

**The angels sang of it - we have been lavished with it.
Blessed is he who was born that we might have life.
Glory to God and on earth peace to all people.**

Leader: Holy God, as the travelers with their treasures were overwhelmed with joy on finding Jesus, ... For this we give you thanks, in Jesus name who taught us, to pray saying:

THE LORD'S PRAYER (in Unison)

**BREAKING THE BREAD
THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

* **CLOSING HYMN** " Now Thank We All Our God" #555 PH

***BENEDICTION
POSTLUDE**

*Indicates those who are able, may stand

**Worshippers May Enter and Exit

***PH – Presbyterian Hymnal; AAHH – African American Heritage Hymnal; SF – Sing The Faith

WORDS OF WELCOME



Welcome Guests A joyous and hearty welcome! We're especially happy to have visitors present. Welcome to our Creator's house of worship. We ask that you sign our Guest Book in the Narthex before leaving. Please come to worship with us again and if you do not have church home here in Gastonia; we invite you to join the **THIRD STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ **One For Third Street.** Every 5th Sunday we are asking you to remember to help provide supplies for our Church by picking up one additional item for the Church when you purchase one for yourself or household. Please look at the list on the bookmarks in your bulletin today. You can donate these items at any time, but certainly by the 5th Sunday in December. **NEEDED: Paper Towels & Hand sanitizer.**

CHANGE FOR MISSION: Don't forget to drop off your pocket

change in the container as you leave the Church today.

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2017

New year's Day/ 2nd Sunday after Christmas

Sunday School, 9:45 am.

Worship Service with celebration of Communion, 9:30 am.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2017

Baptism of the Lord

Sunday School, 9:45 am.

Worship Service, 11:00 am.

30th Annual Celebration of Worship in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Saturday, January 14, 2017, at St. Stephens A.M.E. Zion Church at Unity Place, 201 W. Franklin Boulevard, Gastonia, North Carolina, at 6 o'clock pm.

Upcoming

January 11, 2017 - Lunch & Learn, 11:30am.

January 16, 2017 - M.L. King Birthday

January 18, 2017 Caring for Others Pantry, 10am – 12pm.

February 4, 2017 - CAM Truffles & Trivia Fundraiser, 6pm.



**Because he himself
was tested by
what he suffered,
he is able
to help those who
are being tested.**

Hebrews 2.18

Third Street Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
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Reverend Eddie Deas, III – Pastor
Miss. Nautica Kendrick, Worship Assistant

Our Vision: *We are God's Servants impacting, changing and growing lives spiritually in Church and Community.*

Sunday, January 1, 2017 **9:30 A.M.**

1st Sunday after Christmas

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE

***CHORAL INTROIT** “Angels, from the Realms of Glory”
#22,PH (verse 1 & 4)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Darkness is banished!

PEOPLE: God's light has come to us!

Leader: The brightness of the Star leads us!

PEOPLE: We come to celebrate God's abiding love!

Leader: Glory be to God in the Highest!

PEOPLE: And on earth, peace forever. AMEN.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

***SONG OF PRAISE** “God of Our Life” **#275, PH**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in Unison)

God before time, God in our time, God Eternal, you mark our days and years for what we have experienced and what we have learned. You give us time to develop characters shaped by joy and sorrow. We do not always learn willingly and change our ways to follow the way of Jesus Christ. Pardon our stubbornness and give us further time to learn and improve our times for the sake of your perfect Son, Jesus Christ. Amen. AMEN.

CHORAL RESPONSE “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” **#2193, SF (Sung twice)**

Lord, listen to Your children praying,

Lord, send Your spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to Your children praying,

Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

Leader: Hear the Good News! We have been given time to reconsider our ways and to prepare ourselves for the day of judgement yet to come. Friends, believe the Good News! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven

PEOPLE: Hallelujah! Amen!

***WELCOME & SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Rev. Deas: As forgiven people of God, we are free to love and extend God's peace to all. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

(Let us greet one another, saying: "Peace be with you!") Please return to your seats as the choir begins to sing,

“God Welcomes All”

God welcomes All, strangers and friends;
God's love is strong and it never ends.

MINUTE FOR MISSION

ANNOUNCEMENTS/RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 25:31–46

NOTE: A terrifying picture: Christ the judge, seated on a throne, separates the wicked from the righteous.

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory.

32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

33 He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.

35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in,

36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?

38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you?

39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

40 "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

42 For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink,

43 I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'

44 "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'

45 "He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'

46 "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life." (NIV)

MORNING MESSAGE

Rev. Eddie Deas III

“Is There Room for One More?”

***INVITATIONAL SONG**

“Take My Life” #391, PH

****CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND SUPPLICATION

TITHES & OFFERINGS

***DOXOLOGY** “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION

COMMUNION HYMN “Let Us Break Bread Together” **#513, PH**

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you

Leader: Lift up your hearts

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise

Leader: We give you thanks, O God, for making your love evident since the very beginning of time when you spoke the word which replaced the darkness of chaos with life-giving light... The angels caroled glory to you in the highest heavens and peace to all people on earth, and we join with them and with all people to praise your holy name:

People:

Holy Lord, God of endless love, heaven and earth are surely full of your glory.