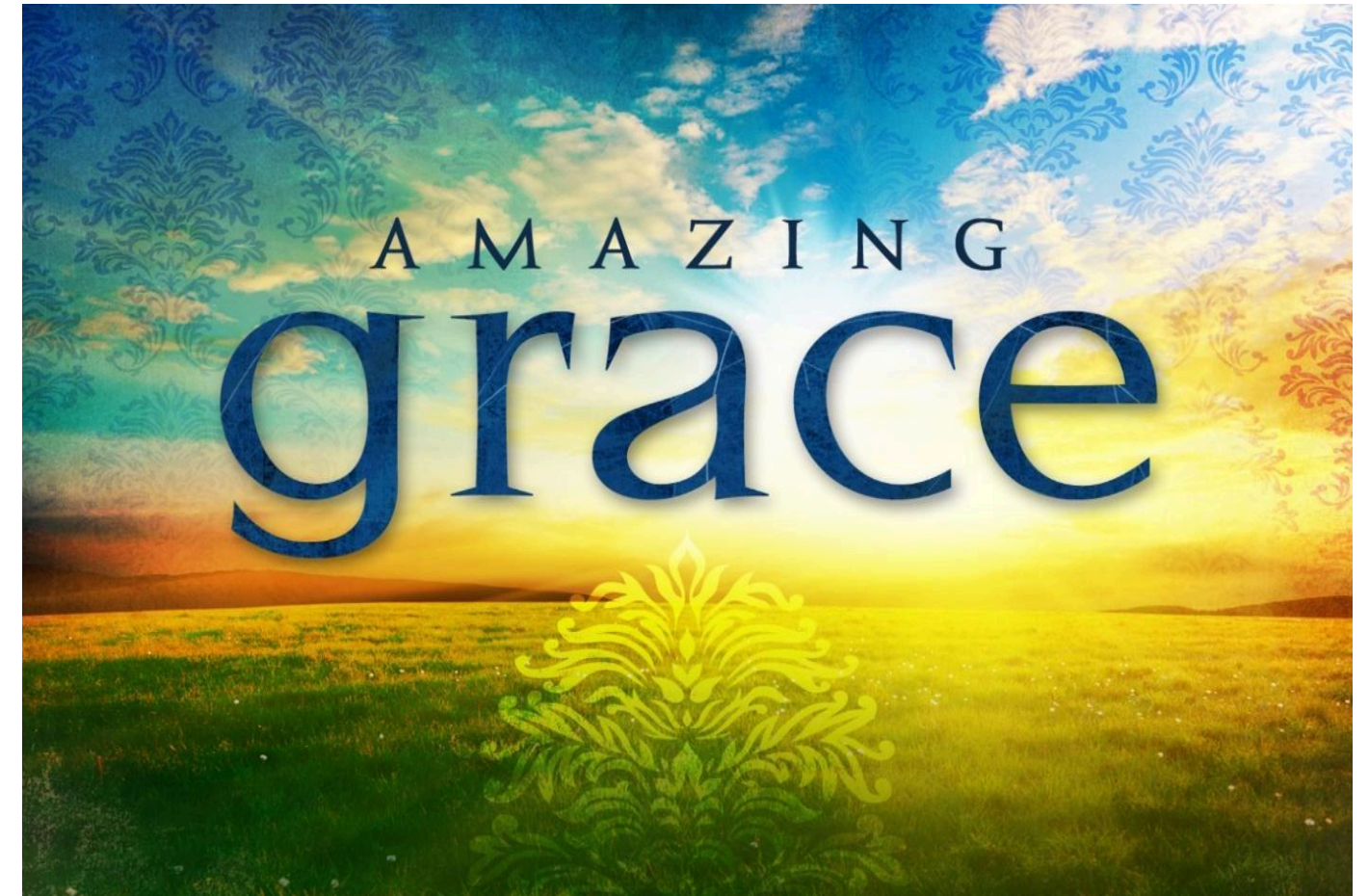
Note: AA - African American Heritage Hymnal (Beige)  
BB - The Presbyterian Hymnal (Blue)

**STATESVILLE AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)**

**3435 NEVIN ROAD, CHARLOTTE, NC 28269**

**December 29, 2024**

**11:00 A.M.**



**2 Corinthians 5:17:** "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!".

**Gary S. Blackmon, Pastor**

**Harriett Davis, Liturgist**

**James Rogers, Director of Music**

**704-596-4550**

[www.statesvilleavenuepresbyterianchurchusa.org](http://www.statesvilleavenuepresbyterianchurchusa.org)

## We Gather

**\*\*Prelude:** *"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"*

**Announcements and Welcome:**

**Lighting of Candles:**

**Introit:** "I was glad when they said unto me (repeat). Let us go into the house of the Lord. You'll find peace, joy, happiness, a great reward. Won't you come, come, come?"

**\*Call to Worship:**

L: For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.

**P: So, teach us to count our days so that we may gain a wise heart.**

L: But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day.

**P: Teach us, O Lord, how to lead lives of holiness and godliness while, by your promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.**

L: This is the day that the Lord has made.

**P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

L: Lift your hearts.

**P: We lift them to the Lord.**

**\*Centering Prayer:**

**\*Opening Hymn:** *"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"*

*#29 BB*

**Prayer of Confession:**

Holy and merciful God, we confess we neglect to seek your wisdom for our lives. Instead, we think more highly of ourselves and our knowledge, choosing to go our way in this world.

Lord, have mercy. We let the cares and concerns of this world crowd out the promise of your Word, that you are with us always. Christ, have mercy. We confess we face the future with uncertainty and misgivings. Help us put our trust in you so we may live faithful and obedient lives, as we depend on the wisdom of your Holy Spirit and the love of Christ to shape our lives and actions. Lord, have mercy. **Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon:**

The Lord is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings. The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

**He fulfills the desires of all who fear him; he also hears their cry and saves them.**

Friends, hear and believe the good news: In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven! Alleluia!

**Amen.**

**\*\*Passing the Peace:**

**\*\*Special Selection:** *"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

*#23 BB*

## The Word

**Prayer for Illumination:**

God of Wisdom, as the Scriptures teach us, truly it is the spirit in a mortal, the breath of the Almighty, that makes for understanding. Send your Holy Spirit upon us as we hear your Word read and proclaim that we may be encouraged and strengthened to live lives worthy of our calling as your people. **Amen.**

**Scripture Reading:**

**Luke 2: 41-52, 1 Sam. 2:26**

**Sermon:**

**Colossians: 3: 12-17**

## We Respond

**Invitation to Discipleship:** *"Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow"*

*#50 BB*

**Prayers of the People:**

**Choral Response:** *"Ask and It Shall be Given"*

**Affirmation of Faith - Unison:**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

**Tithes and Offerings:** *"What Child Is This"*

*#53 BB*

**\*Doxology:** *"Gloria Patri"*

*#579 BB*

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

**\*Celebration Song:** *"O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

*#41 BB*

**\*Charge and Benediction:**

**Extinguishing of the candles:**

**Postlude:** *"Go"*

**\*Please stand if you are able.  
\*\*Worshippers may enter or exit**