



*Fourth
Sunday in
Advent*

Preparation for Worship

Give us, O God, the vision which can see thy love in the world in spite of human failure. Give us the faith to trust the goodness in spite of our ignorance and weakness. Give us the knowledge that we may continue to pray with understanding hearts, and show us what each one of us can do to set forth the coming of the day of universal peace. Amen.

Frank Borman's prayer from the Apollo 8 space mission, Christmas 1968

Prelude

Molly Hill, Pianist

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.

† Please stand if you are able.

Lighting of Advent's Fourth Candle

John and Hiedi Sowdon

Reader: On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we again light the candles of Hope, Peace, and Joy.

We also light a fourth candle, the candle of LOVE.

This candle reminds us of the power of God's love for us, shown in the birth of a wondrous child: Emmanuel, God with us.

As we look upon its light, we are reminded that God's love is in us and shines through us.

Let us pray together: Gracious God, these candles are a symbol of your warmth, light, and presence. Give us courage to spread your love in the world, even when it is costly to do so. Amen.

† Hymn #111

From Heaven Above

† Prayer of Confession

We are a world at war. Our peace depends on your coming.
We are a sinful people. Our pardon depends on your coming.
We are full of good intentions but weak at keeping promises;
our only hope of doing God's will is that you should come and help us do it.

Lord Christ, Word made flesh,
our world waits for your peace, for your pardon, and for your grace.
Even so: Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting unto everlasting. As far as the East is from the West, so far has he removed our transgressions from us. Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Many: Thanks be to God!

We Proclaim God's Word

Anthem

Night of the Father's Love
Chancel Choir

Children's Message

Scott Peterson

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

Scripture Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

Hymn #147 (Verses 1-4)

The First Nowell

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 25:31-40

Sermon

The First Mo-el

Rev. Dr. Ben Trawick

Offertory

Offering

Praise Band

Response #609

Prayer of Dedication

Savannah Gold

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

We Depart To Serve God

† Parting Hymn #123

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

† Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Molly Hill, Pianist



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

Dedicated to the Glory of God

Your greeter today was Judy Smith.



GRATEFUL GIVING AND LIVING

Joy Offering - The Joy Offering assists church workers in their times of need and students in their times of promise--all year long. Last year, supplements assisted retired church workers and their surviving spouses in providing for themselves; 255 household recipients remained in their homes or in assisted and long-term care; and emergency grants supported 362 households facing emergencies. \$1,000,000 went towards educational support of future leaders of color. When our congregation joins other congregations, a little adds up to a lot! Thank you for use the Christmas Joy pew envelopes.

Sunday School Reminder. There will be no K-12 or Adult Sunday School classes next Sunday, December 30th. There will be a nursery for little ones during worship.

Bread ...The staff of life or Grace's special greeting to visitors! Please help us replenish the supplies of mini-loaves before Christmas when we expect to see new faces worshipping with us. Please contact Greta Miller if you need information and instructions, greta.tosi.miller@gmail.com, or bring your mini-loaves to the kitchen.

2018 Contributions. Checks received by January 6, AND DATED December 31, 2018, or earlier will be considered contributions to the church for the year 2018.

Kitchen Update. Our thanks to the Garden Club who donated a "party bonus" to the church. We were able to get a new all-temperature crock pot and a pitcher to replace some of the ones which we used to have. These can be used by Fellowship, Amigos, and folks who provide meals for Parenting Classes. Thanks Ladies, for thinking of us!

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.

End of Year Giving. The Session and Board list of projects for end-of-year giving includes: Youth Room furniture and lighting (\$800); Preschool memory books (\$500); Tower door lights (\$500); Gutter repair or replacement (\$1,000); New stage curtain (\$1,000). Please let Craig Crooks or Mike Phillips know of your interest.

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.

CHRISTMASEVE WORSHIP

**5:00 p.m. *Worship and Communion
for Young Families***

**8:00 p.m. *Candlelight Worship and
Communion for All***



Christmas Eve Fellowship - As in years past, the 8:00 service fellowship is a time to catch up with those who were part of the Grace family but have gone on to college, work, or lives elsewhere. Catch up over hot cocoa and cookies after the 8:00 service, and welcome them “home”. Thanks to Reecie Ford. Snacks for children and families will follow the 5:00 service also.

Help the Homeless - Saturday, December 29, 9:30 a.m. Every month on the last Saturday, people from the community and Grace gather to carry out God’s mission to the DC area homeless community. They are faithful to God’s call. Will you join them?

Pastor Katie’s Ordination - Sunday, January 6, 4:00 p.m. Please see the E-News for your invitation to celebrate this special occasion with Pastor Katie.

Hope from Palestinian Christians. The MMEPJ would like to pass along two communiqués from the Middle East. Full texts are on the E-News.

From an Advent devotion by Doug Dicks, Presbyterian Mission’s Associate for Ecumenical Partnerships, now serving in Jerusalem:

When I read Jesus’ words in Luke 4:18-19, about the way of life that brings good news to the poor, release to captives, sight to the blind, and freedom to the oppressed, I see that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights upholds the same principles. When individuals, communities, and governments realize that we will not be pulled down by hatred and dehumanization, we will provide a light in the darkness and the star of Bethlehem will keep shining.

Also shared by Doug Dicks, from Bishop Sani Ibrahim Azar, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land, a partner church of the Presbyterian Mission:

We are overwhelmed with joy to see Jesus in the manger, for it was in Bethlehem that our hope was born! The joy of Christmas embraces us and brings us peace during the chaos and drama of life--even in the midst of occupation, and even when surrounded by rumors of war. This Christmas joy renews our faith and hope that soon and very soon, all the people of the Holy Land will know liberation, dignity, and peace based on justice. Kol sana wa enta salem!

Pray WITHOUT CEASING

Happy Nifty-Nineties birthday to John Perkins, on December 26th.

Members: Kristie Mulhollem, Laura Peterson, and Judy Smith.

Former Member: Darwin Gregory, Greg Prociou (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 parents Bryan and Rea).

The Uncles 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), Kevin Ford (Chris), Reecie Ford (Kim),
Dave and Liz Lincoln (Bev), Kate Machado (Ario and Muntaha), Marty Post (Margaret),
Meg Rogers (Jeannie and Jade), Susan and Tim Stryker (Brice), Hilde Uffelman (Lavette),
and Valerie Wenderoth (Brynna).

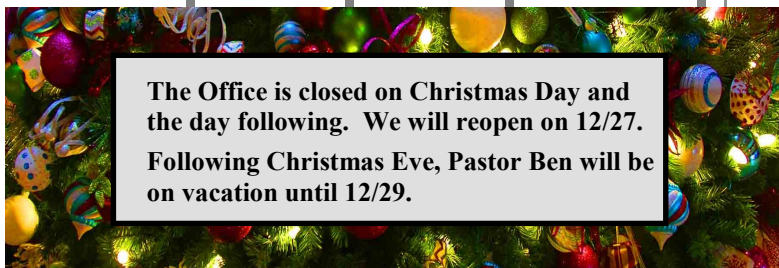


Pray for someone you are waiting for.

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 24	25	26	27	28	29	30
5:00 pm Young Family Worship	OFFICE CLOSED	OFFICE CLOSED			9:30 am Help the Homeless	10:30 am Worship 11:30 pm Fellowship
8:00 pm Candlelight Worship	10:00 am Outside Group					
8:00 pm Outside Group						



***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

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

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SEAN CATOR

Pianist/Accompanist

SLCator@fcps.edu

JACKIE OWEN

Joyful Ringers Director

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gmail.com

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YVETTE MOY

Aging With Grace Director

Office Hours:

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

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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

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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

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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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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**

