

STATESVILLE AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

3435 NEVIN RD. CHARLOTTE, NC 28269

January 8, 2023

11:00 A.M.

SERMON NOTES

TOPIC OF THE SERMON FOR THE DAY: _____

SCRIPTURE: _____

SERMON OUTLINE: _____

CONCLUSION: _____

SERMON APPLICATION FOR MY LIFE: _____

MISSION STATEMENT

Statesville Avenue 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.

**Pastor Gary S. Blackmon – (Cell) 704-493-7251
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3435 Nevin Road, Charlotte 28269
704-596-4550**

- Church family, This message comes from Pastor Blackmon. This past Sunday, Statesville Avenue Presbyterian Church was blessed by the wonderful voices of the choir that was put together for Christmas Service. Today I am asking that we not let an opportunity like this slip away. Therefore, I am asking for Voices to fill the choir stand. At the start we can do this once or twice a month. If you are interested, please contact Pastor Blackmon or Mr. Rogers after this week's service.
- **Sunday School** is held each week starting at 9:30 am. Please join us as we grow together in our faith through the understanding of God's word.
- **Per Capita for 2023 is \$30.00.** Per capita is about community. It is about committing to connection and support between all members of the Presbyterian Church (USA). It is about joining together and being one body, the body that is Christ's church in the world. Please support our Presbytery by paying your per capita today. There are envelopes in your pews.
- Stay Hopeful, Peaceful, Joyful, Loving, Christ like and Safe.



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

www.statesvilleavenuepresbyterianchurchusa.org

We Gather

Prelude "Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning"

****Announcements and Welcome**

Lighting of Candles

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

Call to Worship:

L: God's gifts continue to build up covenant communities.

P: We come together today to remember Jesus' baptism.

L: and call to mind our own.

P: For some have been baptized. Some are being called today.

L: New life comes to all through the waters of baptism.

All: So, let us worship the Lord, the giver of life.

***Centering Prayer**

****Opening Hymn** "As with Gladness Men of Old" #63

Prayer of Confession:

Loving Lord, we confess we have not always heeded your prophets' voices. We admit we have not acknowledged John the baptizer who proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. We acknowledge in our failure to do so we missed John's all too important declaration about the greater One who was coming. God, today we gather needing grace and the gift of forgiveness granted through your son. **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon:

When we confess our sins and shortcomings, God shows up and shows out! Receive God's forgiveness. Put regret behind you and walk in the joy of the Lord!

Passing the Peace "So Glad I'm Here in Jesus' Name"

Prayers of the People

Choral Response "Thank You for Hearing Our Prayer"

**** Special Selection** "I Love the Lord, Who Heard My Cry" #362

The Word

Prayer of Illumination:

Jesus, Our Redeemer, Our Savior, Our Friend: There is nowhere that we can run that you would have us escape from your love and your presence. Even in this hour; in this sacred space; our hearts and minds wander from you and what you would have us hear this day. Relentlessly pursue us so that we might be present and open to your word for our lives. **Amen.**

Scripture Readings OT: Isaiah 42:1-9 & NT: Acts 10:34-43
Charles Sammons, Jr.

Sermon: "The Baptism of the Lord"
(Matthew 3:13-17)
Pastor Gary S. Blackmon

We Respond

Invitation to Discipleship "Just as I Am, Without One Plea" #370

Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed (Traditional)

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

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Celebration Song "Look and Live"

***Charge and Benediction**

Extinguishing of the Candles

Postlude "Thou My Everlasting Portion"

***Please stand if you are able.**
**** Incoming Worshippers may enter.**

