

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2018 10:15 a.m.

CELEBRATION *"Light One Candle"* Sleeth

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Elder Jack Crews

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE *"Advent Contemplation"* Broughton

*CALL TO WORSHIP Micah 5: 2-5a

Leader But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah,

PEOPLE FROM YOU SHALL COME FORTH THE ONE WHO IS TO RULE IN ISRAEL, WHOSE ORIGIN IS FROM OF OLD, FROM ANCIENT DAYS.

Leader Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is labor has brought forth;

PEOPLE THEN THE REST OF HIS KINDRED SHALL RETURN TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL.

Leader And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,

PEOPLE IN THE MAJESTY OF THE NAME OF THE LORD HIS GOD.

Leader And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;

PEOPLE AND HE SHALL BE THE ONE OF PEACE.

*PRAISE *"Christ is Come"* Big Daddy Weave

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

SPECIAL MUSIC *"Where's the Line to See Jesus?"* Kelley
Soloist: Jill Bikowski

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Hebrews 10: 5-7, 10

Leader When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,"

PEOPLE "BUT A BODY YOU HAVE PREPARED FOR ME;"

Leader "In burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure."

PEOPLE "SEE GOD I HAVE DOME TO DO YOUR WILL, O GOD."

Leader It is by God's will that we have been sanctified,

PEOPLE THROUGH THE OFFERING OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST ONCE AND FOR ALL.

Silent Reflection

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader Hear the Good News of the Gospel,
PEOPLE IN JESUS CHRIST, WE ARE FORGIVEN.

*GLORIA PATRI No. 579

MUSIC Chorus 1 from *"Christmas Oratorio"* Saint-Saens

THE WORD

FIRST READING Luke 1: 46-55

CHILDREN'S TIME Reverend Mark

*HYMN *"On This Day Earth Shall Ring"* No. 46

SECOND READING Luke 1: 39-45

SERMON *A Likely Story* Reverend Mark Gaskill

PASTORAL PRAYER WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE RESPONSE

OFFERTORY Chorus 2 from *"Christmas Oratorio"* Saint-Saens

*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION No. 592

SENDING

*PRAISE *"Immanuel"* Card

*BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE *"Angels We Have Heard on High"* No. 23(vv.1,3)

TAKING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

* THE PEACE

Leader: May the grace and peace of Christ be with you.

PEOPLE: AND ALSO WITH YOU.

*POSTLUDE *"Hark, the Glad Sound!"* Ritter

"Leave in peace to serve our Lord and one another."

*Please stand if able.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2018

8:00 a.m.

WELCOME AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Elder Sandy Webb

PREPARE YOUR HEART

PRELUDE

"Advent Contemplation"

Broughton

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Micah 5: 2-5a

Leader But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah,

PEOPLE FROM YOU SHALL COME FORTH THE ONE WHO IS TO RULE IN ISRAEL, WHOSE ORIGIN IS FROM OF OLD, FROM ANCIENT DAYS.

Leader Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is labor has brought forth;

PEOPLE THEN THE REST OF HIS KINDRED SHALL RETURN TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL.

Leader And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,

PEOPLE IN THE MAJESTY OF THE NAME OF THE LORD HIS GOD.

Leader And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;

PEOPLE AND HE SHALL BE THE ONE OF PEACE.

*HYMN

"On This Day Earth Shall Ring"

No. 46

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Hebrews 10: 5-7, 10

Leader When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,"

PEOPLE "BUT A BODY YOU HAVE PREPARED FOR ME;"

Leader "In burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure."

PEOPLE "SEE GOD I HAVE DOME TO DO YOUR WILL, O GOD."

Leader It is by God's will that we have been sanctified,

PEOPLE THROUGH THE OFFERING OF THE BODY OF JESUS CHRIST ONCE AND FOR ALL.

Silent Reflection

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader Hear the Good News of the Gospel,

PEOPLE IN JESUS CHRIST WE ARE FORGIVEN.

RECEIVE THE WORD

FIRST READING

Luke 1: 46-55

SECOND READING

Luke 1: 39-45

SERMON

A Likely Story

Reverend Mark Gaskill

THE SACRAMENT

PRAYER AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS (*Intinction*)

Communion in the Presbyterian Church is open. All who profess faith in Jesus Christ are welcome to the Lord's Table. The ushers will ask you to come forward in groups to form a semi-circle around the Communion Table. After taking a piece of bread, dip it in either the wine (first chalice) or grape juice (second chalice) and eat.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

SENDING

*BENEDICTION

"Leave in peace to serve our Lord and one another."

*Please stand if able.

Please leave and return to the Sanctuary only during the hymns.

All children are welcome here, but we know that a fussy baby is much louder to a parent's ears than to any of ours. If you have need:

- We have a nursery down the main stairs and to the left. It is staffed with volunteers, who will gladly care for any little ones who show up at the beginning of the service. If there are none, the volunteers will come up to the sanctuary, the nursery room will remain available. There is also a diaper change station in the Nursery and in both downstairs restrooms.
- We have a speaker in the narthex so that you DIY soothers can listen while you walk the little ones around.

Worship Service Notes

ANNOUNCEMENTS



CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Please note that there will be no Sunday School for children and youth on Dec. 30.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Any and all items for the January 2019 edition of the Messenger (newsletter) need to be e-mailed to gspc@comcast.net by **today**.

THREE KINGS DAY PARTY? WHAT IS THIS?

With the crazy busy November we've had; bazaar and two weeks of safe nights and the business of December; pageant, cantata, company parties, visiting family, whew! Let us kick-off the start to the new year with following the star in celebration the life given to us from the One who created for us, the King of all Kings. Saturday 5 January, James and Heather Kriebel are hosting, and the party begins at 6pm. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. This is an adults only party and a gift exchange will be part of the evenings activities.

NEW ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS: THE UN-DOMESTICATED GOD

We all love Jesus. His is, after all, our Savior. But how do we feel about the God of the Old Testament? The God who orders complete cities and peoples to be exterminated? The God filled with anger and judgment? How can Jesus and this God be the same? How can we love one and not the other? How can the One we call Father, who sends Jesus to save us, be the same God who rains destruction down on His enemies? Or have we been wrong about Him all along? The question: Do we really know God? Or do we only know glimpses of Him and not the whole picture? Starting January 6, Charlie Robinson will begin an 8 week examination and discussion into these and other questions? This adult class meets in room 103, the first room to the left of the library, every Sunday at 9:00 am. Please join us (or the other adult class that meets in the library). All are welcome.

Announcements continued on next page.

SUNDAY FLOWERS FOR 2019

The flower sign-up book for 2019 will soon be on the table in the narthex. Please sign for the Sunday(s) you would like to provide flowers in thanksgiving for a blessing like a birthday or anniversary or in memory of a loved one. Please indicate if you will take the flowers or if you wish to donate them for the Congregational Care Committee to give to a shut-in or someone in need of cheer. Cost of the flowers is \$36 for both arrangements and is payable to Georgia Henry. Contact her if you have questions regarding altar flowers – 301-843-6076 or gghenry4@aol.com.

FIRST READING **LUKE 1: 46-55**

⁴⁶And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. ⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; ⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

SECOND READING **LUKE 1: 39-45**

³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

“Christ Is Come”

The word of the prophets centuries old.
The birth of Messiah has been long foretold,
That unto you, now unto you,

Christ is come! Let all creation sing.
God’s own Son. Oh hail the newborn king.
The word made flesh now dwells among us;
Christ is Come!

Those born in darkness have seen a great light.
The Redeemer of our hearts has been born this night
That unto you well unto you.

Prince of Peace, Yeshua, Messiah,
the Son of Man, Holy One, King of Kings,
Lord of Lords, the Great I AM, Comforter,
Counselor, Author and, Finisher,
Divine Truth Revealer, Deliverer,
Healer, You are God! Jesus, You are God

“Immanuel”

A sign shall be given; a virgin will conceive
a human Baby bearing undiminished Deity.
The glory of the nations, a light for all to see
and hope for all who will embrace His warm reality.

**Immanuel, our God is with us;
and if God is with us,
who could stand against us?
Our God is with us, Immanuel.**

For all those who live in the shadow of death,
a glorious light has dawned.
For all those who stumble in the darkness,
behold, your light has come!

So what will be your answer?
Oh will you hear the call
of Him Who did not spare His Son
but gave Him for us all?

On earth there is no power,
there is no depth or height
that could ever separate us
from the love of God in Christ.

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us today.
There are fellowship pads at the end of the row, please pass them, and sign them, so that you can learn the names of those who are sitting near you and so that they can know yours as well. Provide other information as desired. After the service, talk to old friends and meet some new ones.

We have snacks and coffee downstairs.

We have a platform lift for anyone who doesn't do well with stairs, see an usher for assistance.

*Please be mindful that as we prepare for worship
we are entering sacred space and sacred time.*

Please turn off cell phones and refrain from using other electronic media.

Today's Volunteers: *Greeters:* Keith Carter (8:00), Holly Banks (10:15); *Ushers:* Anne Creveling and Bill Koennel (10:15); *Readers:* Sandy Webb (8:00), Kathy Koch and Bill Wetmore (10:15); *Nursery Volunteers:* Rose Flora and Brandon Luton; *Coffee Hour:* Advent Luncheon

TODAY

Worship Service at 8:00 a.m.
Adult Sunday School at 9 a.m.
Advent Luncheon after the worship service

THIS WEEK



Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 p.m.



Tues. (Dec. 25):

No Women's Bible Study

Thurs. (Dec. 27):

No Bell or Choir Rehearsals

COMING SOON

One Worship Service on Sunday, December 30th, at 10:15a.m.
Three Kings Day Party on Saturday, Jan. 5th at 6 p.m., at the Kriebel's Home



GOOD SAMARITAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*Reverend
Mark W. Gaskill*

Post Office Box 925, Waldorf, Maryland 20604-0925

(301) 645-4134 / (301) 843-1335

E-mail: gspc@comcast.net

Website: GoodSamPC.org

Twitter: [@GSPresbychurch](https://twitter.com/GSPresbychurch)

SESSION MEMBERS (CLASS)

Grover Baldwin (2019)

John Holmes (2020)

Holly Banks (2021)

Megan Howell (2020)

Margaret Beigel (2019)

Stephen Lehrter (2020)

Jill Buntz (2019)

Beverly Tallmadge (2021)

Loann Burian (2020)

Jack Tuttle (2021)

Jack Crews (2019)

Sandy Webb (2021)