



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
11:00 AM DECEMBER 3, 2017

614 Griffis Street, Cary, NC 27511
(919) 467-8700

www.carypresbyterian.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Gathering Chime

Prelude

Hope

Welcome and Announcements

(Please sign the Welcome Book and pass it to your neighbor.)

Congregational Introit *Hope is a Star*

Fogg

(When invited, please join the choir in singing the refrain)

When God is a child there's joy in our song.

***The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.***

*Call to Worship

(* Please stand as you are able.)

One: O come let us worship and lift our hearts...

**All: Not because the world is good
and last week was awesome,
but because the earth is the Lord's
and everything in it, the God of the whole Earth.**

One: O come let us worship and raise our hands...

**All: Not because our lives are all sweetness and light,
But because even those who walk in darkness
can see a great light, the Bright and Morning Star.**

*Hymn

The Days Are Surely Coming

No. 357

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

One: God of hope, all year long we pursue power and money,

All: yet you came in weakness, as a child.

One: All season long we want more stuff, more for us,

All: but you alone offer what is lasting.

One: When we allow darkness to overcome the light,

All: forgive us, Lord.

One: When we reduce Christmas to plastic and tinsel,

All: have mercy on us, Holy Spirit.

One: When hardness of heart keeps us from seeing
and believing in Your Song,

All: let your grace fill us, O God.

One: Merciful God,

**All: Forgive us and renew our hopes in Christ,
that we may watch and wait and once more hear
the glad story of our Savior.**

Silent Confession

***Response to Confession**

For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits (refrain) No. 89

***For you, O Lord, my soul in stillness waits:
truly my hope is in you.***

***Words of Assurance**

One: Through the work of Jesus,
who comes among us full of grace and truth,

**All: we are forgiven and made whole.
Then open our lips, that we may sing
praise with the angels.**

***Response of Praise**

He Came Down

No. 137

***He came down that we may have light;
He came down that we may have light;
He came down that we may have light;
hallelujah, forevermore.***

***Sharing the Peace**

One: May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you,

All: and also with you.

One: Let us share that peace with one another.

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading

Mark 13:24-37

NT, pp. 50, 51

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm Singing *O Hear Our Cry, O Lord (Psalm 80)* No. 355
(Please remain seated)

Old Testament Reading Isaiah 64:1-8 OT, pp. 694, 695

Homily *Handy Work* Lori Pistor

Affirmation of Faith

One: We believe in God, creator and lover of the earth,
origin and destiny of us all.

We believe in Jesus the Christ—

**All: God coming to us in the fragile promise
of a baby yet unborn—**

who emerges as the herald of hope,

God's laughter in the face of despair.

Plunged into death and hell,

he broke free the captives,

and is leading the way to the land of promise

where justice and peace will flourish.

One: We believe in the Holy Spirit,

All: who implants the seed of truth,

brings us to birth as the body of Christ,

and empowers us to confront and transform

all that is corrupt, degrading and deceitful.

One: We believe in the coming reign of God.

All: Announced by the Baptist,

it has drawn near to us in Jesus,

and will be consummated

in the glorious marriage of earth and heaven,

when all who have passed through

the world's deep sorrow

will be raised from the waters,

robed in righteousness,

and gathered into the joyous fulfilment

of God's desire.

One: For the coming of that day on this day,
we work and pray:

All: Come, Lord Jesus, Come!

Time with Our Children

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candle: Hope

*Congregational Fellowship (Kitchen Kats)
First candle is lit.*

**All: Loving God, as we enter this Advent season,
We open all the dark places in our lives
and memories to the healing light of Christ.
Show us the creative power of hope.
Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you,
That we may walk in the light of Christ.**

Hymn *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (v. 1)* No. 85

***Light one candle to watch for Messiah:
let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel,
God fulfils the promise.***

Offering of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory Anthem *Advent Canticle* *arr. Wagner*
Chancel Choir

*Watchman, tell us of the night. What glad tidings do you bring?
Will it be a glorious sight? Will the church bells ring?
Will the angels sing?*

*Watchman, will the King appear, Son of God, for all to see?
Will it be a midnight clear? He comes for you and me,
to live and set us free.*

*Alleluia, alleluia. Lo, he comes, Blessed One.
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to Thee, O Israel.*

*Watchman, will the King appear? Son of God, for all to see.
Will it be a midnight clear? He comes for you and me,
to live and set us free*

Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

(Please write any Joys and Concerns in the Narthex Prayer Book)

Hymn of Preparation

*For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits (vv. 1&4) No. 89
(Choir will sing verses; congregation joins in refrain.)*

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: In the beginning you spoke and at your word your Spirit moved over the waters, bringing order, light, and life out of chaos. By your hands you formed our bodies and knit together our inward parts in your image and breathed breath and life into us. When we turn away from you and our love fails, your love remains constant. You lead us through the deep and chaotic waters and you call us from our scattered lives to community and hope.

Therefore, with choirs of angels and archangels and with those of every time and place, we give you praise and glory:

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the hymn: "Praise we sing to Christ the Lord, vir-gin's son, in-car-nate Word!". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "To the ho-ly Trin-i-ty praise we sing e-ter-nal-ly." The notes are simple, using quarter and eighth notes, with some rests.

Hymn: *Savior of the Nations, Come
(Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland)*

No. 102

One: Holy, mighty and tender God, in time you sent Jesus of Nazareth and in him we saw your promises made flesh. Dwelling among us good news was seen and heard and our world transformed. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

In his suffering, death and resurrection, he delivered us from sin and darkness and revealed a living and redeeming hope for all people. And when he ascended into heaven, your Holy Spirit came to be our Counselor and Comforter.

Remembering Christ's life, love, death, and resurrection, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**All: Christ was promised. Christ was born.
Christ has died.**

Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

One: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and cup, that the bread we break and the cup we share may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, world without end.

As Christ taught his disciples we now pray together:

**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.**

Words of Institution

Keeping the Feast *Communion will be received in the pews.
Take and hold the bread; then as one body all will eat together.
Take and hold a cup; then all will drink together, in one Spirit.*

*Prayer after Communion

**Eternal God, we thank you for this holy mystery
in which you have given yourself to us.
Send us into the world in hope and peace
for we have seen, have heard,
and been fed by your grace.
Keep us faithful and alert for signs of Christ's
coming and lead us to live lives
marked by truth and light, so that we may eat
and drink together in your eternal dominion
of hope, peace, joy and love. Amen.**

*Hymn

My Lord! What a Morning
Congregation and choir to sing refrain;
Choir to sing vv. 1&2; v. 3 by all.

No. 352

*Benediction and Blessing

One: Take time, in the busyness of this season,
for quiet reflection— for the light of God's love
is discernible everywhere.

**All: We will let ourselves be surprised by wonder,
and set aside time to offer quiet thanks.**

One: The good news of Advent is this:
Christ is coming. Christ is always coming.

**All: We will welcome Christ into our hearts.
We will let ourselves be guided by his ministry.
We will go forth from this place in hope.**

***Response** *My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout (refrain) No. 100*
My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.

*Postlude

Fantasy in A Minor

Bach

After worship, the Officer of the Day will be available
at the Chancel steps to answer any questions
for visitors and CPC members.
Today's Officer of the Day (11:00): Jerry Slaymaker

Today's Service Participants (11:00)
Minister: Rev. Lori Pistor, Rev. Mitzi Leshner-Thomas
Director of Music: Ed Yasick
Choir: Chancel Choir
Children's Worship Leader: Jennifer Pierce
Acolyte: Lucy Rodriguez
Lay Reader: Matt Donkin
Bus Driver: Shane Pierce
Sound: John Campbell
Counters: Brian Short and Jane Dunbar

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS
Adult Sunday School Classes

Next Week, December 10:

Faith TODAY: Rm 100 A unique look at racism will be shared through the resource 'Shout,' performance art and poetry, with Rev. Deky Hall leading.
Young Families: Rm 102 Discussing future directions for this class
Bible and Beyond: Library
Adult I: Parlor
Connections I: Rm. 209 See Medora Hix about forming other Connections Classes

December 17:

The King and Me: Fellowship Hall All classes attend CPC youth presentation of this year's Christmas Musical Pageant



Angel Tree

The Angel Tree for Loaves and Fishes families is in the Narthex.

Gift suggestions are available for preschool, elementary, and middle school students. Unwrapped gifts should be returned to the tree area by December 10. Some donations may be placed with the Pride for Parents Store, where vetted low-income families in Southeast Raleigh may shop for discounted gifts. You may also provide Gift Cards or checks made out to Loaves and Fishes. A container is available for these donations, or you may place them in Barbara Turner's office mailbox.

Thank you for assuring that these families will be blessed at Christmas.

Announcements and Opportunities

Fair Trade News: Please stop by the Fair Trade table outside the Fellowship Hall, *between the two worship services today.* We will be open from 9:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Come and support Esperanza and Fair Trade farmers around the world while you whittle down your Christmas list. We have coffee and tea gift sets from \$10 to \$30 and smaller gifts of chocolate and tea from \$2 to \$6. We accept cash, checks, and credit/debit cards.

Triple F Group Christmas Luncheon will be on Tuesday, December 5, at 11:00 a.m. at Embassy Suites, Cary.

Presbyterian Women's Annual Christmas Dinner is Tuesday, December 5, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All women of the church are invited to attend. We will enjoy a potluck dinner. (Please bring a side-dish to share.) After dinner we will wrap gifts for graduate families of The Caring Place. Other CPC members can help the graduate Cary Place families by donating gift cards for food or gas. You may put the gift cards in the envelope marked "Gift Cards" in the PW slot in the office.

Presbyterian Men's Caroling will be Thursday, December 7. Meet at 6:30 p.m. at church for warm-up, perform at Glenaire from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and then visit members door-to-door in the community.

Esperanza Guatemala News: Discover the many wonderful things that happened during our recent trip, from the scholarship ceremony, to a new water system coming to the town, to our dinner! We want to share all this, so an informal session will be held following worship, December 10. A light lunch of beans and rice (bring your favorite toppings!) will be served. During the service, you will hear the sermon and children's time offered in Nimasac.

Hurricane Relief Trip: There will be another trip to Tarboro/Princeville on Monday, Dec. 11 to assist with hurricane recovery efforts. If you would like to go or have any questions, contact Sally Goettel at sgoettel@nc.rr.com.



December 17 at 9:45 a.m. in the CPC Fellowship Hall

Join CPC youth as they take an imaginative look at events in Bethlehem around the time of Jesus' birth, and at the Good News for all to share.

Gather in...



A Generosity Reminder

Please be sure to return your Planned Giving Card and Time & Talent Form. You may leave your information in the church office, place it in the offering plate, or pledge online now at this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/9uv8jhj>

Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT CARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, December 3 First Sunday of Advent	8:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Worship Service and Communion Sunday School/All Ages Inquiring Minds Brunch (FH) Worship Service and Communion MS Youth Group (MS Room) Art Night: Be The Hands Plaster Project SH Youth Group (SH Room) Selfie Scavenger Hunt No CA Youth Group this week
Monday, December 4	9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Pastoral Care Team (Office) Staff Meeting (Office) Deacons Meeting (102) Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team (P)
Tuesday, December 5	10:30 a.m. 4:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Connections Book Group (P) Presbyterian Women Christmas Dinner and Wrapping for Carying Place Gifts (FH) Cool Books Club (Peg Giesbrecht's home) Boy Scout Troop 232 (101, 103, 105) Strength, Hope, and Healing (AI-Anon) (Library)
Wednesday, December 6	7:30 p.m.	Choir Practice (Choir Room)
Thursday, December 7	6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Men's Caroling (meet at church) Stephen Ministry (100, 102, 106)
Friday, December 8	9:00 a.m.	Centering Prayer Group (P)
Saturday, December 9	No Activities Scheduled	
Sunday, December 10 Second Sunday of Advent	8:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Worship Service Sunday School/All Ages Worship Service CA Youth Group: Caroling with MS Group MS Youth Group: Caroling with CAs SH Parent Meeting: Stressbusters SH Youth Group (SH Room) Stressbusters

Please place your completed Poinsettia Order Page
in the Offering Plate. Thank you!



Through the generosity of someone who wishes to remain anonymous, this year's poinsettias are being donated to the church for use in worship during Advent and Christmastide. Thus, the \$15 you

contribute toward the purchase of each poinsettia in honor or memory of loved ones, and/or to the glory of God, will be used for the ministers' discretionary funds to help families in need throughout our community. A portion will also go to help support our sanctuary flower fund. Your gift of Christmas beauty will be acknowledged in our Christmas Eve bulletins, including the dedication that you indicate on your order form. Thank you for your faithful support.

Name _____

Telephone _____ e-mail _____

Qty: ____ Poinsettia plants @ **\$15 each** = \$ _____

If you wish to dedicate these poinsettias, please complete the following:

Qty. ____ In honor or memory of _____

Qty. ____ In honor or memory of _____

Qty. ____ In honor or memory of _____

PLEASE SUBMIT PAYMENT WITH YOUR ORDER. Mark your check "Poinsettia" (payable to Cary Presbyterian Church) and place it in an envelope in the offering plate or drop it by the church office. All orders must be received in the church office no later than December 17.