


Adult Sunday School	
Gathered for Prayer	Today, 10:20 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.	
Watching and Waiting: Advent Stories and Poems	Today & Dec. 23 at 9 a.m., Lincoln Parlor
The Annunciation, Advent and Christmas have generated a tremendous outpouring of art and literature across country and culture. This class will focus upon watching and waiting, two responses to the promise of the coming of God in flesh, as reflected in poetry and short stories. Gwenn Gebhard, Tom Dunlap and Paul Dornan will lead.	

10:00 a.m.	
Tour Guide	Len Shabman

Counters	
December 16	John Schultheis and Barbara Dornan
December 23	ShuXian McKenna and Dan Stokes
December 30	Barbara Dornan and Dan Stokes
January 8	Ruth and Fritz von Fleckenstein

	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. jmathisonindc@gmail.com
		Matthew Schlageter, M.Div.
	Parish Associate for Visitation:	Ann Rose Davie, M. Div. annrosedavie@gmail.com
	Church Administrator:	Jasmine Jowers Prout, 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. ceks12601@yahoo.com
Director of Liturgical Dance:	Kathryn Sparks, M.T.S. dancingsparks@yahoo.com
Young Adult Volunteer :	Kasey Kelly, B.A. yav@nyapc.org



"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. For more information, 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. Contact Tom Karr or Shamika Bradley at directors@communityclub.org or go to www.communityclub.org for more information.

New York Avenue Educational Foundation - The NYAEF mission is to be a catalyst of educational advancement for youth in need in the Washington, DC community. Annually, it solicits proposals and awards grants to grassroots nonprofits, including Community Club, to further impact DC students. Visit <https://nyaef.org> to learn more or contact Brian Schimming at nyaef.dc@gmail.com. Shopping at Amazon? Select the NYAEF as your charity-of-choice through this link <https://smile.amazon.com>. Federal employees/retirees please consider giving through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC #25839) at <https://cfcgiving.opm.gov>.

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. Donation baskets are at the rear of the Sanctuary and 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, robinsseleanor@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, baryrtindall@verizon.net

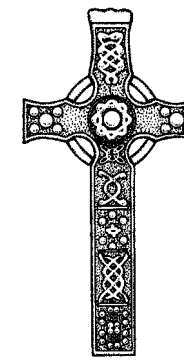
NYAPC's Young Adults – For more information about Faith on Tap, Bible Study, other fellowship and service activities, or to be added to the e-mail list, contact Helen Anthony (shanthon@ncsu.edu) or Taylor Allison (taylorallison93@gmail.com).

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 Senior Accountant, Helen Anthony, the chair of the Annual Stewardship Committee, or Rev. Roger Gench, the Senior Pastor, for more information, questions, or to make your pledge.

Volunteers are needed to staff 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> or contact Helen Anthony shanthon@ncsu.edu or Paul Dornan pbdornanp@aol.com.

Worship Service – Are you interested in ushering or serving as a liturgist during Sunday service? Please contact John Yoder at yoderja@gmail.com (usher) or Mark Zaineddin at zaineddin@gmail.com (liturgy) for more information.



Celebration of Worship

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

December 16, 2018

10:00 a.m.

Third Sunday of Advent

Lessons and Carols with Christmas Pageant

I. Preparing to Hear the Word

Prelude	"In Dulci, Jubilo" 14 th C, German Carol, arr. Wood
Introit	"Mary Had a Baby" African America Spiritual, Arr. Michael G. Sinshack, Randa Kirsbaum. MusicNotes.com Youth and Children's Choir

*Lincoln Chimes

II. The Community Gathers for Worship

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Alice Tewell, Ms. Molly Johnson
Rev. Roger Gench

*Call to Worship and Lighting of Advent Candles: Candle of Joy
Candle Lighters: Karl, Sarah, Frederick and Conrad Hoffman

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

People: Christ is our light. By grace he came, in power he rose;
we wait for Christ to come again.

Response:

From Central Moluccas traditional melody



Cantor: All: Cantor: All: Cantor
 We wait, we wait, we wait, we wait, ma-ra-
 All: Cantor: All:
 na - tha, ma-ra - na - tha, we wait, we wait.

Leader: Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! (*Zephaniah 3:14-20*)
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments
against you and turned away your enemies.

All: We will fear disaster no more.

Leader: Do not let your hands grow weak.
The Lord, your God, is in your midst.

All: God will rejoice over us with gladness and renew us in love.

Leader: God will save the lame and gather the outcast, changing their
shame into praise and renown in all the earth.

All: At that time, God will bring us home. (*Philippians 4:7*)
The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will
guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

*Please stand if you're able

*Hymn Sing

#82, “Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Hyfrydol

(The Youth Choir will lead the first verse. We ask that the congregation join in singing the following verses. Please stand if, you are able, after the youth sing.)

#132, “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

In Dulci Jubilo

#136, “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

Go Tell It

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Roger J. Gench

God of Advent, you have loved us without condition and command us to love others in the same way, but we are a people divided, a people too often ruled by hate, oppression, stereotypes, or apathy. God of peace, you pour over us with the peace that passes all understanding, but our world is wrought with anxiety, depression, violence, and war. God of joy, you offer us grace and freedom and a full life, but we focus too much on our own happiness. God, you offer us so much, and we respond with so little. Forgive us and make us whole. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Responsive Hymn

#105, *(verse 1)*, “People, Look East”

Besançon

Passing of the Peace

Rev. Roger J. Gench

Advent Affirmation of Faith

Alex Moore

Holy God, Emmanuel, always, you are with us. We are aware of you only because you have created us to know you and enjoy you forever. Covenant God, Emmanuel, always you are with us. You entered human history, chose a particular people, and walked with them in sorrow and in joy. Companion God, Emmanuel, always you are with us. You are God of Abraham and Sarah, Miriam and Moses, Deborah and David, Elizabeth and Zechariah, Joseph and Mary. Humble God, Emmanuel, always you are with us, now as one with us, now as one of us. Jesus of Nazareth, both of a woman, with a face, a name, and a story. Word of flesh, Emmanuel, always you are with us. We praise and adore you. Amen.

III. The Community Hears the Word of God

Listening to Stories

Rev. Alice R. Tewell

The first four stories are from Growing in God’s Love, A Story Bible edited by Elizabeth Caldwell and Carol A. Wehrheim. The last story is from the Storybook Bible by Desmond Tutu. Please see insert for readings.

First Story: How Can This Happen? (Luke 1:36-38)

Astrid Brigham

Hear: Have you ever done something that you had never done before? How did you feel after you did it?

Imagine: Imagine Mary’s face while the angel is talking to her. How do you think it changes?

Act: Mary did a brave thing in saying yes to God. What brave thing have you done?

Second Story: A Prophet is Born (Luke 1:5-21, 39-45, 57-80)

Penny Wagner

Hear: What do you think Zechariah wanted to say while he was waiting for John to be born?

Imagine: What do you think the Angel Gabriel looked like?

Act: Have you ever gotten something after you waited for a long time? How did you say thank you?

Third Story: A Baby is Born (Luke 2:1-7)

Corinne White

Hear: If Mary’s baby was born in the room where the animals stayed, what sounds do you think he heard?

Imagine: What animals do you think were in the room when Jesus was born?

Act: Mary and Joseph had trouble finding a place to stay. Have you heard about or known people who had no home? What can we do to help these people?

Anthem

#114, “Away in a Manger”

Cradle Song

Youth Choir and Instrumentalists

Fourth Story: Surprise Visitors (Luke 2:8-20)

Jacob Gagosian

Hear: Why do you think God chose shepherds to be the first visitors to see Jesus? What do you think Mary wanted to remember about this special night?

Imagine: What colors would make the sky as bright as when the angels appeared?

Act: People love hearing good news. Do you have any good news to tell a friend?

*Hymn

#135, “There’s a Star in the East” (Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow)

Follow

(The Youth Choir will lead the first verse. We ask that the congregation join in singing the following verses. Please stand if, you are able, after the youth sing.)

Fifth Story: The Wise Men are Led by the Star to Jesus

Sam Neill

(from Matthew Chapter 2 as told in the Desmond Tutu Storybook Bible)

Hear: I wonder what the night sounded like as the wise people followed the star to Jesus?

Imagine: It is said that the wise people brought three gifts to Jesus, but we actually aren’t sure about how many wise people came to visit Jesus. Imagine many people from a far off place traveling a long distance to bring gifts to Jesus. I wonder what that journey was like?

Act: The wise people listened to the angel tell them to take a different way home. When have you listened very well to instructions?

IV. The Community Responds to the Word

Receiving Tithes and Offerings

Offertory “Born in the Night, Mary’s Child”

Youth Choir and Instrumentalists

*Response #607, “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Christ, all people here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise Holy Spirit evermore.

Praise Triune God, whom we adore.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

Alex Moore

Eternal God, through long generations You prepared a way for the coming of Your Son, and by your Spirit You still bring light to illumine our paths. Renew us in faith and hope that we may welcome Christ to claim our love. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Alex Moore

Leader: God of mystery and miracles, we pray for those lifted up on the Care-Prayer list and those out-loud in this congregation. We pray your light into the hard places of our lives; your presence gives us strength to endure when we are pushed beyond our own strength.

All: You find us when we are lost and, with love beyond our imagining, you lead us home.

Leader: All this you offer in and through Jesus Christ. Yet, we resist you. We resist loosening our tight grip on our lives. We hesitate to trust you for you may lead us where we do not want to go. You know the places in our hearts and in our minds where we are well-defended against your intrusions.

All: In this season of longing, grant us grace to bring all that we are to you, O Christ — all the broken places — all the lost wanderings — all the weariness from trying to live lives that are pleasing to you.

Leader: Hold them all in the fullness of your love. Then, be born in us, that we may find our home, our life, our joy in You, Lord of light and love. Together, joined in one voice, we pray the Lord’s Prayer.

All: 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:

#134, “Joy to the World”

Antioch

(The Youth Choir will lead the first verse. We ask that the congregation join in singing the following verses. Please stand if, you are able, after the youth sing.)

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

Benediction

Postlude

“Hark! The Herald-Angels Sing”

Felix Mendelssohn, arr. Willcocks