

School Classes for all ages will resume on January 11.



Worship Service Schedule

Christmas Eve December 24	Worship at 5:30 p.m. Family Service
	Worship at 8:00 p.m. Candlelight Service with Communion Rev. Gench preaching
December 28	Worship at 10 a.m. Rev. Gench preaching
January 4	Worship at 10 a.m. Rev. Gench preaching
January 11	Worship at 8:45 and 11 a.m. Rev. Lader preaching

Adult Christian Education 2015

Adult Sunday School	Sundays 10:20 a.m., Lincoln Chapel
<p>"Adventures in Prayer" Maybe you are new to prayer. Maybe prayer is as natural to you as breathing. This class, which will meet in the Lincoln Chapel from 10:20-10:50 on two-service Sundays, is for everyone and anyone who takes prayer seriously. We will learn together and we will pray together. All questions, joys and concerns are welcome. Come when you can. The adventure awaits. Led by Miriam Dewhurst.</p>	
Adult Sunday School	Sundays, January 11 – February 1 10 a.m., Room 520
<p>"The Engaged Body" This class offers a chance for the community to discuss and reflect upon embodied prayer and dance in worship, in light of our congregation's growing use of these art forms as ministry. Biblical, theological and historical contexts will be considered in a lecture-discussion-demonstration format. The first two classes will center around discussion with opportunities to gently engage the body in prayer. In the second two classes we will play with Psalm 19 and discover how the body and creative movement can be vehicles for deepening our experience of God's Word. The hope is that a small group from this class will want to continue practicing Psalm 19 and prepare it as an offering in worship during the season of Lent. Led by Kathryn Sparks.</p>	

Opportunities for Service

7-2-9 Club – Enjoy a Wednesday evening (yes, from 7 to 9 p.m.), September until June, with guests recovering from mental illness. There are games, entertainment, refreshments and time for making friends. Contact Spence Gibbins, spencergib@aol.com

Community Club – A one-with-one tutoring and mentoring program, for DC public and charter school students (grades 7-12), meets at the church on Thursday nights during the school year. Adult volunteers are needed! Please contact Tom Karr and Shamika Bradley at directors@communityclub.org or go to www.communityclub.org for more information.

Food for the Hungry – Non-perishable food donations are needed by the Capital Area Food Bank, the large nonprofit hunger and nutrition education resource in the Washington area. Please place your donations in the baskets located at the rear of the Sanctuary or at the front desk.

New York Avenue Foundation – The NYAF mission is to be a catalyst of educational advancement for youth in need throughout Washington, DC. Annually it solicits proposals and awards grants to grassroots non-profits, which further that mission. A volunteer Board of Trustees conducts the work of NYAF. If you are interested in learning more or participating in the NYAF mission, contact Brian Schimming, nyavefoundation@gmail.com

Radcliffe Room Ministry – Come join our homeless guests, Sundays, 8:15-10:30 a.m., for hymn singing, refreshments and socializing. Donations of umbrellas, rain gear, clothing, toiletries, and transportation money are needed. Contact Eleanor Robins, robinseleanor@hotmail.com

The Peace Candle – Visitors are invited to take a peace candle home to their congregations. Candles are at the back, right side, of the sanctuary. Please sign the notepad there, so we may know who you are. For more information about the Peace and Justice Committee activities, contact Marilyn Seiber, mjs1wan2@bellatlantic.net

Triangle Park Committee – Working with the National Park Service to ensure maintenance and oversee the flower and plant beds along the church wall, we meet 4-6 times a year, conduct business via email, and schedule work days as needed. Contact Marilyn Seiber, mjs1wan2@bellatlantic.net Beth DuMez, bethdumez@erols.com or Barry Tindall, barrytindall@verizon.net

NYAPC's Young Adults – For more information about Sunday brunches, Faith on Tap, Bible study, and other fellowship or service activities (or to be added to the e-mail list), contact Richard Snyder (snyder.richard@gmail.com) or Benno Lauer (benno.lauer@gmail.com)

	Ministers:	The Entire Congregation
	Pastor:	Roger Joseph Gench, Ph.D.
	Associate Pastor:	Alice Rose Tewell, M. Div.
	Pastoral Associate:	Linda LeSourd Lader, M. Div.
	Director of Music:	Stanley P. Engebretson, D.M.A.
	Parish Associate for Visitation:	Ann Rose Davie, M. Div.
	Director of Planned Giving:	Catherine Schultheis, B.A., Chr.Ed.
	Parish Associates:	Beth Braxton, M. Div., MRE, D. Min.
		J. Gary Campbell, M. Div., M.A.
		Frances Taylor Gench, M. Div., Ph.D.

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"An inclusive and justice seeking church"



Celebration of Worship

The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church welcomes all people into community, worship, service and leadership.

**December 21, 2014
 10:00 a.m.
 Fourth Sunday of Advent**

The worship service begins with a brief period for personal meditation and the Prelude.

*Please note the translation insert for Selections from
Magnificat, BWV 243
 Johann Sebastian Bach*

Prelude "Magnificat"

Introit "Et Exultavit"

* **Lincoln Chimes**

I. The Community Gathers for Worship

***The Lighting of Advent Candles and Call to Worship**

The Candle of Love
 Steve Yu

Based on Psalm 89: 1-4

Leader: Today we relight the first three candles of the Advent wreath, the candle of hope, the candle of peace, and the candle of joy. God speaks in many ways: through dreams, visions, new ideas, and the kicking of a child not yet born. We light our fourth candle, as a sign of God's LOVE, shining in the world through people past and present.

All: I will sing of Your steadfast love, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Your faithfulness to all generations. I declare that Your steadfast love is established forever; Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.

Leader: God said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to my servant David: 'I will establish Your descendants forever, and build Your throne for all generations.'"

All: Living Christ, incarnate amongst us all, give us hope to follow You, peace to put our trust in You, joy to adore You, and love to recognize You in the face of all others. We praise You for Your abounding never changing love. Amen.

***Hymn**

#106, "Prepare the Way, O Zion"
 Bereden väg för herran

**Please stand, if able*

Prayer of Confession

God of wonder, as we journey into these final days of Advent we confess that we have busied ourselves with things we need to get done, until we have lost all our energy. We have filled up on rich food while forgetting the hungry in our midst. We have tried to meet others' expectations of us and forgotten about the beauty of the expectation and hope of this season. We have forgotten that we are first Your beloved children called into Your ways of peace, joy, and love. Forgive us. Inspire us. Show us how to open our hearts wide to Your love for the world. Amen.

Silent Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

*Response

#129 (*verse 1*), "Lo How a Rose 'Ere Blooming"
Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
from tender stem hath sprung,
of Jesse's lineage coming,
as men of old have sung.
It came, a flower bright,
amid the cold of winter,
when half-gone was the night.

*A Brief Statement of Faith (*Pages 37-38, "Glory to God" hymnal*)

II. The Community Hears the Word of God

First Lesson

Isaiah 62:6-12, page 651, NRSV

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

“Quia respexit,” and “Omnes Generationes”

Time for Children

Second Lesson

Kathryn Sparks, Liturgical Dance

Luke 1:39-55, pages 53-54, NRSV

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

"Magnification"

Rev. Roger J. Gench

III. The Community Responds to the Word

*Sermon Hymn

#104, "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"
Valet will ich dir geben

Concerns of the Church

Minute for Mission

Christmas Joy Offering

Offertory

“Quia fecit,” and “Deposuit potentes”

*Response and Prayer of Dedication

#144 (*verse 4*), "In the Bleak Mid Winter"
Christina Rossetti, 1972

All: **What can I give Him, Poor as I am?**

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise one, I would do my part;

Yet what I can I give Him: Give my heart.

Leader: God, who has given us all gifts, show us how to use these gifts of our whole selves to glorify You. Amen.

Passing the Peace of Christ

*Sending Hymn

#105 (*verses 1, 2, and 5*), "People, Look East"

- 1 **People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able; trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.**
- 2 **Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Rose, is on the way.**
- 5 **Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.**

*Commissioning to Ministry and Benediction

*Congregational Response

Alleluia! Amen!

Postlude

“Sicut locutus est,” and “Sicut erat in Principio”

We wish to thank all of our musicians for sharing their talents in worship this morning. All texts and soloist names are in the translation insert below

The poinsettias in the chancel today are given to the glory of God and in memory and honor of friends and family of the congregation as listed in the bulletin insert.

The rose in the chancel today is to celebrate the birth of *Dylan Tiernan Lauer*, son of *Molly and Benno Lauer*, born December 5 at Shady Grove Medical Center. Dylan weighed 7 lbs., 14 oz., and was 20 inches long. Dylan seems healthy and happy and Molly is recovering well.

10:00 a.m.

Liturgists

Beth Braxton

Candle Lighter

Steve Yu

Tour Guide

Len Shabman

Worship Play

Alice Tewell

Counters' Schedule

December 21

Martha Davis and Dan Stokes

December 30

Ruth and Fritz von Fleckenstein

Information for Sunday Visitors

We extend a warm welcome to visitors!

We invite you to sign the guest book at the rear of the Sanctuary.

Please stay for coffee and fellowship at the side of the Sanctuary after the service.

Building Tours: To take a tour of our building and learn about this congregation's heritage, current ministry, and outreach, meet the tour guide at the front of the Sanctuary immediately following the service.

Garage Parking: Free self-parking is available on Sundays in the garage next to the church at 1399 New York Avenue until 1 p.m. Please park in any non-reserved space.

Our Youngest Worshipers: We love having all the babies in the church! Babies and children are always welcome in the services. If you would ever like a bit of privacy, or if your infants would like a break, parents -- and nursing mothers especially -- are very welcome to use the Worship Center space (directly across from the Sanctuary with the blue sofas). The Nursery is also open each Sunday from 8:30-12:30.

When bulletins are waved during worship at NYAPC, it is a sign of appreciation for the music or other contribution to the service. It is an action which we learned from our partner church, the First Presbyterian-Reformed Church of Havana, as an alternative to clapping. For the wavers, it is an expression of joy in the moment and our connections with sisters and brothers in faith.