

Adult Sunday School	
Adventures in Prayer	Today, 10:20 a.m., Lincoln Chapel
Maybe you are new to prayer. Maybe prayer is as natural to you as breathing. This class, meeting in the Lincoln Chapel at 10:20 a.m., is for everyone and anyone who takes prayer seriously. We learn together and pray together. All questions, joys and concerns are welcome. Come when you can.	

Preaching Schedule	
January 3	Rev. Roger J. Gench
January 10	Rev. Alice Rose Tewell

	<b>11:00 a.m.</b>
Liturgist	Betsy Merritt
Tour Guide	Len Shabman

Counters	
December 29	Ruth and Fritz von Fleckenstein

	Ministers:	The Entire Congregation
	Pastor:	Roger Joseph Gench, Ph.D.
	Associate Pastor:	Alice Rose Tewell, M. Div.
	Director of Music:	Stanley P. Engebretson, D.M.A.
	Director of McClendon Scholar in Residence Program:	Theo Brown, M. Div.
	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. Linda LeSourd Lader, M. Div.
	Director of Dance:	Kathryn Sparks, M.T.S.
	Young Adult Volunteer:	Angela Williams; Community Club and Radcliffe Room

### 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 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](mailto:nyavefoundation@gmail.com)

**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](mailto: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@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, and other fellowship or service activities (or to be added to the e-mail list), contact Richard Snyder ([snyder.richard@gmail.com](mailto:snyder.richard@gmail.com)) or Benno Lauer ([benno.lauer@gmail.com](mailto:benno.lauer@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, Laura Asiala, 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/1OFPh6r>. 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 27, 2015

11 a.m.

First Sunday After Christmas

### Prelude

Partita on "In dulci Jubilo" (Chorale and Movements I-V)  
Raymond H. Haan

### Introit

"Sweet Little Jesus Boy"  
Robert MacGimsey  
Whitney McColley, Soprano

### \*Lincoln Chimes

## I. The Community Gathers for Worship

**Call to Worship** *(drawn from Colossians 3:5-11 by Bryan Wren)*

Leader: We meet to worship God, whose Word has been born among us.

**All: Amen! Alleluia!**

Leader: From the cradle, the cross, and the empty tomb, Christ calls us,

**All: To put away ways of the world and instead follow ways of the Christ.**

Leader: For now we have clothed ourselves with the new self that is being renewed in the image of its creator.

**All: In that renewal there is no division between any people, for we are all one in Jesus Christ. Amen! Alleluia!**

### \*Opening Hymn

#152, (verses 1-3) "What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright"  
Puer Nobis Nascitur

### Prayer of Confession

O Holy One, we call to You and name you as eternal, ever-present, and boundless in love. Yet there are times, O God, when we fail to recognize You in the dailyness of our lives. Sometimes shame clenches tightly around our hearts, and we hide our true feelings. Sometimes fear makes us small, and we miss the chance to speak from our strength. Sometimes doubt invades our hopefulness, and we degrade our own wisdom. Christ, alive among us, as we draw near to You, rule us with Your peace, so that clothed in love, we may bear with one another, forgive as we have been forgiven and be thankful in Your name. Amen.

### Silent Confession

### Assurance of Pardon

*\*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

Rev. Roger Gench: [rfgench@mindspring.com](mailto:rfgench@mindspring.com)

Rev. Alice Tewell: [alice.tewell@nyapc.org](mailto:alice.tewell@nyapc.org)

Rev. Beth Braxton: [revbeth.braxton@gmail.com](mailto:revbeth.braxton@gmail.com)

Rev. Ann Davie: [annrosedavie@gmail.com](mailto:annrosedavie@gmail.com)

Rev. Linda LeSourd Lader: [Linda.Lader@gmail.com](mailto:Linda.Lader@gmail.com)

Theo Brown: [dialogdays@aol.com](mailto:dialogdays@aol.com)

Catherine Schultheis: [ceks12601@yahoo.com](mailto:ceks12601@yahoo.com)

Jasmine Jowers, Church Administrator: [jasmine.jowers@nyapc.org](mailto:jasmine.jowers@nyapc.org)

Jan Maheras, Staff Accountant: [janet.maheras@nyapc.org](mailto:janet.maheras@nyapc.org)

Cheria Mcmillan, Office Associate: [cheria.mcmillan@nyapc.org](mailto:cheria.mcmillan@nyapc.org)

Angela Williams, Young Adult Volunteer: [angela.williams@nyapc.org](mailto:angela.williams@nyapc.org)

**\*Response**

#152, (verse 4) "What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright"  
Puer Nobis Nascitur  
**O Jesus, while the star of grace  
impels us on to seek your face,  
let not our slothful hearts refuse  
the guidance of your light to use.**

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

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

**First Lesson**

Colossians 3:12-17, page 190, NRSV  
Leader: This is the word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

"I Wonder as I Wander"  
John Jacob Niles

**Time for Children and Their Friends**

**Second Lesson**

Luke 2:41-52, pages 55-56, NRSV  
Leader: This is the word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

**"Wisdom"** Rev. Roger J. Gench

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

**\*Sermon Hymn**

#144, "In the Bleak Midwinter"  
Cranham

**Concerns of the Church**

**Giving of Morning Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory**

"Piping Tune of the Shepherds"  
Ralph E. Marryott

**\*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**

Youthful Jesus, sitting among the teachers, asking and answering questions, by Your spirit move us to act in Your name as we dedicate these gifts to You today. Inspire us to ask the deep questions of faith that we may grow in the asking, in Your Holy name 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.**

**\*Passing of the Peace**

**\*Sending Hymn**

#136, "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"  
Go Tell It

**Refrain Go, Tell It on the Mountain, over the hills and  
everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**  
**1 While shepherds kept their watching  
o'er silent flocks by night, behold,  
throughout the heavens  
there shone a holy light. (Refrain)**  
**2 The shepherds feared  
and trembled when lo!  
above the earth rang out the angel chorus  
that hailed our Savior's birth. (Refrain)**  
**3 Down in a lowly manger  
the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)**

**\*Commissioning to Ministry and Benediction**

**\*Congregational Response**

**Alleluia! Amen!**

**Postlude**

Partita on "In dulci Jubilo" (Movement VI)  
Raymond H. Haan

**We wish to thank Whitney McColley and Daniel Stokes** for their participation in worship this morning. The Sanctuary Choir will return next week and Dr. Engebretson on January 10 after his New Year's concert tour in Germany.

**The Peace Candle on the chancel** reminds us to pray for *peace* around the world in this Christmas Season and for tolerance among and between religions.

**There will be no worship play today;** however, Rev. Alice has prepared a children's bulletin packet for the children and youth. Please pick up a copy in the back of the sanctuary.

**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.

**During part of the Advent and Christmastide Season, for 4 Sundays, we also join together for a single service. On Dec 13, 20, 27 and January 3 please join us for a single service at 11 am.** (Please note the change in time from previous years).

**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 [jthierry@erols.com](mailto:jthierry@erols.com) or 703-568-5158 for more information.

**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.

**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.–12:30p.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. **There is no worship play on December 13 or 24.**

**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 the New York Avenue Church 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!