

## "I Want to Be a Follower of Christ"

"I Want to Be a Follower of Christ"  
I want to be a follower of Christ.  
I want to be one of His disciples  
I want to walk in the newness of life, so  
Let me be a follower of Christ.

What do I have to do?  
What do I have to say?  
How do I have to talk each and ev'ry day?  
What does it cost to carry the cross?  
So Let me be a follower of Christ!

**MISSION STATEMENT:** Statesville Avvenue Presbyterian Church (USA), guided by the Holy Spirit, is called by God to teach, and preach God's word, to create a climate for spiritual growth, to engage in mission outreach, and to promote peace and justice in the world.

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**SERMON NOTES:**

**SCRIPTURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SERMON OUTLINE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CONCLUSION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SERMON APPLICATION FOR MY LIFE:** \_\_\_\_\_

### ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2023

- Thank you, Jackie Wall for the bag of "sweet treats" for our Church Families & Friends.
- Mrs. Renetta Holloway, daughter of Mrs. Elouise Ethridge, is asking the church family to take and sent an individual birthday card to her mother, Mrs. Elouise Ethridge who will be celebrating her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on August 19<sup>th</sup> in addition, she is requesting a group picture which will be taken immediately following service (8-13-2023) in the sanctuary.
- Publicity Committee Meeting immediately following service 8-6-23.
- Worship Committee Meeting August 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM. In the Fellowship Hall.
- Church Officers Workshop 8-12-23 from 9:00-11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
- Stewardship Committee Meeting August 24, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. – Zoom
- Presbyterian Men's Breakfast Meeting 8-26-23 at 9:00 a.m.
- Don't forget your Per Capita of \$30.00 per year per member.
- Treasurer Offerings online: Family let's not forget our tithes and offerings.  
Here's another way to give: [www.statesvilleavenuepresbyterianchurchusa.org](http://www.statesvilleavenuepresbyterianchurchusa.org)

STATESVILLE AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)  
3435 NEVIN ROAD, CHARLOTTE, NC 28269

August 6, 2023  
11:00 A.M.

**10th Sunday after Pentecost/Proper 13**



**Pastor Gary S. Blackmon**  
**Barbara Carr, Liturgist**  
**Mr. James Rogers, Jr., Director of Music**  
**704-596-4550**

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

## We Gather

**\*\* Prelude: "Total Praise"**

**\*\* Announcements and Welcome:**

**Lighting of Candles:**

**\*\* Introit: "The Lord Is in His Holy Temple"**

**\* Call to Worship:** L: We have been claimed by the God who calls us children.

**P: We, the redeemed, have been called by name.**

L: As with the Israelites, God promises to pass with us through the water.

**P: We will not fear, for God is with us!**

L: The rivers shall not overwhelm us for God is our guide and our protector.

**P: Through God's saving grace, the waters that tested us are now the waters that wash us and nourish us.**

L: Great is the Fount of Every Blessing,

**P: Ever flowing, ever redeeming, ever claiming us as God's children.**

L: Come, let us worship the God who washes us in grace.

**\* Centering Prayer:**

**\*\* Opening Hymn: "O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing" #466**

**Call to Confession:** God of our Baptism, we come to that same river where you were baptized, and we stand next to you, waiting to be washed. But we confess that we often wish to do so without going through the messiness of repentance. We want your grace but act as we did before receiving it. Help us to truly be baptized by your Good News, by hearing it, touching it, tasting it, and then reflecting it as the sunrise over the river's horizon.

**Assurance of Pardon:** At the water's edge, our fears are relieved, and our hopes restored, for we have turned to God because God has first turned to us. Friends, by the waters of our baptism, you and I are forgiven. **Amen.**

## The Word

**Scripture Readings: OT: Psalm 127:3 & NT: Ephesians 6:4**  
Traci Grier

## Baptism of Samuel Isaac Atkinson

**Prayers for the People:**

**Choral Response: "Almighty Father, hear our prayer and bless all souls that wait before Thee. Amen"**

**\*\* Special Selection: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" #404**

**Prayer of Illumination:** As water splashed across our face awakens us in the morn, may your Word awaken us to your presence. Wash us in your wisdom, bathe us in your goodness, refresh us with your grace, by the power of your Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**Sermon: "Let the Little Children Come to Me"**  
(Mark 10:13-16)  
Pastor Gary S. Blackmon

## We Respond

**Invitation to Discipleship: "I Want to Be a Follower of Christ"**

**Tithes and Offerings: "Somebody's Knocking at Your Door" #382**

**\* Doxology: "Glory Be to the Father" #579**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

## Holy Communion

**Communion Hymn: "Let Us Break Bread Together" #513**

## Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

**Celebration Song: "I Know It Was the Blood"**

**\* Charge and Benediction:**

**Extinguishing of the Candles:**

**\* Postlude: "Go"/Passing the Peace**

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