

# Exploring Faith. Changing Lives.

Sardis Presbyterian Church is an inclusive Congregation called to equip disciples of Jesus Christ to impact the world by:

- PRAISING God our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer
- **LEARNING** about God's will for our lives
- **C** LOVING one another unconditionally
- SERVING neighbors near and far
- SHARING the gifts with which we have been blessed
- **WITNESSING** to the Good News of Jesus Christ to provide hope for the world.

We are honored that you chose to worship God with us today. If you are looking for a church home, we would love to help you explore the possibility that Sardis is the place God is calling you to worship and serve.

## **Worshiping God Together**

† Please rise in body or in spirit.

*†* OPENING SONGS Canticle of the Turning Rory Cooney
How Many Kings Down Here

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Dr. Allysen Schaaf

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF LOVE The Marek Family Welcome a neighbor and share the name of someone who shares Christ's love with you.

OFFERING Beth Williams

† OFFERING SONG Go Light Your World Chris Rice

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES OF CHRIST Amanda Hooks

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Dr. Schaaf

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 2:8-20 Dr. Schaaf

SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON Matthew 2:1-12

Rev. Dr. Joe B. Martin

SERMON Room in the Story for You and Your Neighbor

Dr. Martin

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Dr. Schaaf

† CLOSING SONG Light of the World We The Kingdom

† BENEDICTION AND PASSING OF THE PEACE Dr. Martin Please share the peace of Christ with your neighbor.

### **Upcoming Special Services**

**Christmas Eve Worship Services.** Invite your friends and neighbors to join you in celebrating the birth of Christ at Sardis. We have three Christmas Eve worship service offerings:

- **4:00 p.m**. Contemporary Family Christmas Eve service in the Fellowship Hall with special fellowship opportunities like a photo booth, crafts, Christmas book giveaway, and more! The nursery will be open for this service.
- 7:00 p.m. Traditional candlelight worship in the Sanctuary.
- 9:00 p.m. Traditional candlelight worship in the Sanctuary with Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Today's Ushers are members of the Worship Ministry.

#### We have several offering options for you!

- Option 1: Make a credit card gift online using your mobile device: go to <u>sardis.org</u> and click on "Make a Gift Now".
- Option 2: Text Sardis + amount to 73256 (e.g. 'Sardis 100' = \$100)
- Option 3: Scan the QR code here to go directly to the secure online form.
- Option 4: Place your offering in the offering plate.



Thank you for your gifts and support of Sardis Presbyterian Church.



You can make an impact this Stewardship season! The 2025 Estimate of Giving Card can be filled out online by scanning this QR code with your smart device.



#### THIS WEEK AT SARDIS

#### Tuesday, December 24

4:00 p.m. Contemporary Christmas Eve Fellowship Hall

Service

7:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service Sanctuary

9:00 p.m. Traditional Candlelight Service Sanctuary

with Communion

Wednesday, December 25

#### **MERRY CHRISTMAS!!**

Thursday, December 26

Church Office Closed

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Room In The Inn Donations And Volunteers Are Needed. Please use the QR code at the bottom of the page to sign up!

**We Welcome New Ushers** to participate each week at the 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. Instructions and coordinators will be provided by one of the church ministries. Use the QR code below to sign up!

Youth Parent Programming. Parents and grandparents of middle and high school youth please join us on January 5th at 6:00 p.m. for dinner and a conversation with Amanda McGough (Ph.D., Psychologist, and Sardis Youth Parent) about Suicide Prevention. Amanda will share about risk factors and warning signs of suicide, and what you can do to help yourself or a loved one. With rising mental health concerns in our country, Charlotte school systems, and our own church, we hope you will join us for this important conversation. Together we can create and open and supportive culture around suicide prevention. Register by Thursday, January 2nd using the QR code below.

MLK Day of Service for Children and Families: Join us Monday, January 20 from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall for a meaningful day of service that honors Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy of community support and compassion! Children ages 5-elementary school are invited to participate in service projects that will help our community, including our partners with Roof Above/Room in the Inn, Nourish Up, Crisis Assistance, and Charlotte Family Housing. Visit sardis.org/events to register.

**Sardis Sign-Up Genius!** Use this QR code to access any and all Sardis Sign-Ups.

