

Adult Sunday School	
Gathered for Prayer	Today, 9:20 a.m., Lincoln Chapel
Adventures in Prayer has become a group of people who gather each Sunday to pray for one another, for the people on the prayer/care list, for the church and the world. All questions, joys and concerns are welcome. Come anytime. Miriam Dewhurst will lead.	

	Ministers:	The Congregation
	Pastor:	Roger Joseph Gench, Ph.D. <a href="mailto:rfgench@mindspring.com">rfgench@mindspring.com</a>
	Associate Pastor:	Alice Rose Tewell, M. Div. <a href="mailto:alice.tewell@nyapc.org">alice.tewell@nyapc.org</a>
	Parish Associates:	Beth Braxton, M. Div., MRE, D. Min. <a href="mailto:revbeth.braxton@gmail.com">revbeth.braxton@gmail.com</a>
		J. Gary Campbell, M. Div., M.A.
		Frances Taylor Gench, M. Div., Ph.D.
	Parish Associate for Visitation:	Linda LeSourd Lader, M. Div. <a href="mailto:Linda.Lader@gmail.com">Linda.Lader@gmail.com</a>
		Ann Rose Davie, M. Div. <a href="mailto:annrosedavie@gmail.com">annrosedavie@gmail.com</a>
	Church Administrator:	Jasmine Jowers, M.S. <a href="mailto:jasmine.jowers@nyapc.org">jasmine.jowers@nyapc.org</a>
	Accounting Manager:	Janet Maheras B.A. <a href="mailto:janet.maheras@nyapc.org">janet.maheras@nyapc.org</a>
	Office Associate:	Cheria Mcmillan, A.A. <a href="mailto:cheria.mcmillan@nyapc.org">cheria.mcmillan@nyapc.org</a>
	Building Superintendent:	David Smoot <a href="mailto:david.smoot@nyapc.org">david.smoot@nyapc.org</a>
	Director of Music:	Stanley P. Engebretson, D.M.A.
	Director of McClendon Scholar in Residence Program:	Theo Brown, M. Div. <a href="mailto:dialogdays@aol.com">dialogdays@aol.com</a>
Director of Planned Giving:	Catherine Schultheis, B.A., Chr.Ed. <a href="mailto:ceks12601@yahoo.com">ceks12601@yahoo.com</a>	
Director of Liturgical Dance:	Kathryn Sparks, M.T.S. <a href="mailto:dancingsparks@yahoo.com">dancingsparks@yahoo.com</a>	
Young Adult Volunteer:	Sarah-Dianne Jones, BA <a href="mailto:sarah-dianne.jones@nyapc.org">sarah-dianne.jones@nyapc.org</a>	

## Opportunities for Service

**7-2-9 Club** – Enjoy a Wednesday evening (yes, from 7 to 9 p.m.), until June, with guests recovering from mental illness. There are games, entertainment, refreshments and time for making friends. Contact Spence Gibbins, [spencergib@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:directors@communityclub.org) or go to [www.communityclub.org](http://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's mission is to be a catalyst of educational advancement for youth in need throughout Washington, DC. Grant proposals are solicited and awarded annually to Community Club and other grassroots non-profits that further its mission. A volunteer Board of Directors conducts the work of NYAF. If you are interested in learning more about the foundation or participating in the NYAF mission, please contact Brian Schimming, [nyavefoundation@gmail.com](mailto:nyavefoundation@gmail.com). CFC #25839.

**Radcliffe Room Ministry** – Come join our homeless guests, Sundays, 8:15-9:45 a.m., for hymn singing, refreshments and socializing. Donations of umbrellas, rain gear, clothing, toiletries, and transportation money are needed. Contact Eleanor Robins, [robinsleanor@hotmail.com](mailto:robinsleanor@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 note card there, so we may know who you are. For more information about the Peace and Justice Committee activities, contact Marilyn Seiber, [mjs1wan2@bellatlantic.net](mailto: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](mailto:mjs1wan2@bellatlantic.net) Beth DuMez, [bethdumez@erols.com](mailto:bethdumez@erols.com) or Barry Tindall, [barrytindall@verizon.net](mailto:barrytindall@verizon.net)

**NYAPC's Young Adults** – For more information about Sunday brunches, Faith on Tap, Bible study, or other fellowship or service activities (or to be added to the e-mail list), contact Helen Anthony ([shanthon@ncsu.edu](mailto:shanthon@ncsu.edu)), Phil Bolles ([philbolles@gmail.com](mailto:philbolles@gmail.com)), or Katherine Leiden ([keleiden@gmail.com](mailto:keleiden@gmail.com)).

**Annual Stewardship** - Each of the ministries described on this page, as well as everything else that happens at this church, is supported in a significant way by Annual Stewardship giving. Annual Stewardship is the act of making a financial pledge to the church operating budget for a year and completing that pledge. It is a deep personal and congregational theological act, and it is essential to the worship, community, and mission of this church! Members, affiliates, and friends are all invited to participate in Annual Stewardship. Please contact Jan Maheras, the church accountant, Rachel Browning and Kim Johnson, the chair of the Annual Stewardship Committee, or Rev. Roger Gench, the Senior Pastor, for more information, questions, or to make your pledge.

**We are in need of volunteers to help make NYAPC a welcoming place** for our visitors and members by staffing the welcome table in the narthex before and after services. Welcome table volunteers arrive about 20-30 minutes before a Sunday service to greet worshipers and then hang out for about 15-20 minutes after the service to chat with visitors and members during coffee time. For more details, visit <http://bit.ly/1OEPH6r>. If you are interested in signing up for one (or more!) services, please contact Alison Kootstra Nowak at [amkootstra@gmail.com](mailto:amkootstra@gmail.com) or Paul Dornan at [pbdornan@aol.com](mailto:pbdornan@aol.com).



## Celebration of Worship

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

December 25, 2016  
10:00 a.m.  
Christmas Day

**Prelude** Two Carols: “The Wexford Carol” and “Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella”  
Traditional Irish and French Carols, arr. Douglas E. Wagner  
Stephen Dunlap, Saxophone

**Introit** “There’s a Star in the East”  
Christmas Spiritual

### \*Lincoln Chimes

### I. The Community Gathers for Worship

#### \*The Lighting of Christ Candle and Call to Worship

The Braxton Family

**Leader:** Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy, for all people. To you is born this day, in the city of David, a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

**All:** **There is nothing in death or life, in things present, or things to come, nothing in all creation, that can separate us from the love of God, in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**Leader:** We relight the candles in the Advent wreath. We relight the candles of peace, hope, joy and love declaring God’s goodness throughout all of creation. We relight the Christ candle as a sign of life — of a sign of God’s endurance and care for all of creation. We light the Christ candle as a sign of the light has shone in the darkness and that the darkness will not overcome it.

**All:** **Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, Rejoice! Merry Christmas!**

#### \*Opening Hymn

#119, (verses 1-2), “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  
Mendelssohn

#### Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, our Wonderful Counselor, the Almighty God, we come to You to confess the ways we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. God, we confess that during this season, we have often become distracted, and have ignored the cries of the world. We confess that we have turned a blind eye to suffering, need and grief. Forgive us, O Holy One. Turn us around to see all Your children, each as a beautiful part of Your creation. Show us how to be healers, how to be proclaimers of Your good news, and how to be bearers of Your grace and truth for the world. Through Christ we pray. Amen.**

#### Silent Confession

#### Assurance of Pardon

#### \*Passing of the Peace

*\*Please stand, if able*

### The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church

*"An inclusive, justice-seeking church"*

1313 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20005

Website: [www.nyapc.org](http://www.nyapc.org) ☞ Email: [nyapc@nyapc.org](mailto:nyapc@nyapc.org)

Telephone: (202) 393-3700 ☞ Fax: (202) 393-3705

**\*Response**

#119, (*verse 3*), “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”  
Mendelssohn  
Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth,  
born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

**Refrain** Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn king!”

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

**II. The Community Hears the Word of God**

**First Lesson**

Proverbs 8:22-31, page 558, NRSV  
Leader: This is the word of the Lord.  
People: Thanks be to God.

**Anthem**

“He is Born”  
Traditional French, arr. Wagner

**Time for Children and Their Friends**

**Second Lesson**

John 1:1-14, page 86, NRSV  
Leader: This is the word of the Lord.  
People: Thanks be to God.

**Sermon** “Christmas Light” Rev. Alice R. Tewell

**III. The Community Responds to the Word**

**\*Sermon Hymn**

#132, “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”  
In Dulci Jubilo

**Concerns of the Church**

**Giving of Morning Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory**

“Nativity Carol”  
John Rutter

**\*Response**

#607, “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”  
Doxology  
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

God of Light, we bring these offerings in a spirit of Christmas joy and in a spirit of thanksgiving for Your everlasting presence. In these gifts, we pray for a more compassionate world, a church that shines Your beauty, and a time where Your peace will reign. Shape us, through our giving, into people more faithful to Your Word and a people full of joy and good news. In the name of the Messiah, the Wonderful Counselor, we pray, 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.**

**\*Sending Hymn**

#113, “Angels We Have Heard on High”  
Gloria

- 1 **Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains, and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**
- 2 **Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song? Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**
- 3 **Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing; come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

**\*Commissioning to Ministry and Benediction**

**\*Congregational Response**

Alleluia! Amen!

**Postlude**

Postlude on ‘Mendelssohn’ (Hark! the Herald Angels Sing)  
David Willcocks

We wish to thank **Stephen Dunlap** for his participation in worship this morning.

The **Peace Candle in the chancel** reminds us to pray for all those struck by tragedy, suffering from loss and are homeless and hopeless—fires in Tennessee, earthquakes in Indonesia and Pakistan, bombings in Aleppo—all who need our prayers.

10:00 a.m.	
Liturgist	Rev. Beth Braxton
Tour Guide	Len Shabman
Worship Play	Karen Dunlap

Preaching Schedule	
January 1	Rev. Roger J. Gench (10:00 a.m.)

Counters	
December 27	Jim Martin and Dan Stokes
January 3	Ruth and Fritz von Fleckenstein

**Information for Sunday Visitors**

We will have a single service on January 1 at 10:00 am. We will resume with two services at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. on January 8.

We extend a warm welcome to visitors! We invite you to sign the guest book at the rear of the Sanctuary.

**Assisted Listening:** Do you have difficulty hearing the service? Our assisted listening system may help you. The system consists of a small wireless receiver and an ear phone. You may also use your own choice of ear phones or t-coil equipped hearing aids with the receiver. Please contact Joe Thierry at [josephnthierry@gmail.com](mailto:josephnthierry@gmail.com) or 703-568-5158 for more information.

**Tours:** Meet a tour guide at the front of the Sanctuary immediately following the service to tour the building and learn about our congregation’s heritage, current ministry, and outreach.

**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.

**Families with Infants and children:** Infants and toddlers 4 and under are welcome in the **Park Level nursery**. Care is provided by licensed, paid professionals. The nursery is open from 8:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. During the services, **children’s worship bulletins**, crayons and books are available in the rear of the Sanctuary. During the sermon time, Pastor Alice and helpers offer **Worship Play** for ages 3-10. During this worship playtime, the children are invited to pray, listen to stories from the Bible and related picture books, sing a song or do a simple craft. At the end of Worship Play, the children are offered a peanut free snack.

**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.

**If you have been worshipping regularly** at NYAPC and do not yet have a permanent nametag or have somehow mislaid your permanent nametag, please fill out a blank form with your name in the envelopes on either of the nametag kiosks in the narthex and the church entryway on the first floor. You will find your permanent nametag on one of the kiosks on one of the next two Sundays. Nametags are just one more way New York Avenue strives to be a welcoming presence in Washington!

