

UNIVERSITY



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CHAPEL HILL, NORTH CAROLINA

December 8, 2019
Second Sunday of Advent
8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Joseph G. Donders

John came out of the desert to preach. The wilderness he preached in was his own country.

A wilderness not coming from the hands of God, but a jungle caused by innumerable human decisions that were wrong, short-sighted, and selfish; decisions that had created havoc in the lives of many. It was in that jungle that John preached and baptized.

As long as we think about John like that – preaching in his own country two thousand years ago – his preaching remains distant and very far away. Let us try to get that wilderness and also John's word nearer to home, so that it can cut us to the bone.

THE ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Johann Sebastian Bach
1685-1750

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland BWV 659
(Come, Savior of the Nations)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please sign the Worship Register and pass it on to your neighbor.

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Ben and Betsy Edwards (8:30)

Peter Compton, Garrett Hubbard, Rabea Pfaff, Chris Morgan (11:00)

I am waiting for peace.

So are we.

We are weary of war and wedges that drive us apart.

Look, a glimmer of hope, and a small glimmer of peace.

It is enough.

Like moths to a flame,

**We cannot resist light that draws us close,
and binds us together.**

*HYMN 106 “Prepare the Way, O Zion” *Bereden Vag For Herran*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

True confession: most of the time

we feel pretty good about ourselves.

The problem, we say, is something or someone else.

We catch ourselves saying things like

“If only everyone else would...”

But when you appear, O God,

not one of us can stand before you blameless.

No amount of resume padding will change that.

Prepare us for your arrival.

Purify us of all that resists you.

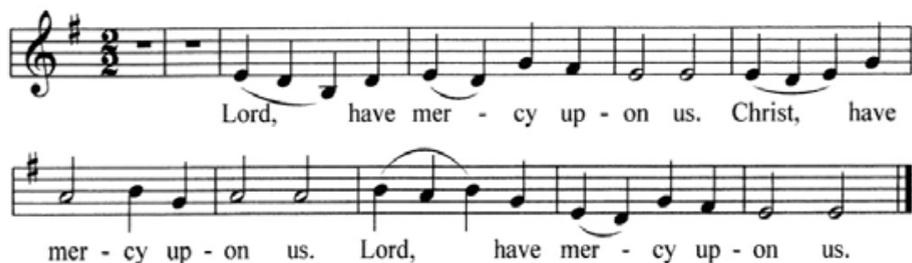
Refine us like silver until we reflect

nothing but your more perfect image.

*Silent Confession

*Kyrie Eleison

Arr. David N. Johnson



Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have
mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11:00) Maximillian (Max) Winston Poteat

*THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

The congregation is invited to exchange the peace of Christ with one another, greeting each other with the words above.

*Response of Praise

(Hymnal, 110)

**Love is born! Come, share in the wonder
Love is God now asleep in the hay.
See the glow in the eyes of his mother;
What is the name her heart is saying
Love! Love! Love is the name she whispers.
Love! Love! Jesus, Emmanuel.**

THE WORD

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Children, three-years old through third-graders, are invited to come to the front of the Sanctuary for Time with Children. Children under three are invited to come forward with a parent.

**He came down that we may have peace.
He came down that we may have peace.
He came down that we may have peace.
Hallelujah, forevermore.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Malachi 3:1-4, pp. 889-890
(Children's Bible, p. 1107)

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Luke 3:7-9, p. 60
(Children's Bible, p. 1186)

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"I Love You, But..."

Jarrett McLaughlin

Time is provided following the sermon for a few moments of personal reflection and prayer.

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

(*Hymnal*, 145)

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!**

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**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.**

THE SENDING

*HYMN 83 “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” *Stuttgart*

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL AMEN (11:00) William Smith
1603-1645

*ORGAN POSTLUDE

**You are invited to stand, as able.*

Welcome to the Fellowship of University Presbyterian Church

SUNDAY MORNING CHILDCARE is available during both worship services for infants, toddlers, and preschool children, who will be welcomed by our nursery staff. Nursery child check-in is downstairs in room 134. Infants are welcome in the Sanctuary, but the parlor is a wonderful place to calm an anxious baby. A special part of our service is the Time with Children, when they are invited to join the pastor on the chancel steps for a message that connects the worship of the day with their unique understanding.

DURING THE 11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE, UPC offers Godly Play for kindergarteners and children who are age four (as of September 1). This is a time of storytelling, wondering, and creative play. Following the Time with Children, kindergarteners and four-year-olds go with the Godly Play Assistant through the door to the left of the pulpit to the Godly Play room. Please contact the Staff Associate for Children’s Ministries, Nancy Myer, at nancy@upcch.org or (919) 929-2102 if there is anything we can do to enhance the Sunday morning experience for your entire family.

THE WORSHIP BULLETIN, the weekly calendar, the announcements and UPC’s newsletter are posted on the church Website at www.upcch.org.

Worship Notes

AS A COURTESY TO OTHERS, please turn off or silence all cellular phones, pagers, and other electronic devices for the duration of worship.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP TODAY: *Preacher*: Jarrett McLaughlin, Co-Pastor. *Liturgist*: Kate Fiedler, Associate Pastor for Adult Ministries. *Choir Director and Organist*: Thomas Brown, Minister of Music.

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY: **At 8:30**: *Greeter*: Nancy Avery. *Ushers*: Lewis and Maggie Morris (captains), Bob and Dana Greenwood. **At 11:00**: *Greeters*: Matt, Jennifer, Campbell, Fletcher, and Harrison Yost. *Ushers*: Lawrence Sizemore (captain), Bob Johnson, Tom Bouldin, Alison, Patrick, and Charles Kavanaugh, Deborah Jones, Christie and Chuck Osborne. *Godly Play Leaders*: Beth Furr, Sam Schilling. *Handicapped Parking Assistant*: Ken Krzyzewski.

THE FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY today are given by the Bevin family in loving memory of Priscilla D. Bevin, who died on this date 10 years ago.

THIS MORNING'S ORGAN MUSIC: The Organ Voluntary is one of Bach's greatest Advent chorale preludes. *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland* (Come, Savior of the Nations) is based on the tune adapted from a plainsong melody first found in the *Einseidein Hymnal* of the twelfth or thirteenth century; the form of the melody Bach uses in this work was included in the *Erfurt Enchirida*, 1524. The text is one of twelve definitely ascribed to Ambrose (240-297). As with many Advent hymns of the period, *Nun komm* is cast in a minor key, symbolic of the juxtaposition of the joyous anticipation of Christ's birth and the inevitability of the cross. This setting is particularly famous for Bach's use of a 'walking bass' line, suggesting Christ's footsteps to Calvary. The highly ornamented (and thus disguised) melody has been interpreted as being "expressive of the impenetrable mystery of the Incarnation of God's Son." The 8:30 Offertory is from the pen of German composer Helmut Walcha (1907-1991) and is evocative of the Baroque *Pastorale*, the music made by southern Italian shepherds in the cities during Advent and Christmas, playing traditional Italian bagpipes and shawms (piffero) in imitation of the shepherds in the Christmas story. The beloved Advent/Christmas carol heard at 11:00 first appeared in the *Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng* of 1599, and harmonized by Michael Schultze in 1609. (Praetorius is the Latinized form of the family name.)

NEW MEMBERS WELCOMED TODAY: David and Gwenda Hanselman; Brian and Sarah Meacham, (Claire and Luke), 2004 Camden Lane, Chapel Hill, NC 27516, 919-537-8330 [8]; Janet McDowell, 200 Bridge Street, Hillsborough, NC 27278, 540-521-1000 [1] Max Poteat, 1199 Cypress Rd, Chapel Hill, NC 27517, 919-265-7052 [9] (neighborhood assignments are designated within brackets).

HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACES are set aside on Sunday directly in front of the church on Franklin Street, and four spaces are available in the church parking lot off Robertson Lane. Additional spaces in the parking lot are designated between 10:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m. Please reserve these spaces for those with handicap parking permits.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND HYMNALS and portable hearing devices are available every Sunday in the narthex. For your convenience, UPC deacons have provided individual seat cushions that are available in a basket in the narthex. Please return cushions to the basket after using. If you need assistance or have questions, please ask an usher on Sunday morning.

PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON ROBERTSON LANE. It is fine to park in the designated pull-in parking spaces, but the road itself is a fire lane and must be kept clear. Thank you for your understanding.



Welcome to University Presbyterian Church

News and Opportunities
December 8, 2019

Stewardship Update

As we move into Advent, we are grateful for stewardship pledges that have already been made, and hopeful that more will follow. Please consider supporting the mission and ministry of UPC with a financial contribution. The Session will set the 2020 budget in January, so we are requesting that all pledges are submitted by December 31. If you plan to pledge, please do so today using the pledge cards in the pews or pledge securely online at upcch.org/stewardship. If you have questions, please ask clergy or members of the stewardship committee. We are grateful for your prayerful consideration and generosity!

Alternative Gift Market

The Alternative Gift Market, where you can purchase “green and sustainable Christmas gifts,” will have a table in the narthex today and December 15. Forms are available in the Parlor, Church Office, and on the website (on the “Resources and Forms” page). Checks or credit card only.

Christmas Caroling TODAY!

Children’s and Junior Choir members are invited to join us at the Carolina Meadows Lecture Hall (100 Whipoorwill Ln., Chapel Hill, NC 27517) this afternoon at 3:15 for Caroling and a holiday celebration! This will be a fun day, and it means a lot to the residents at Carolina Meadows.

Youth Choir and PYC members will gather in Dunham Hall at 5:00 to head out and surprise some members of our church community with song! We have a few vans for ease of transport and will need a few drivers to carpool. We’ll end our day with a holiday party and gift swap.

Montreat Worship and Music: Registration Open

Registration for this year’s Montreat Worship and Music conference (June 21-27, 2020) is now open! Please visit upcch.org/montreat-music for details! Montreat Worship and Music is open to all rising 4th graders through high school graduates and is a wonderful week of music and fellowship for our students. Scholarships are available. If you are interested in attending and would like more information, please join us for our informational meeting on Sunday, December 15 at 4:15 p.m. in Dunham Hall.

Gifts of Beauty and Bounty

Gifts of Beauty and Bounty order forms are due by noon on **Monday, December 16**. Join us this year as we honor and remember the special people in our lives by giving a poinsettia to decorate the chancel during Christmas or making a contribution to the Inter-Faith Council for Social Services. Or do both! The names of those we honor or remember will be in the bulletin on December 22. Order forms are in the narthex, or print your own at upcch.org/resources.

Presbyterian Women

All women of UPC are invited to attend PW Circles:

Circle 1: Wednesday, December 18, 7:00 p.m. Hostess: Kara Aycock, 224 Vance Street, (919) 593-4470

Presbyterian Youth Connection

All 6th-12th graders are invited to come Christmas Caroling this Sunday. Meet in Dunham Hall at 5:00 p.m. We'll load up in vans and cars and spread some holiday cheer to UPC members. We'll end up at the Vandersea Home for dinner (bring \$5 and check your weekly email for the address). If you'd like to participate in a mystery gift exchange, be sure to bring a wrapped gift (worth no more than \$5). Pickup is at the Vanderseas at 7:30 p.m. Contact Kim McNeill, Staff Associate for Youth Ministries with any questions at kim@upcch.org.

PYPs Fun During Chapel Hill Christmas Parade

Children and families are invited to join us on the UPC front lawn on Saturday, December 14, beginning at 9:30 a.m., for bag decorating and hot chocolate before the Chapel Hill Christmas parade. Bags and decorating supplies will be provided.

Presbyterian Women Service Project

Diaper Collection for Refugee Support Center (RSC): The Presbyterian Women (PW) will collect diapers for the RSC now through Sunday, December 29. We invite our UPC congregation to help support this outreach ministry in two ways:

1. Place diapers you purchase in boxes in the Church Parlor or Church Office. Please note that only size 6 diapers are needed from the UPC congregation.
2. You may write a check to UPC, designate in the memo line "Diaper project." Money collected will be used to buy diapers for the Center.

Thank you for supporting this project. Questions? Contact Vicki Lotz at vjlotz@live.unc.edu.

Gifts & Growth?

Stephen Minister training will equip you with the skills to show God's mercy, care, and compassion to another who is facing a challenge. You will walk with your care receiver, pray for him or her, and listen as they work through difficulties. Through this ministry, God will bring forth new gifts and renewed faith in both your care receiver and in you as a Stephen Minister. Is God calling you to serve and grow in this way? There will be a local Stephen Minister Training in early 2020. Please contact Winnie Morgan if you are interested in exploring being a Stephen Minister: winniewmorgan@juno.com.

Christmas Brunch

Save the date for UPC's annual Christmas Brunch! This year, the brunch will be held on Sunday, December 22, at 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The Congregational Life Committee and Deacons will co-host this potluck fellowship brunch. Beverages will be provided, and we ask that members of the congregation bring a breakfast dish to share. The Christmas Brunch will take the place of Second Sunday Lunch in December.

Adult Education: Today, 9:45-10:45

Connections: Understanding Faith Traditions: This week, the Rev. Meg Peery McLaughlin will discuss issues facing the church. This series will conclude with a return of the Rev. Bill Gattis on December 15. Rev. Gattis will discuss trends facing mainline denominations in the United States. Facilitators: Brad Geerdes and Vince Tollers. Location: Vance Barron Hall.

Faith and the Arts: A Celestial Omnibus: Short Fiction on Faith: Join the discussion this week about the story *Good Country People* by Flannery O'Connor. Next week, the class will discuss the short story *Christmas* by Vladimir Nabokov. Newcomers are welcome, always! Facilitator: Nancy Benjamin. Location: Terrace Room.

Living Out Our Faith: Crossroads Class: All are welcome to join the conversation about living our faith while balancing busy lives. The class discussions are based on each chapter of the book *Counterfeit Gods*. Come and share your experience and insights. Facilitators: Robert and Laura Owen. Location: Dunham Hall.

Earth Care

Great news from Orange County! Clamshell (hinged) #1 plastics are now recyclable in your curbside cart and at county recycling drop-off locations, along with #2, #4, and #5 plastics. Recyclables should be empty, clean, and dry. For more information, visit orangecountync.gov/recycling.

Special Worship Service: The Longest Night

The holidays can be holy for us and our loved ones. While things may be merry and bright for some, we may feel sadness and pain. For some, this time of year can be the loneliest of all times. The Longest Night is a service to acknowledge such feelings. Gather in our sanctuary with Stephen Ministers for words of comfort, prayers for hope, candles, gentle music, silence, and the spiritual food of communion. We invite those who long for community and quiet worship to join us for this service on Sunday, December 22, at 5:30 p.m. If this holiday season finds you mourning the loss of a loved one, coping with periods of darkness, seeking quiet contemplative space, or longing to be of support for those in need of healing, there is a place for you here.

How Can I Rejoice When I Hurt?

Life crises don't take a vacation during the holidays. If you are dealing with issues that a listening ear and a caring Christian heart would make this seasonal journey easier, contact Meg Peery McLaughlin at meg@upcch.org to decide whether a Stephen Minister would be good for you. Learn more at upcch.org/stephen-ministry. Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers, ready to listen, care for, and encourage you; pray with and for you; and provide one-to-one Christian care.

Announcement from the Larger Community

Join other members of the community to discuss issues facing our local criminal justice system. All are invited to attend: Orange County Criminal Justice Reform Community Forum with Keynote: Jonathan Rapping, "Rewriting the Criminal Justice Narrative" on Saturday, December 14 from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. at the Chapel Hill Public Library.

This Week and Next at University Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 8

- 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Services (Nursery: Room 130/134)
9:30 Coffee on the Landing
9:45-10:45 Sunday School for all ages
3:15 Children's and Junior Choir Caroling:
 Carolina Meadows
4:00-5:00 UPC Worship Service: Carolina Meadows
4:00-4:45 Children's & Junior Choirs Holiday Party:
 Carolina Meadows
5:00 Youth Choir & PYC Caroling:
 Meet in Dunham Hall

Monday, December 9

- 5:00 Local Outreach: Vance Barron Hall
6:00 Administration Committee:
 Youth Room (#136)

Tuesday, December 10

- 10:00 Bulletin announcement deadline

Wednesday, December 11

- 9:30-11:30 Spiritual Formation: Room 215
7:15-9:15 Chancel Choir:
 Priscilla D. Bevin Memorial Choir Suite

Thursday, December 12

- 6:30-9:00 Session meeting (Officer Examination):
 Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 14

- 9:30-10:30 PYPs Hot Chocolate: UPC Front Lawn

Sunday, December 15

- 8:30 & 11:00 Worship Services (Nursery: Room 130/134)
9:30 Coffee on the Landing
9:45-10:45 Sunday School for all ages
12:00-1:00 Earth Care Team: Dunham Hall
12:00 *The Chimes* content deadline
2:30-5:00 PYC Small Groups
3:45-4:10 Children's Choir:
 Priscilla D. Bevin Memorial Choir Suite
4:00-5:00 UPC worship service: Carol Woods
4:15-5:00 Montreat Worship & Music Info Meeting
4:15-4:50 Junior Choir:
 Priscilla D. Bevin Memorial Choir Suite
5:00-6:00 Youth Choir:
 Priscilla D. Bevin Memorial Choir Suite

**Remember, there is FREE parking at the
Rosemary Street parking deck on Sundays.**

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