

AN OPEN & AFFIRMING CONGREGATION
BOLD IN CHRIST • ABOUNDING IN LOVE • GROUNDED IN FAITH



Christmas Music Sunday



GRACE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

216 STATE STREET, HARRISBURG, PA 17101 • (717) 238-6739 • GRACEHBG.ORG

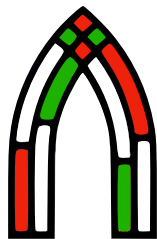


SECOND SUNDAY OF

Advent

Sunday, December 10, 2023

Second Sunday of Advent



Prelude with Lighting of the Advent Candles

As we prepare ourselves to welcome the birth of the Prince of Peace, in Bethlehem we have learned from Christian leaders this year that the festive lights that normally shine bright in the town will not be lit in memory of those killed in the recent violence. To stand alongside our siblings in Christ and all those who mourn this Christmas we will leave our second advent candle unlit during Advent and Christmas. In Advent tradition, the second candle is known as the Bethlehem candle and represents peace.

Welcome and Announcements

Shelly Moorman-Stahlman,
Director of Music

Music for Meditation

"Hark! The Herald Angels"

Douglas Wagner
(Andrew Surotchak and Jazmine Carter)

***Call to Worship**

Leader: During Advent we listen for the wonder of God's Word.

People: Speak to us, O Lord, for our hearts are open.

Leader: During Advent, we reach beyond the noise and distractions of this world.

People: Speak to us, O Lord for our hearts are open.

Leader: During Advent we ponder the good news that is our great joy.

People: Speak to us, O Lord, for our hearts are open.

Leader: During Advent we speak words of hope to those engaged in life's struggles.

People: Speak to us, O Lord, for our hearts are open.

Leader: During Advent we offer words of peace to those overcome by life's fears.

People: Speak to us, O Lord, for our hearts are open.

***Congregational Hymn**

No. 234

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Scripture

"Foretelling of Christ's Birth"
Isaiah 7;14, 40:1-5

Anthem

"Comfort, Ye My People" and "Rejoice"
from Handel's *Messiah*
(Andrew Surotchak, solo)

Scripture

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7; Isaiah 60:1

Anthem

"O Thou, That Tellest Good Tidings to Zion"
from Handel's *Messiah*
(Ollie Silver, soloist)

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain; o thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not

afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God! O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

Scripture

Luke 1:26-38

“The Angel Gabriel Salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary”

Anthem

“The Rose”

Ola Gjeilo

(Christina Rossetti, 1830-1894)

*The lily has a smooth stalk,
Will never hurt your hand;
But the rose upon her brier
Is lady of the land.*

*There’s a sweetness in an apple tree,
And profit in the corn;
But lady of all beauty
Is a rose upon a thorn.*

*When with moss and honey
She tips her bending brier,
And half unfolds her glowing heart,
She sets the world on fire.*

Scripture

Luke 2:1-7

“St. Luke Tells of the Birth of Jesus”

Anthem

“Away In a Manger”

arr. Howard Helvey

Scripture

Luke 2:8-14

***Congregational Hymn**

No. 238

“Angels, We Have Heard on High”

Scripture

Luke 2:15-21

Sharing our Tithes & Offerings

At Grace, we practice giving our tithes and offerings by sharing through plates distributed by ushers and also through giving online. We pray that you experience God's joy during this tangible act of giving today.

Offertory

"Joy to the World"
arr. Debra Calkins
(Hannah Wildasin and Jacqueline Wilson)

Scripture

Matthew 2:7-11
"Wise Men are led by the star to Jesus"

Anthem

"An Antiphonal Noel" Joel Raney

*Sing Noel on this Christmas night, sing noel.
Earth is filled with a holy light, sing noel.
Angels lift their praise high, sing noel.
Mary whispers a lullaby, sing noel.
Alleluia, sing noel.
Joyous news, glad tidings tell. Sing noel.
Born is the King of Israel. Sing Noel.*

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Pg. 895

Scripture

John 1:1-5
"St. John Unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation"

Anthem

"To Thee My Heart I Offer" Elaine Hagenberg

*To thee my heart I offer, Oh Christ-child sweet and dear;
Upon Thy love relying, be Thou ever near.
Oh take my heart and give me Thine and may it be forever
mine, Oh Jesus, holy, undefiled, My Savior meek and mild.*

*What brought Thee to the manger, Oh Christ-child sweet
and dear?*

Thy love for me be forever near.

*Lord how great Thy perfect Love, that reaches from the
heav'ns above*

*Thy love for us, by sin defiled, That made Thee, God, a
child,*

*Let me be Thine forever, Oh Christ-child sweet and dear;
Uphold me with Thy mercy, be Thou near.*

*Thy hand bestows Thy gifts to me and all I have, I offer
Thee!*

Let these be Thine alone, My heart, and all I own

Let these be Thine alone.

Scripture

John 1:9-14

Anthem

"Cantar"

Jay Althouse

*Cantar una cancion alegre. Sing alleluia!
Cantar con una voz.*

Moment of Appreciation for the Musicians

***Congregational Hymn**

No. 240

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Benediction

*All are welcome to join in a reception in Beggs Chapel through the
doors at the front of the sanctuary, following the service.*

Postlude

"Prelude in B Major"

Marcel Dupre

(Jacqueline Wilson, organist)

*We invite you to be seated during this postlude time of
meditation, as we prepare our minds, bodies, and spirits to
reenter a world that needs Grace.*

POINSETTIAS 2023

IN MEMORY OF

Rev. Jay W. House by Christie & Don Reasoner

Daryl W. House by Christie House

Our Parents by Barb & Jim Whetstone

Parents by C. Fetterhoff

M. Fetterhoff by C. Fetterhoff

H. Fetterhoff by C. Fetterhoff

Loved Ones by Marla Wasson & Ed Murak

My brother, David Michael, and sister, Nancy Bay, by Your Loving Sister

Rebecca C. Holmes by Holmes kids, Becky, Scout & Catharine

Our parents and great grandson, Remmi, by Paul & Sue Kompare

Dain and Kevin Vollrath by Justine Kompare

Karen Layman, Alister & Ouida Knox by Simon & Anna Knox

Mary & Herman Coleman by Eileen & Bob Young

Nora & Rae Young by Eileen & Bob Young

Our parents, John & Miriam Hall by Robert & Amy Hall

Daughter, baby Lauren Summer Hall, by Robert & Amy Hall

Emmalou Grace & Michael Lukert by Claudia Lukert & Family

Bud Howell by Dave Howell & Family

Jack & Louise Flesher by Jim & Grace Flesher

Earl and Muriel Wolfe by Jim & Grace Flesher

Those who have died and are suffering in Palestine and Israel.

IN HONOR OF

Luther Dromgold by Lisa & Wayne Bender

Naia Hussein Bender by Grammy & PopPop

Glory of God by Marla Wasson & Ed Murak

My parents, Ken & Jane Lyons by Your Loving Daughter

Holmes kids, Becky & Scout by Hilary Holmes

Our children and grandchildren by Paul & Sue Kompare

Emma, Wyatt & Adela by Jim & Grace Flesher

Special Thanks

Director of Music:

Shelly Moorman-Stahlman

Instrumentalists:

Alaina Gawel

Michael Gamon
(violin)

Jenny Gamon
(viola)

Sarah Herb Topping
(cello)

Andrew Surotchak
Jazmine Carter
Hannah Wildasin
Jacqueline Wilson
(handbells)

Grace Church Choir:

*Nick Keeney, AJ Keeney, Randal Stahlman, Wayne Bender,
Rick Albright, Andrew Surotchak, Hillary Holmes, Rebecca
Lyons, Lisa Bender, Ainsley Buia, Brookye Keeney, Pastor
Anna Layman Knox, Morgan Carothers*

Guest Singers:

*Jacqueline Wilson, Hannah Wildasin, Jazmine Carter, Lacey
Shirk, Ollie Silver, Xavier Bates*

UPCOMING AT GRACE HARRISBURG

Grace on Tap

Wednesday, December 13, from 5:15pm-6:15pm

Located at Sturges Speakeasy on Forster St.

The Garden Collective's Winter Market

Friday, December 15, from 5:00pm-9:00pm

Located in Fellowship Hall.

Cookies & Caroling around Downtown!

Friday, December 15, 6:30pm

Come out for a festive evening of caroling around Downtown Harrisburg on December 15th. We'll meet in the Sanctuary at 6:30pm, spend an hour (or until we get too cold) caroling in the blocks around the church, stop by the Garden Collective's Winter Art Market event at Grace that evening, and end with cookies and hot cocoa in Fellowship Hall with the Winter Shelter guests. We'll be delivering cheery invitations to worship at Grace with gifts of hot cocoa for neighborhood residents. All are welcome who love making a joyful noise - bring a friend!

Administrative Council Meeting

Tuesday, December 19, at 6:30pm

Located in the Wesley House conference room.

Christmas Eve Morning Lessons & Carols with Potluck Brunch

Sunday, December 24, 11:00am

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Sunday, December 24, 7:30pm

Grace Church office will be closed for winter break on Friday, December 22nd and will reopen on Tuesday, January 2, 2024!

CHILDREN'S CORNER



At Grace, we believe that all people - no matter their age - have vital reflections to share on scripture. "Busy bags" with crayons in them are found in the Narthex. All children in worship are invited to grab a busy bag and draw their response to this statement, as together we reflect on scripture this week:

Children of Grace, we wonder what an angel choir looks like to you. We hope you'll draw your thoughts and share them with Pastor Anna after the service.

We love children in worship, but if you find that you need a quiet space to care for a child during the service, a nursery room is available for your use through the front left-hand doors of the sanctuary. The service can be heard in the nursery through a speaker system.

GRACE'S CAPITAL CHRISTMAS LIST

Would you like to be an angel giver to fund a particular small capital project at Grace this Christmas that will encourage our vitality and hospitality in ministry? Here are some options on our list with cost estimates!

Painting and Repairs of the Fire Escape - \$9,500

Church Indoor Air Quality Testing - \$1,000

Interior Painting in Sanctuary - \$2,500

Fellowship Hall Carpet Cleaning - \$4,000

Boiler & Heating System Repair - Cost TBC

Kitchen Fridge Repair - Cost TBC

Special thank you to the angel givers who have already committed to funding these areas of ministry this season!

Kitchen Gas Stove Cleaning & Maintenance - \$1,500

Kitchen Dishwasher Repair - \$2,000

Church Indoor Air Quality Testing - \$1,500



OUR MISSION

We celebrate human diversity and affirm God's gifts of love and grace for ALL persons. Each of us is created in the image of God and is a child of God. We invite you, no matter your age, race, ethnicity, family structure, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental or physical ability, or economic situation, to be in ministry with us. We support the full participation of all persons in every phase of church life. We believe that at Grace Church you will experience our God who already knows you by name, loves you, and yearns to have an even closer relationship with you. As a Reconciling Congregation, our hearts, minds and doors are open, and we are blessed by your presence.

STAFF

Anna E. Layman Knox,
Pastor
aknox@susumc.org

Justine Kompare,
Business Administrator
justine.gracehbg@gmail.com

Thomas Moran,
Facilities Manager
tmoran1304@comcast.net

Dr. Shelly Moorman-Stahlman,
Director of Music
moorman@lvc.edu

Carly Wolf,
Grace Intern
carlyelizabethwolf@gmail.com

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ad Council Chair
Don Reasoner
Vice Chair
Rick Albright

Staff-Parish Relations Committee
Rick Albright
Jim Flesher

Finance Committee
Barbara Janecko
Jim Flesher

Trustees/Trustee Liaison
Elaine Rissinger
Wayne Bender

Hannah Reasoner, Missionary
Bogotá, Colombia, South America
hreasoner@umcmmission.org

Used by permission
CCLI License #3089235

Wifi Name: Grace Church
Password: gracechurch216