

2017 Advent Calendar

- **Sunday December 24 Christmas Eve Services**
 - 5:30 p.m.: Early Service (tends to be more family oriented)
 - 8:30 p.m.: Later Service with Communion
 - Both Services conclude with lighting of the candles while we sing Silent Night
- **December 31, Christmastide at 10 a.m.:** Single Service at 10 a.m. No Sunday school.

Please Join Us!



Ministers: **The Congregation**
Pastor: **Roger Joseph Gench, Ph.D.**
rfgench@mindspring.com
Associate Pastor: **Alice Rose Tewell, M. Div.**
alice.tewell@nyapc.org
Director of Music: **Stanley P. Engebretson, D.M.A.**
Parish Associates: **Beth Braxton, M. Div., MRE, D. Min.**
revbeth.braxton@gmail.com
J. Gary Campbell, M. Div., M.A.
Frances Taylor Gench, M. Div., Ph.D.
Emily Rhodes Hunter, M.Div., M.S.
emilyrhodeshunter@gmail.com
John T. Mathison, M.Div.
Matthew Schlageter, M.Div.
Parish Associate for Visitation: **Ann Rose Davie, M. Div.**
annrosedavie@gmail.com
Church Administrator: **Jasmine Jowers, M.S.**
jasmine.jowers@nyapc.org
Church Senior Accountant: **Lance Jameson**
lance.jameson@nyapc.org
Office Associate: **Cheria Mcmillan, A.A.**
cheria.mcmillan@nyapc.org
Building Superintendent: **David Smoot**
david.smoot@nyapc.org
Director of McClendon Scholar in Residence Program: **Theo Brown, M. Div.**
dialogdays@aol.com
Director of Planned Giving: **Catherine Schultheis, B.A., Chr.Ed.**
ccks12601@yahoo.com
Director of Liturgical Dance: **Kathryn Sparks, M.T.S.**
dancingsparks@yahoo.com
Young Adult Volunteer: **Clare Forrister**
yav@nyapc.org

The New York Avenue Presbyterian Church

"An inclusive, justice-seeking church"

1313 New York Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20005

Website: www.nyapc.org ✉ Email: nyapc@nyapc.org

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

Opportunities for Service

7-2-9 Club – Enjoy a Wednesday evening (yes, from 7 to 9 p.m.), September through 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 – Washington D.C.'s oldest tutoring and mentorship program for public and charter school students needs adult volunteers to make a difference in a child's life. Students and volunteers meet at the church on Thursday nights during the school year. Please contact Tom Karr or Shamika Bradley at directors@communityclub.org or go to www.communityclub.org for more information.

New York Avenue Foundation – The NYAF mission is to be a catalyst of educational advancement for youth in need throughout the Washington, D.C. community. Annually, it solicits proposals and awards grants to grassroots nonprofits, including Community Club, to further impact D.C. students. Contact Brian Schimming, nyavefoundation@gmail.com to learn more. Shopping at Amazon? Be sure to select the NYAF as your charity-of-choice at www.smile.amazon.com. Every purchase helps a child in need.

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.

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, 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 note card there, so we may know who you are. For more information about the Peace and Justice Committee activities, contact Marilyn Seiber, mjs1wan2@gmail.com.

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@gmail.com or Barry Tindall, barrytindall@verizon.net.

NYAPC's Young Adults – For more information about Faith on Tap, Bible Study, other fellowship and service activities, or to be added to the e-mail list, contact Helen Anthony (shanthon@ncsu.edu) or Taylor Allison (taylorallison93@gmail.com).

NYAPC Parent's Listserve – For more information about ministry for infants to high schoolers, or to be added to the email list, contact Associate Pastor Alice Tewell (alice.tewell@nyapc.org).

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 Lance Jameson, the church book keeper, 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, 20-30 minutes before a Sunday service greeting and then 15-20 minutes after, to chat with visitors and members during coffee time. For more details, visit <http://bit.ly/1OFPh6r>. If you are interested in signing up for one (or more!) services, please contact Helen Anthony at shanthon@ncsu.edu or Paul Dornan at pbdornanp@aol.com.



Celebration of Worship

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

December 24, 2017

10:00 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of Advent
Christmas Eve

Prelude

Chorale Partita on "Comfort, comfort ye my people"
Johann Pachelbel
Samantha Scheff, Organ

Introit

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"
Est ist ein Ros'

*Lincoln Chimes

I. The Community Gathers for Worship

*The Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle: The Candle of Love

Matthew Wieseler, Amy McKee, Xavier and
Felix McKee-Wieseler

*Call to Worship

(Based on Psalm 89:1-4)

Leader: Greetings in the name of Christ to this fourth Sunday of Advent. During Advent we watch and wait for Christ's coming.

All: **This Advent as we light the candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, we will remember the promises of God with prayer.**

Leader: Today we light the candles of hope, peace, and joy. We also light this candle for love, 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.**

*Opening Hymn

#132, (verses 1-2) "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"
In Dulci Jubilo

Prayer of Confession

This Advent we remember Mary and Joseph, giving thanks for their faithfulness, courage and obedience, stepping out into the unknown in the strength of Your Spirit, and playing their part in the fulfilment of Your plan to bring Your prodigal people home again. We confess where we have lacked in faith and courage, where we have turned a blind eye, where we have failed to see Mary, Joseph, and the Christ child already in our midst. We pray that when Your gentle whisper breaks through the clamor of this world and into our small corner, we might be ready to listen, and having listened, to act. Amen.

**Please stand, if able*

Silent Confession
Assurance of Pardon
*Passing of the Peace
*Response

#132, (*verse 3*) “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”
In Dulci Jubilo
Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave:
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

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

II. The Community Hears the Word of God

First Lesson

Luke 1:26-38, page 53, NRSV

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem

“Birthday Carol”
David Willcocks

Time for Children and Their Friends

Second Lesson

Luke 1:46-55, pages 53-54, NRSV

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon “The Humble” Rev. Roger J. Gench

III. The Community Responds to the Word

*Sermon Hymn

#144, (*verses 1-3*) “In the Bleak Midwinter”
Cranham

Sacrament of Baptism

Patrick Wesley Fowkes
See insert.

Concerns of the Church

Giving of Morning Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

“He is Born”
Cary Ratclife

*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

Amazing God, Your love shone through the Christ Child
in the manger. Bless these gifts that Your light may shine
through us, as well. May they offer hope and love to those
most in need of it. 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

Toccata on "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"
Austin Lovelace

We wish to thank Samantha Scheff for her participation in worship this morning.

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

The Peace Candle in the chancel reminds us to pray for Love on this fourth
Sunday of Advent, that Christ's love will fill our hearts and spread to all corners of
the earth on this Eve of His Birth.

10:00 a.m.	
Liturgist	Len Shabman
Tour Guide	Len Shabman
Worship Play	Rev. Alice Tewell

Counters	
December 26	Ruth and Fritz von Fleckenstein
January 2	Jim Martin and Dan Stokes

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.

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 or 703-568-5158 for more information.

Tours: Meet a tour guide at the front of the Sanctuary 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.

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 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 nametag on either kiosk on one of the next two Sundays. Nametags are just one more way NYAPC strives to be a welcoming presence in Washington.

