



Sunday, December 16, 2018

Third Sunday of Advent

New Member Sunday

Baptism

PRELUDE	Dance on 'Gabriel's Message' Basque carol, arr. M. Bedford (b. 1949)	
WELCOME	Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. People: And also with you.	
MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP		Elder Tom Lotterman
INTROIT	Hungarian Children's Carol/Light One Candle GPC's "Joyful Noise" Singers	Natalie Sleeth
LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE		
✦ HYMN 106	Prepare the Way, O Zion	<i>Bereden väg för Herran</i>

✦ *Please stand or sit.*

As a courtesy to others, please turn off your cell phone and no flash photography during the service.

PRAYER *of* CONFESSION

Leader: I said I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.

People: And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Leader: Let us pray.

All: Lord, we confess that we have sinned against you and against one another, by both our actions and our inaction. We have failed to love you with our whole hearts, and failed to love our neighbors as ourselves. And though we hold grievances, you extend mercy. Break our hearts with love, that your love might break further into this world that you created, sustain, and redeem through your Son, God be with us. (Silent prayer)

ASSURANCE *of* PARDON

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News.

People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

✦ GLORIA PATRI

Glory to God, #581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

TIME *with* CHILDREN

Children recess up the center aisle to Children's Worship. Pre-K and K-2nd go downstairs, and 3rd-5th go to the Chapel. There are leaders for each, and children can be picked up by following the signs from the narthex.

BAPTISM

JUSTIN ZHUO YAN HÉ
JATINDERPAL (JAY) SINGH SAYAL
AND
FAREED ZAMAN

✦ HYMN 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Truro

PRAYER *for* ILLUMINATION

Elder Elizabeth Avery

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 12:2-6

p. 711

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

A maiden most gentle

French Traditional Melody
arr. Andrew Carter (b. 1939)

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Defiant Joy

Rev. Dr. Camille Cook Murray

✦ HYMN 134

Joy to the World

Antioch

✦ AFFIRMATION of FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE
and the LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

✦ DOXOLOGY

Glory to God, #607

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERING and
OFFERTORY

Passing of the Fellowship Books

Mary's Soliloquy

Cecil Effinger (1914-1990)

Mary Claire Sullivan, soprano

PRAYER of DEDICATION

PRESENTATION *of* NEW MEMBERS

PROFESSION *of*
FAITH

*Do you believe in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; and do you
confess Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord?*

QUESTIONS *of*
COMMITMENT

*Do you promise to join regularly with your fellow Christians in worship
on the Lord's Day?*

Do you promise to be faithful in reading the Bible and in prayer?

*Do you promise to give a fitting proportion of your time, talents, and
money for the Church's work in the world?*

*Do you promise, depending on the grace of God, to profess publicly your
loyalty to Jesus Christ, to serve him in your daily work, and to walk in
his ways all the days of your life?*

QUESTIONS *to*
CONGREGATION

*Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ,
promise to guide and nurture these brothers and sisters in faith,
by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging them to know and
follow Christ and to be faithful members of Christ's Church?*

✦ HYMN 611

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Hymn to Joy

✦ BENEDICTION

RESPONSE

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Genevan Psalter, 1551

POSTLUDE

Toccata on 'Antioch'

Craig Phillips (b. 1961)

About Today's Service

Today's Advent candle lighting ceremony tells us about the great joy Jesus' birth brought to many in those times and to us today. Those participating are: Watts Colclough, Julian Durbin, Eaddy Holmes, George Sumner, Shannon Wilson, Henry Sumner, Heidi Campbell, Lulu Campbell, and Kacie Colclough.

The Advent Star shining above the pulpit was given to us by Helen H. Ringe in memory of her nephew, Robert Hopson Larcher, who died in 1961 at the age of 28. I can find no written record of the star, nor do I know the artist who made it, but Bill Watkins, then our music director, remembered Dr. Stroup telling the story that Helen had it made using railroad-tie spikes to symbolize the working life of Christ. - Jill Fri, Heritage Committee

Today's Music: Many of the carols we sing at Christmas are tunes by anonymous composers passed down through the generations and sung around hearths and tables. Such is the case with the anthem, based on a traditional French melody arranged by English composer Andrew Carter.

Flowers: The flowers in the Chancel today are dedicated to Esther Wisdom for her many years of service to GPC children.

Thank you to the many volunteers who make Sundays possible.

Greeters: Nancy Kuhn and Roy Henwood

Ushers: Cristian Lopez (captain), Jennie Lopez, Laura Welch, Mildred Grant, Shelley Jennings, Matt Lavin, Nathaniel Semple, Gerardo Martinez, Priscila Rodriguez, and Mary Margaret Hart.

Punch Bunch: Join us after the service for a New Member Reception hosted by the Wisdom family.

Sunday School Teachers and Children's Worship Leaders: Regina Andrade, Casey Nolan, Katie Novaria, Claire Gillum, Michele Gast, Priscila Rodriguez, Sydney Lee, and Alex Scott, and Paige McDermott.

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Weekly Calendar

Sunday, December 16

- 9:30am Nursery Opens
- 9:30am Advent IV Rehearsal (Youth Room)
- 9:30am Kids Xmas movies upstairs
- 10am Children's Choir Rehearsal (Chapel)
- 9:45am No Adult Education
- 10:15am New Member Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 10:30am New Member Session Meeting
- 10:30am Advent III Rehearsal
- 11am Worship - Advent III
- 12pm Punch Bunch - New Member Reception
- 5pm Yoga
- 5pm Youth Group/ART Xmas Party!

Wednesday, December 19

- 10am GPC Staff Meeting
- 2pm GPC Staff Christmas Lunch
- 5:30pm Pizza Wednesday

Sunday, December 23

- 9:30am Nursery Opens
- 9:45am No Adult Education/No Sunday School
- 10:30am Advent IV Rehearsal
- 11am Worship - Advent IV
- 12pm Punch Bunch
- 5pm Yoga
- 5pm No Youth Group

Happy Birthday

Dec 16 Tamra McCraw
Jennifer Small

Dec 20 Meredith Ferro
Peter Robinson

Dec 21 Edit Frenyo
Michael Horan
Maisie Murray

Dec 22 David Jackson

Announcement Highlights

Thank you to the 90 pledges who have committed to our 2019 **Stewardship** campaign. We need your help to reach our ambitious budget goal of \$675,000. To pledge, turn in your pledge cards, call the church office, or go to gtownpres.org/stewardship. Pledge envelopes are available in the narthex *today*. We are grateful for your support!

Thank you to all who came out for the **Member Photo Directory!** We received so many entries that Lifetouch is giving us the option to submit absentee photos by *December 17*. Visit gtownpres.org/photodirectory for more information!

GPC Offices will be closed *December 25 - January 1*. Please contact Pastor Chris in case of emergency. The office will reopen on *January 2*.

Save the date for the **Building CommUNITY** dinner and discussion on *January 12*. We will uncover what it means to be United in Christ in a partisan city, and discuss being better listeners with Dr. Angela Huebner, PhD, LMFT. RSVP to Deacon Mary Beth Ray at mbray4526@gmail.com by *January 6*. Visit gtownpres.org/BuildingCommunity for more information.

We say **goodbye** to Parish Associate Rev. Olivia Lane and member Josh Berman and their kids Eli and Eden as they move back to Tulsa, Oklahoma. We thank them for their dedication to GPC and we wish them every blessing in their new chapter.

Daily Readings

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Luke 1:72-75</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Luke 2:13-16</i>
<i>Mon</i>	<i>Luke 1:76-80</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Luke 2:17-20</i>
<i>Tue</i>	<i>Luke 2:1-5</i>	<i>Sat</i>	<i>Luke 2:21-25</i>
<i>Wed</i>	<i>Luke 2:6-12</i>	<i>Sun</i>	<i>Luke 2:26-32</i>

Advent & Christmas Worship

Advent III: **Reception of New Members & Children Singing**

December 16, 11 a.m.

Advent IV: **Lessons and Carols**

With brass, percussion,
and GPC Choir

December 23, 11 a.m.

Christmas Eve Pageant & Candlelight Service

December 24, 5 p.m.

This **Advent**, join us in reading the Christmas story from Luke's Gospel, by signing up for **Bible in Your Inbox** at www.gtownpres.org/advert.

The fresh holiday greens and flowers during Advent are made possible through your contributions to the **2018 Christmas Flowers Fund**. The majestic Fraser Fir Christmas Family Tree is enabled by your donations to the **GPC Family Tree Fund**. Flower donation envelopes are in the pews for the Christmas Flowers and Christmas Family Tree Funds.

This year, we're telling the story from the beginning of the church to the end of the world in three parts: **Born. United. Sent.** Our "**United.**" Series launches *January 6*. Take a deep dive into 1 Corinthians and learn how you can participate at gtownpres.org/united.

Adult Ed meets at 9:45am on Sunday in the Washington Room (or as indicated):

Adult Ed will resume in the New Year on *January 6!*

Serve

gtownpres.org/serve

Serve a meal to our neighbors in need. Second Sundays at GPC, and last Saturdays at Mt. Zion UMC, we serve over 70 women and men. Sign-up to serve at our dinner on *December 29*.

Thank you again for donating sewing machines, fabric, and other supplies for **Threads to Success**, Lutheran Social Services new program to assist Afghan refugee women in the area with vocational training. With your help, GPC has been able to donate all 35 sewing machines to make this program possible!

Connect

gtownpres.org/connect

The winter session of **Music for Tots** is now open! Class starts *January 4*. Caregivers and tots (0-4) are invited for a weekly Friday class of singing, bible stories, and dancing with beloved children's music director, Ms. Regina! Sign up at gtownpres.org/music-for-tots.

What could be better than a potluck dinner where you can enjoy old friends and get acquainted with newer GPC members and friends? **Tables of 8** dinners are open to everyone! Mark your calendar for *January 26* and *March 9*. Contact Judi Crowson at 202-333-1603 or jdcrowson@verizon.net to participate.

Serving our city, united in Christ.

Welcome to the Georgetown Presbyterian Church

If you are here for the first time, we extend a special welcome to you. Please take a moment to read through the bulletin which contains important information for the life of this congregation.

- Ushers are wearing red lapel tags and are in the back of the Sanctuary. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask them.
- Assisted listening devices can be found in the back of the Sanctuary in a marked basket.
- Please join us after worship for a time of fellowship and food.

Children are always welcome!

- If you need to step out, there is a room near the front doors with a television which shows the service, and resources for small children. For older children, there are purple bags near the front doors with coloring supplies.
- For our youngest children through 2 years old, child care is available upstairs beginning at 9:30am.
- After the Time with Children in the service, children can remain with their families, or exit the Sanctuary with one of the pastors to continue age-appropriate worship. Please feel free to escort your children to their classroom to meet the leaders. More information is available in the Order of Worship.

Navigating the Service

- Stars ✦ indicate when you are invited (but not required) to stand.
- Bold text indicates that the congregation says this together, in one voice.
- Hymns can be found in the purple hymnals. Bibles are located at the end of the pews. Large print hymnals are available in the back of the sanctuary.



The Georgetown Presbyterian Church has been a steadfast presence in our nation's capital since 1780, ministering to generations of Washingtonians, serving our city, united in Christ. For more of our history, visit gtownpres.org/us/history.

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