



*Worship for Sunday
December 16, 2018
10:30 a.m.*

*Our Mission:
Growing in Spirit
Living as Disciples
Serving God's World*

Christmas Canticles



Third Sunday in Advent

Preparation for Worship

God, our light and our salvation,
You bring hope and peace to the lowly and the oppressed.
Let us see the world through your eyes,
That we may love the hurting and the orphaned,
That we may work for justice,
That our lives may bear witness to the good news of the Kingdom at hand.
Be near to us, O God, this day and always.

Prelude

I Wonder as I Wander
Sean Cator, Pianist

Arr. Hayes

We Gather in God's Name

Welcome and Announcements

Please sign the friendship register.

† Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Lighting of Advent's Third Candle

The Amatuzzi Family

Reader: On this third Sunday of advent, we again light the candles of HOPE and PEACE, recalling our longing for God to be with us and to lead us in the way of Peace.

Today, we also light a third candle, which symbolizes JOY.

This candle reminds us that God wants us to know the joy of God's loving presence, even in our most difficult times.

The pink candle, a splash of color amid the purple candles of the advent wreath, is symbolic of the joy that comes when God abides at the heart of our lives.

Let us pray together: Come, O God, and walk with us through this Advent season. Give us courage to find joy in your presence and to spread joy in your world. Amen.

† Hymn #97

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

† Prayer of Confession

We too often find ourselves heartsick and world-weary. The times we live in are fraught. Just watching the nightly news can make us feel helpless and angry, causing us to lack gentleness and compassion in our thoughts, words, or actions. We fail to see your grace or presence in others, especially those who vex our spirits. Now, more than ever, we need your love in our midst. Open us anew to the message of the manger—heal our too-small hopes, open our closed-off hearts, challenge us so that peace on earth is not just our deepest wish but also our highest calling. Forgive us, Lord. Help us live differently and love deeply. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Hear this good news of great Joy: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Many: Thanks be to God!

We Proclaim God's Word

Children's Message

John Machado

Play 'n' Worship and Bridges will follow the Children's Message. See Page 7.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Christmas Canticles

Director - Scott Seifried

Narrator - Jim Lawson

(A text of the readings is provided on the following pages.)

Introduction *Fantasy on Greensleeves* Arr. Coe

Reading Isaiah 40:3-11
The Yearning Courtney/Boersma

Reading John 1:1-9
Advent Acclamation Arr. Nordmeyer

Reading Luke 2:1-7
A Weary Couple Arr. Alonso
Soloist - Jennifer Neel

Reading Luke 2:8-14
Et In Terra Pax Purifoy

Reading Luke 2:15-20
Christ's Lullaby Arr. De Silva

Sharing Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Now Is Born the Divine Christ Child* Arr. McChesney

Prayer of Dedication

Reading *Christmas Comes* by Ann Weems
I Saw Three Ships Arr. Larson

We Depart To Serve God

† Parting Hymn #105 *People Look East*

† Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Masters in This Hall* Sean Cator, Pianist



*The Flowers in the Sanctuary were donated
by Grace Members and*

Dedicated to the Glory of God

Your greeters today were JoAnn and Stewart Holmes.

“Christmas Canticles” Reading Texts

Introduction

Fantasia on Greensleeves

Arr. Michael Coe

Reading

Isaiah 40: 3-11

A voice cries out:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.”

A voice says, “Cry out!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the Lord blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,
“Here is your God!”

See, the Lord God comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reading

John 1:1-9

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

Advent Acclamation

Arr. Nordmeyer

Reading

Luke 2: 1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

A Weary Couple

Arr. Alonso

Reading

Luke 2:8-14

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

Et In Terra Pax

Purifoy

Reading

Luke 2: 15-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Christ's Lullaby

Arr. De Silva

Offertory

Now is Born the Divine Christ Child

Arr. McChesney

Reading

(Ann Weems has been called "The Presbyterian Poet Laureate." This poem, from her collection, Kneeling in Bethlehem, is a reflection on what it means for Christmas to come now, a reminder that our hope is not just in the remembrance of Christmas, but in the KEEPING of Christmas.)

Christmas Comes by Ann Weems

Christmas comes every time we see God in other persons.
The human and the holy meet in Bethlehem
or in Times Square,
for Christmas comes like a golden storm on its way
to Jerusalem—
determinedly, inevitably...
Even now it comes
in the face of hatred and warring—
no atrocity too terrible to stop it,
no Herod strong enough,
no hurt deep enough,
no curse shocking enough,
no disaster shattering enough.
For someone on earth will see the star,
someone will hear the angel voices,
someone will run to Bethlehem,
someone will know peace and goodwill:
the Christ will be born!

I Saw Three Ships

Arr. Larson

Vocalists and Instrumentalists

Guest Instrumentalists:

Violin - Ahnika Emery
Violin - Sarah Katherine Kelley
Viola - Holly Taylor
Cello - Cayley Koch
Flute - Laura Seifried
Piano - Sean Cator

Joyful Ringers:

Director - Jackie Owen
Beth Ann McClelland
Millie Smidt
Jennifer Treasure
Judy Riekse
Kent Ford
Pat Farrell
Judy Ross
Laura Senich
Virginia Bouchard
John Pearson
Rob Gold

Chancel Choir:

Sopranos -

Becky Yarbrough
Cheri Weaver
Virginia Bouchard
Jennifer Neel (Soloist)
Rosalie Lawson

Altos -

Barbara Neel
Pat Farrell
Jean Smith
Esther Wade
Amy Trawick
Beth Ann McClelland

Tenors -

Rob Gold
John Machado
Dave Retherford
Greg Suess

Basses -

Dave Lincoln
Jim Lawson (Narrator)
Jim Drinkard

Director - Scott Seifried

TONIGHT! SOUP SUPPER AND CHRISTMAS CONCERT

(A Play in Three Acts)

Act 1: Members of the congregation bring their favorite comfort food to share with one and all. Hearty soups, stews, and chowders will show up at 5:00 in Wester Hall.

Act 2: Members are treated to a memorable Christmas concert featuring the pastor's musically talented brother, Rob Trawick, professor and songster of note.

Act 3: Members return home with a song in their heart, warm soup contenting their spirits, and a feeling of being steps closer to finding their Advent Savior.

Soup Supper and Music - The potluck begins at 5:00, and the music at 6:00. Invite a friend and bring your favorite soup and recipe to share.

GRATEFUL GIVING AND LIVING

Notice of Ordination. Few events in the life of the church have more meaning than the ordination of a new pastor. Please save January 6th at 4:00 p.m. at Grace as a time to celebrate this event with Rev. Katie Murchison Ross.

Joy Offering - See the insert for important information about this PC(USA) offering. Thank you for your contributions, using the Christmas Joy envelopes in the pews.

Walk the Labyrinth - December 21, 11:00 - 6:00 p.m. The church will be open for meditation preceding the Longest Night service on the last Friday before Christmas.

Book Sale. The Honduras Mission Team is planning a book sale on February 10th. Please save any books and current media items you are planning to give away and watch for details about dropping off donations for the sale in January.

Sunday School Schedule. Please note the following changes for the rest of 2018. No Online "New Software" Class on December 23rd; and no K-12 or Adult Sunday School classes on December 30th. There will be a nursery as usual for church.

Bread. ...The staff of life or Grace's special greeting to visitors! Please help us replenish the supply of mini-loaves before Christmas when we expect to see new faces worshiping with us. Please contact Greta Miller to help, greta.tosi.miller@gmail.com.

Pledge Envelopes. Pledge envelopes will be in the Narthex now through the second Sunday in January, after which they will be mailed. Please pick them up when you walk by. If you have any questions, contact Judy Heine, judyheine52@gmail.com.

Happy Holidays Grace Church,

I want to thank everyone for participating in the Adopt-A-Family Program this year! You are all truly fabulous and very generous! Our families are so blessed to have you as our partners in this life changing program.

Krissa Slone, MSW - Director, Volunteer and Partner Services

...and thank you from the Bethany House staff for your generous donations of gift wrap for Bethany House. Your support makes a positive difference in the lives of women and children who have experienced significant trauma in their lives. It greatly helps to brighten the holidays for these families, and it provides the finishing touch at the holiday shop where it is greatly appreciated.

End of Year Giving. The Session and the Board have provided a list of projects for which members of the congregation may wish to provide funding. If you would like to fund all or part of a project before the end of the year, please let Craig Crooks or Mike Phillips know. The funds will be applied to the project next year.

New furniture and lighting for the Youth Room - \$800

Pre-School - Individual Memory/Photo/Scrapbooks for each child - \$500

Replacement of Tower Door lights - \$500

Repair or replacement of leaking gutters - \$1,000

Replacement of the stage curtain - \$1,000

3rd Sunday Hunger Offering. Please leave food items for ECHO in the baskets outside the sanctuary today and at any time throughout the month, and use the green envelopes in the pews for monetary donations to support local and denominational hunger programs.

Charitable Contributions to Grace. Here are several tax-saving ways you can contribute to the church: 1) Donate appreciated stock and potentially avoid capital gains taxes; 2) Recommend a gift be made from your donor advised fund; and 3) Make a qualified charitable distribution from your IRA to reduce your taxable income. To learn more, please contact your financial institution or Mike Phillips, Finance Elder.

From the Treasurer. Please submit all 2018 expenses as soon as possible so that 2018 can be closed out accurately. If you have placed an order for Grace, please send a copy to Veronica so that it applies to 2018. Reimbursement forms are in the office.

Pledges. Thank you for pledging in 2019. Pledges received totaled \$445,960. However, our budget needs still exceed our total. If you have not yet returned your pledge card, please do so so that we can plan for next year's programs. Please place your card in the collection plate, or in Mike Phillips' or Judy Heine's box in the office.

Pray WITHOUT CEASING



We were sorry to hear that former member John Berryman passed away on December 3, 2018, almost a year after wife Bessie's death on December 27, 2017. They were the parents of member Lynne Robertson whom many will remember.

Members: Kristie Mulhollem, Linda Patterson, and Judy Smith.

Former Member: Darwin Gregory, Greg Prociuous (Judy Heine's son).

Grace Preschooler: Scarlet Wesche.

Our Missionaries: Pastor Selvin (Honduras) and Doug Dicks (Jerusalem).

The Mothers of: Veronica Crump, Meg Rogers (Beth), Hiede Sowdon, Dave Treasure (Hilda), and Dwight Yarbrough (Verla).

The Step-Mother of: Donna Lucas (Jackie).

The Fathers of: Atina Bustillo and Nancy Machado (Jim).

The Husband of: Donna Lucas.

The Daughters of: Rich and Kathy Calahan (Lynn), Glenda Etchison (Laci), Bob and Valerie Patrick (Molly), and Hilde Uffelman (Raven).

The Granddaughter of: Barbara Crowell (Josie, and Bryan and Rea).

The Uncle of: Yvette Moy (Chek) and Beth Jenkins Smith (Dick).

The Brothers of: Linda Patterson (Arthur), Peter Smith (George), and Hilde Uffelman (Brian).

The Sisters of: Clara Gipson (Anna), Penny Newsome (Susan), and Marty Post (Sue).

The Sister-in-Law of: Claire Manger (Bev).

The Nephew of: Claire Manger (Edward).

The Cousins of: Donna Lucas (Angela), Yvette Moy (David), Valerie Patrick (Virginia), and Meg Rogers (Colleen).

The Friends of: Craig and Judy Crooks (Liz), Dave and Liz Lincoln (Bev), Kate Machado (Ario and Muntaha), Meg Rogers (Jeannie and Jade), Susan and Tim Stryker (Brice), Hilde Uffelman (Lavette), and Valerie Wenderoth (Brynna).



Pray for something (or someone) you are waiting for.

This Week's Calendar

For complete details, please visit www.gracepresby.org; or call the Church Office.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Dec 17	18	19	20	21	22	23
7:00 pm Joyful Ringers	10:00 am Outside Group	9:00 am Grand Involve	6:30 pm Woman's Club Bd.	11:00 am - 6:00 pm Labyrinth and Church open for prayer		9:15 am Sunday School
7:00 pm Tutoring	5:30 pm Trailblazers	9:45 pm Preschool Chapel	7:30 pm Chancel Choir			10:30 am Worship
8:00 pm Outside Group	7:30 pm Finance	6:30 pm Youth Committee		7:00 pm Longest Night Service		11:30 pm Fellowship
		7:00 pm NVDECS				12:00 pm Children's Choir
		7:30 pm Piano Guild				



***WE ARE VERY GLAD YOU CHOSE TO WORSHIP WITH US TODAY!
PLEASE SIGN OUR FRIENDSHIP REGISTER SO THAT WE CAN
GREET YOU BY NAME AND CALL ON YOU IF YOU WISH.***

***ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOMED IN WORSHIP - ...Even if they
fidget! Worship Bags are available for young children with a
children's bulletin, books, and crayons, and a Nursery is avail-
able downstairs in Room 5 for infants through 3-year-olds.***

After the Children's Message, children have their own worship experience downstairs. Play 'n' Worship is for preschoolers, and Bridges to Worship is for K-3rd graders. Please pick up children before going to Fellowship. K-3rd graders will be in the Bridges Room (Room 14), and all other children will be in the Nursery (Room 5).

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Classes are offered at 9:15 a.m. from the 2nd Sunday in September through the 3rd Sunday in May. Children's Discipleship provides classes for 4-year-olds through 12th graders, and Adult Discipleship reaches all adults after high school.

GRACE INSIGHTS - Learn more about Grace Church, our mission, and our denomination, PC(USA), in classes that form throughout the year. If you are considering membership and would like to attend a class or if you have interest in learning more about us, please speak to one of our pastors or Elder Valerie Wenderoth. You will find Grace a very welcoming place. New class forming in January 2019.

PLEASE ASK ANYONE FOR HELP OR DIRECTIONS!

PASTORS

BEN TRAWICK

Pastor

Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs., 9:30 am -
4:30 pm

703-451-2900 ext. 2
ben@gracepresby.org

KATIE MURCHISON ROSS

Associate Pastor

Office Hours:

Tue.-Fri., 9:30 am -
4:30 pm

703-451-2900 ext. 3
katie@gracepresby.org

MUSIC STAFF

SCOTT SEIFRIED

Music Director

sseifried@yahoo.com

SEAN CATOR

Pianist/Accompanist

SLCator@fcps.edu

JACKIE OWEN

Joyful Ringers Director

jackiebdesrosiers@
gmail.com

OFFICE STAFF

YVETTE MOY

Aging With Grace Director

Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs., 9:00 am -
3:00 pm

703-451-2900 ext. 4
aging@gracepresby.org

VIRGINIA BOUCHARD

Office Manager

Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs.: 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

Fridays: 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

703-451-2900 ext. 1
manager@gracepresby.org

VERONICA CRUMP

Treasurer

vlcrump@gmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Craig Crooks, Chair

Nick Amatuzzi

Rob Gold

Erik Hawkins

Scott Rogers

Peter Smith

E-mail: gpcbod@gmail.com

SESSION

Chuck Barber Youth Ministry

Ed Bryant Nominating/Stewardship

Maria Clayton Preschool

Sharron Dreyer Care Ministries

Pat Ferrell Worship

John Machado Communications

Laura Peterson Fellowship

Michael Phillips Finance

David Retherford Missions

Scott Schloegel Human Resources

Mary Shoemaker Children's Discipleship

Nelson Thurman Adult Discipleship

Valerie Wenderoth Evangelism

Bob Patrick, Clerk

Ben Trawick, Moderator

Session and Board contact information will
be posted in the church office and on the
church website soon.

GRACE WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL

The Preschool is a Christian-based
ministry and developmental program
for children aged 2 to 4. Classrooms
are designed as learning centers, of-
fering students a unique "hands-on"
learning adventure. Registration for
the 2019-20 school year opens for
new families on January 14. Please
call the Preschool office for informa-
tion or a tour.

JUDY PHILLIPS

Preschool Director

HOLLY COOK

Administrative Assistant

703-451-3314

preschool@gracepresby.org

GRACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

7434 BATH STREET
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VIRGINIA
22150

703-451-2900

WEBSITE: WWW.GRACEPRESBY.ORG

FB: Grace Presbyterian, Springfield, Va.

OFFICE HOURS:

MON-FRI 9:00-4:30

WE ARE CLOSED ON FEDERAL HOLIDAYS

FOR ONLINE MEMBER DIRECTORY:

SEARCH FOR "INSTANT CHURCH DIRECTORY" APP
ENTER YOUR E-MAIL AND PASSWORD: 7434Bath

