2017 Advent Calendar

- Friday, December 22, 12 p.m.: Longest Night Memorial Service and Lunch (Memorial service for those who died while experiencing homelessness in DC in 2017).
- Sunday, December 24, Fourth Sunday of Advent: Service begins at 10:00 a.m. Rev. Roger J. Gench is preaching. No Sunday school.
- 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!

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, spencer@stjulioad.com.

Community Club – Washington D.C.’s oldest tutoring and mentorship program for underprivileged elementary school students needs adult volunteers to make a difference in a child’s life. Students and volunteers meet at the church each Thursday night during the school year. Contact Tom Karr or Shamina 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. Please contact Brian Schimming, nyafoundation@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 largest 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.

Reclife Room Ministry – Come join our homeless guests, Sundays, 8:15-9:45 a.m., for hymn singing, refreshments and conversation. Donations of un-opened, 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.

Triangle Park Committee – Working with the National Park Service to ensure maintenance and oversight of 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, njyvant3@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 (shambton@ncsu.edu) or Taylor Allison (taylorallison97@gmail.com).

NYAPC Parent’s Harvest – 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 the entire year and completing that pledge. It is a deep and personal congregational church act, and it is essential to the worship, service, and mission of this church! Members, affiliates, and friends are all invited to participate in Annual Stewardship. Please contact Lane Jameson, the church bookkeeper, Rachel Bordon and Kim Johnson, the chairs 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 meeting and then 15-20 minutes after, to chat with visitors and members during coffee time. For more details, visit http://1093PdrF. If you are interested in signing up for one (or more!) services, please contact Helen Anthony at shambton@ncsu.edu or Paul Dornan at pdhorrman@stjulioad.com.

Celebration of Worship

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

December 17, 2017

10 a.m.

Third Sunday of Advent

Lessons and Carols with Christmas Pageant

I. Preparing to Hear the Word

Prelude: “In dulci Jubilo” Traditional Carol

Introut: “Is ist ein Ros’” Art Petri Crisafulli

Jack Anderson, Flutist

II. The Community Gatherings for Worship

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

Children are invited to sit up front during the entire service and participate once we get to the 5th reading.

*Call to Worship and The Lighting of Advent Candles: The Candle of Joy Lightbearers

Mary Danewitz, John Yoder, Susan Danewitz, Enola, Alistair, and Ambrose Yoder-Danewitz

Shirley Yoder, Ron Yoder, Mary, Doug and Jack Anderson

Leader: Greetings in the name of Christ to this third Sunday of Advent. During Advent we watch and wait for Christ’s coming. We light the candle of hope looking for Christ’s reign over our world. We light the candle of peace bearing our call to be Christ’s peacemakers for the world. We light the candle of joy remembering that in the midst of darkness, we are called to rejoice that Christ’s light always shines.

All: Rejoice! Our Lord is coming into the darkness of oppression and exile to lead us to God’s kingdom of joy.

Leader: Hear the words of Isaiah 35: "The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.”

All: Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.”

*Opening Hymn: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Traditional Carol

I. Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Ven. Emmanual

III. The Community Hears the Word of God

The First Lesson

Annabel Rotchford

God tells Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise. Selections from Genesis Chapter 3 as told in the “Jesus Storybook Bible”

*Please stand if able
Prayer of Confession

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 trying to be happy and make others happy. 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

Veni Emmanuel

Passing of the Peace

Christmas Affirmation of Faith

Hymn

Veni Emmanuel

The Fifth Lesson

(Characters: Mary, Joseph, Angel)

The Angel Gabriel visits Mary. Luke 1:26-38, 38, as told in the Desmond Tutu Storybook Bible

Response

“Silent Night” Danced by Beth Clark Accompanied by David Clark, Saxophone

The Third Lesson

The Prophet foretells the coming of the Savior. Isaiah chapter 9.

Musical Selection

“The Holly and the Ivy” Youth Choir

The Fourth Lesson

The peace that Christ will bring is prophesied. Isaiah chapter 11 verses 1-6 from the Common English Bible

A Christmas Pageant Meditation

(Characters: Mary, Joseph, Angel)

The Fifth Lesson

(Characters: Mary, Joseph, Angel)

“A Maiden Most Gentle” a traditional French carol Traditional Arr. Carter. Youth Choir

Offering of Dance

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” Veni Emmanuel

The Ninth Lesson

(Characters: Mary, Joseph, Angel)

John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation. Luke Chapter 1 from the NRSV.

* Sending Hymn:

#134, “Joy to the World”

All are invited to 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 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, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
Come, lets make this blessing 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

Friends, go in peace. Be steadfast in faith. Live in harmony with one another. And may the God of hope fill You with all joy and peace in believing, so that You may abound in hope, peace, and joy by the power of the Holy Spirit. Alleluia! Amen!

Postlude

“Sussex Carol” arranged by Peter Crisafulli

Jack Anderson, Flutist

The Liturgy for this service is adapted from Advent, Christmas and Epiphany: Liturgies and Prayers for Public Worship by Brian Wren and from shared resources on the Young Clergy Women’s Project.

The Peace Candle in the cathedral reminds us to pray for Joy of the Season on this third Sunday of Advent, that joy will come to the hearts of all regardless of circumstances and situation—Joy to the World, may the Savior reign!

*Prayer of Dedication

Lauren Gillies

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

The Ninth Lesson

(Characters: Mary, Joseph, Angel)

John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation. Luke Chapter 1 from the NRSV.

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