

Grace Weekly: The Third Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018

**denotes music in the 10:30 liturgy*

Children's Chapel is offered the second and fourth Sundays at the 10:30 am liturgy.



*Prelude

Lo, how a rose

Johannes Brahms

Advent Wreath Lighting

Celebrant

Today we light the first, second, and third candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE, and the third candle is JOY.

The candles are lit. The Candle Lighter(s) recite the following scripture (Isaiah 55:12).

Candle Lighter(s)

You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

All

Gracious God, you came to us in human flesh and you abide with us in the Holy Spirit. Fill us with your joy, and help us shine as a light to the world. Through Jesus Christ, who makes our joy complete. Amen.

*Gathering Hymn 76

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Winchester New

Collect of the Day

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

he will exult over you with loud singing
as on a day of festival.

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

The Lord has taken away the judgments against
you,
he has turned away your enemies.

I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;

The Lord, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;

for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,

he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;

when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the Lord.

The Response: Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. *Amen.*

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

***Sequence Hymn 65**

Prepare the Way, O Zion

Bereden väg för Herran

The Holy Gospel: Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

***Offertory Music**

The eyes of all

Jean Berger
Psalm 145:15, 16

The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in dues season.
Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing.

***Communion Hymn 72**

Hark! the glad sound!

Richmond

***Recessional Hymn 59**

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding

Merton

***Postlude**

Saviour of the Nations Come

Paul Manz

Our Prayers

Members of Grace Church: Adele, Ben & Joanne, Bill & Diane, Donna, Edwina & Frank, Jim & Eleanor, John & Christa, Linda & Al, Nan, Prescott, Sami, Tom & Christy

Friends of Grace: Anne, Ronald & Linda, Ashley, Becky, Benn, Billy, Carol, Carol, Dale & Trish, Dick, Drew, Ed & Chris, Elaine, Elizabeth, Ellen, the Hallmark family, Howard, Ila, Isabel, Jackie, James, Jennifer, Jo & Kate, Joell and family, John, Mary, Matt & Marcia, Maxcy, Melene & Ron, Mickie & Howard, Norris, Pam, Randy, Robert, Robin, Rosemary, Sarah, Scott & family, Sharon, Spencer, Sue, the Taylor family

In our Cycles of Prayers this week, we remember: Rwanda and The Rt. Rev. Augustin Ahimana

Serving This Week

Choir: Kathy Alley, Jackie Blevins, Diane & Bill Collins, Pam Davis, Nancy Fergusson, Mary & Mike Hartman, Marlene Hyatt, Mary Alice & Michael Lodico, Ann Rothermel, Meg Smith Joanne Thrower, Jan Treston, Kathleen & Bob Vogt, Paula & Peter Welling, Derrick Zeller

Altar Guild: Melanie Walt, Georgia McManus, Jim Lynn, Lauren Sutton, Mary Lockey

Coffee Hour: Suzy LeClaire (10:30)

Collection Counters: Tony Sexton & Bill Collins

Crucifer, Server, & Torchbearers (10:30): Gracie Yeargin, Annelle Woggon, Daniel Yeargin, Jack Yeargin

Lectors: Janine Geenen (8:00); Ginger Lambeth, Lauri SoJourney (10:30)

Eucharistic Ministers: Louisa Lunt, John Mozelewski (8:00)
Rachel Robles, Betsy Stecher, Sara Tyburski (10:30)

Ushers (10:30): Kent Clary, Martha Bradley, Chasel Lawrence

Eucharistic Visitor: Kent Clary visiting Evelyn Overman

Advent Wreath Lighters: Alyson and Francis Nelson (8:00); Karen Morris (10:30)

*Today's flowers were given to the glory of God by John and Donna Culp
in honor of their numerous December family birthdays.*

Today

EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES

Children: Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (*Downstairs, Age 3 – Kindergarten*)
Godly Play (*Downstairs, Grades 1 – 4*)

Youth: Rite 13 (*Across from Library, Grades 5 – 7*)
Journey to Adulthood (*Rector's Office, Grades 8 – 12*)

Adults: "Through the Advent Door: Contemplative Practice." Emily Chatfield-Lusto, Rev. Earle Pratt, Sara Tyburski, Susan Williams will help us explore the Taizé worship tradition, which uses chants, silence, and contemplative prayer to connect with the Divine.

Taizé Service: Join us today at 7:00 pm for contemplative worship inspired by the Taizé community of France. Taizé is an ecumenical religious community established in 1940 that uses simple chant, prayer, scripture, and silence as means of connecting with God. At our service, we will engage all of our senses in a candle-lit dark sanctuary to focus on the coming of Christ as the light in our darkness.

Christmas Cards for Military Veterans: Stop by Thatcher Hall no later than today to sign a card or two for local veterans who will be confined during the holy season.

Announcements

Lectionary Bible Study: Join Joslyn+ in the Library on Wednesdays during Advent at 10:30 am for a Bible study on the upcoming Sunday readings, with a special focus on the theme of hope.

Christmas Party & Greening of the Church on Sunday, December 23rd from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. There are sign-up sheets in Thatcher Hall on the front bulletin board to indicate if you can join us for dinner in addition to the Greening of the Church. Children's activities will be available. All are welcome, including your guests. We want to know how many tables and places to set for dinner so be sure to sign up. Please also indicate what you plan to bring (soup, bread, salad, or dessert).

Christmas Eve Service Times: 4:00 pm for Festival Eucharist and the Holy Gospel presented by the children and youth (a.k.a. Christmas Pageant). 7:00 pm for Festival Eucharist with Candlelight, preceded at 6:40 pm by special music.

Christmas Day, 10:00 am, come as you are! Pajamas are welcome. This will be a casual service with some of your favorite Christmas hymns and enjoy worshipping together on this most sacred day.

Beyond our Doors

Youth Epiphany Bonfire, Sunday, January 6th, 4:00 – 6:00 pm, Camp Rockmont. Rising 6th through 12th graders are invited to join for an afternoon of fun. There will be s'mores, a hot chocolate bar, games, and a chance to join together in community. In celebration of Epiphany, men's socks will be collected and donated to the Church of the Advocate. Also, please feel free to bring a tree to burn. RSVP by January 3rd by going to <https://form.jotform.com/82145329081151>

Gatherings this Week: December 16th – 22nd, 2018

(* = open to all to attend)

Cursillo Reunion, Monday, 10:00 – 11:00 am, Library
Noontime Noshing, Monday, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm, Thatcher Hall, Kitchen, and Deck
Education for Ministry, Monday, 6:30 – 8:00 pm, Library
*Vestry meeting, Tuesday, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, Library
* Open Library Use, Wednesday, 9:00 am – 12:00 noon
* Holy Eucharist and Healing Service, Wednesday, 12:00 noon, Church
* Marthas Knitting Guild, Thursday, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon, Marthas Room
* Sisters of Grace, Thursday, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m., call Donna Buckner or Mary Lou Daily for location

Grace Church in the Mountains, Episcopal
394 N. Haywood Street, Waynesville, NC 28786

(828) 456-6029 • www.gracewaynesville.com

General email: admin@gracewaynesville.com

Rector's email: rector@gracewaynesville.com

Treasurer/Bookkeeper: finance@gracewaynesville.com

Facebook.com/gracewaynesville • **Instagram:** @GraceChurchIM

The Rt. Rev. José A. McLoughlin, Bishop of Western North Carolina

The Rev. Joslyn Ogden Schaefer, Rector

The Rev. Br. Raymond Escott, OSB, Deacon

The Revs. Orion Davis, Earle Pratt, & Harriet Simmons, Priest Associates

Charles M. Banks, Director of Music

Dawna Keilman, Nursery Supervisor

Sarah Yeargin, Interim Parish Administrator

Dawna Wade, Parish Administrator-in-Training

Members of the Vestry

Bill Collins, Sr. Warden (2018)
Mary Lou Daily (2018)
Linda Sexton (2018)

Linda Deeb (2019)
Rob Viau (2019)
Paula Welling, Jr. Warden (2019)
Mary Lockey, Clerk

Crystal Clary (2020)
Mary Hartman (2020)
Kenneth Ratcliffe (2020)

Fred Deeb, Treasurer