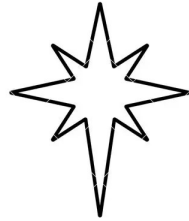


The Celebration of Worship



Making Room For Joy

Community of Grace
December 14, 2025

The Prelude

The Welcome and Announcements

The Choral Opening

"Angels We Have Heard "

*The Call to Gathering

Leader: In the waiting and in the darkness, we gather.

People: We come to make room for the light.

Leader: When hope feels hidden and the world feels full,

People: We make room for trust.

Leader: When joy seems unlikely in a weary world

People: We make room for God's nearness.

Leader: When division runs deep and love feels fragile,

People: We make room for one another.

All: Come, Emmanuel. There is room here.

*The Invocation

*The Lighting of the Candle of JOY

*The Hymn of Praise

Carol Medley
(Advent Songbook)

Quilt Time

The Offertory

Chrismon Presentation

The Prayers of the People

The Choral Meditation

"Infant Redeemer"

The Scripture Lesson

Luke 1:46-55

The Choral Reflection

"Song of Mary"

Words of Grace

"Saying Yes to What Is: Radical Acceptance"

*The Hymn of Reflection

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"
(Advent Songbook)

*Benediction

*The Choral Benediction

"The Still Small Voice of God"

*Postlude

**All who are able, please stand*

Announcements

Our Advent offering this year is collecting items for the Homeless served by 5th Street Ministries PATH project.

Food items mostly.

The food should be single serving, not requiring a can opener and preferably finger foods not needing to be heated.

Examples are: Vienna sausages, protein bars, cheese sticks, etc.

Cutlery is also helpful.

And as always money donations can be put to use.

***Tonight is our Grace Church Christmas/**

5th Street Resident Staff Potluck. 6 PM

Bring your favorite dish or 2 to share.

Deacons will provide drinks and bread.

AND WEAR YOUR FAVORITE HOLIDAY HAT/GARB!!

****ICM needs ANYTHING and EVERYTHING! ****

Birthday

19 - Marsha Angell

CONCERNS

Continue to remember:

Our friends on homebound:

Clara Rogers.

Those issues close to us:

Spencer Cox, Brandon's dad, Billy Adams, those on disability, Susan Fanjoy, Renee's brother and sister-in-law, Eli Yacinthe, Hispanic community, Kim's sister, Government workers and others with job instability,

All those affected by Hurricane Helene, Louise's brother, Jack, Middle East crisis, Lucas Watt and family, Cameron Gray, Iredell Statesville Schools students and staff, peoples of the Ukraine, caregivers, healthcare workers, homeless children, our nations immigrants.

Those facing tough times, those who are mentally ill, those who are affected by violence, those who are incarcerated, children who are a part of the Guardian ad Litem program, local law enforcement officers and fire fighters.

Those in the military:

James Pulliam, Adam Ivey, Anthony Corcoran, Kelso Igano, Zach Thompson

Church Maintenance

Before next Sunday - Coarsey

December 28 - Lippard/Scott

January 3 - C. Brown

BUDGET UPDATE

Needed year to date: \$97,608.00

Received year to date: \$102,600.01

OVER budget: \$4992.01

Weekly needs: \$1,992.00

This Week's Offering: \$905.00



Use this QR code for PayPal

We are Grace Baptist Church - a ministering people of God, reaching beyond our walls to the needs of our local and global community. We are an intergenerational faith community called and committed to the life of love and servant-hood through the experience of celebrative worship, the development of each person's gifts and the work for peace and justice.

In our diversity we find strength and a way to understand the inclusiveness of God. We recognize each individual as a child of God. We welcome and affirm ALL people, who and where you are, to join in our common mission through participation and leadership in this community of faith.

We are affiliated with the Alliance of Baptists, the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America and the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists.

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Interim Pastor: Carrilea Hall

Music Director: LeAnda Barnard

Secretary: Lisa Wardo

Church Musician: Nichole Tilley

Boards

Cabinet: Neal Grose

Deacon: Doug Hendrix

Mission: Louise Grose

Education: Linda Marshall

Stewardship: Jen DeLong

Worship: LeAnda Barnard

WELCOME TO ALL who have chosen to worship with us today. We pray that being here will bring joy, peace and the presence of God to you.

If you are interested in joining this congregation, as we seek to discern and live out God's call to us, please speak to our pastor or a deacon
(Janna Brown, Steve Coarsey, Doug Hendrix, Renae Keesbury, Tom Wiberg, Chris Brown)

You are welcome to be a participant in the church activities at Grace.

You may also contact us by phone at 704-872-5130, or by email at gracestatesville@gmail.com.

Visit our website at www.gracestatesville.org.

Our Facebook page is: Grace Baptist Church of Statesville, NC