



*Advent by Roger Hutchison*

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**8:30 AM & 11:00 AM DECEMBER 9, 2018**  
614 Griffis Street, Cary, NC 27511  
(919) 467-8700  
[www.carypresbyterian.org](http://www.carypresbyterian.org)

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

## Gathering Chime

**Prelude**            *O Thou, Come of God the Father*            Bach

## Welcome and Announcements

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

**Introit**                            *Advent Alleluia*                            Joncas

*(Congregation joins in singing the refrain.)*

Hal - le - lu - ia, hal - le - lu - ia,  
hal - le - lu - ia, hal - le - lu - ia!

## \*Call to Worship and Lighting of the Advent Candle

*(\* Please stand as you are able.)*

One: We lit the first candle for courage.

**All: We light a light to await God's coming.**

One: We light a light with longing for God to set  
the world trembling.

**All: We light a light to hold out hope for God's mercy.**

One: We light a light for the promise of new dreams  
and visions by God's spirit.

**All: We light the second Advent candle as we prepare  
our hearts for the coming of God.**

**\*Hymn**            *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past (vv. 1-4)*            No. 687

## \*Call to Confession

**\*Prayer of Confession**

**God of life and light, we live with tunnel vision. We see only what is right around us—our worries, our to-do lists, our concerns. Break open Your light, so that we would see others around us. Break open Your light, so we might experience the joy and wonder of the season. Break open Your light, so that we might walk on the path of peace, justice, and mercy, that you have laid before us. In the name of Christ, who is breaking into our lives in a new way, we pray. Amen.**

*Silent Confession*

**\*Response**      *Comfort, Comfort, Now My People (v. 2)*      No. 87

*For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near,  
Calling us to true repentance, since the reign of God is here.  
O, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God away.  
Let the valleys rise in meeting and the hills bow down in greeting.*

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Response**      *Comfort, Comfort, Now My People (v. 1)*      No. 87

*"Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!" So says our God.  
"Comfort those who sit in darkness mourning under sorrow's load.  
To my people now proclaim that my pardon waits for them!  
Tell them that their sins I cover, and their warfare now is over."*

**\*Sharing the Peace of Christ (11:00 a.m.)**

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**

**Old Testament Reading** Malachi 3:1-4      OT, pp. 889, 890

One: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

*Benedictus*

Alan Bancroft

**\*Affirmation of Faith** From *A Brief Statement of Faith*

**In a broken and fearful world,  
the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.  
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,  
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks  
and to live holy and joyful lives,  
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,  
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

**\*Hymn** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vv. 1, 2, 6, 7)* No. 88

**Time with Our Children**

**Offering of Tithes and Gifts**

**Offertory** *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*  
Chancel Choir *arr. McCullough*  
*Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,  
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.  
Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king;  
Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thy all sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne.*

**\*Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 608

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God, whom we adore.***

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Prayers of Joy and Concern and the Lord's Prayer** p.35

*Lord in your goodness: Hear our praise; Lord in your mercy: Hear our 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.**

**\*Hymn**

*Prepare the Way, O Zion*

No. 106

**Benediction**

**Congregational Meeting** (*following 11:00 a.m. Worship*)

**Postlude**

*Prelude in G Minor*

Bach

After worship, the Officers of the Day will be available  
at the Chancel steps to answer any questions  
for visitors and CPC members.

Today's Officers of the Day

8:30: Rhonda Carlile; 11:00: Kevin Steidinger



*The flowers in the sanctuary this week  
are given by Evie and Tom Timney  
to the glory of God and in loving memory  
of Mom and Dad Timney.*

**Congregational Meeting after 11:00 a.m. Worship Today**

The Session of Cary Presbyterian Church has called a Congregational Meeting for Sunday, December 9, following 11:00 a.m. worship for the purpose of receiving a report and motion from the Nominations Committee regarding the election of the Pastor Nominating Committee.

*In Search of Our Dwelling Places (1st Stanza)*

*by Ann Weems*

*In each heart lies a Bethlehem,  
an inn where we must ultimately answer  
whether there is room or not.*

*When we are Bethlehem-bound  
we experience our own advent in his.*

*When we are Bethlehem-bound  
we can no longer look the other way  
conveniently not seeing stars  
not hearing angel voices.*

*We can no longer excuse ourselves by busily  
tending our sheep or our kingdoms.*

**Today's Service Participants**

**Ministers:** Rev. Lori Pistor, Rev. Alan Bancroft

**Director of Music:** Ed Yasick

**Choir:** Chancel Choir

**Children in Worship:** Honor Rackley

**Acolyte:** 11:00 – Mary Holloway

**Youth Reader:** 8:30 – Mary Blake Herring; 11:00 – Mariella Derwart

**Lay Reader:** 8:30 – Susan Birchfield; 11:00 – Beverly Tompkins

**Bus Driver:** David Winkler

**Sound:** 8:30 – Sam Witherspoon; 11:00 – Hunter Piermont

**Ushers:** 8:30 – Beth Cleveland and Rhonda Carlile

11:00 – Lloyd Hinnant, Jane Dunbar, Jim Kurz, and Kevin Steidinger

**Greeters:** 8:30 – Kim Herring

**Counters:** Camille Lambe and Louis Lambe

**Joy Offering: Today, December 9**

The Christmas Joy Offering of our denomination, the PC(USA), will be received beginning today, Dec. 9. Needed assistance is provided to retired church workers and their families and to current church workers and their families facing emergency situations. Support is also provided to students at racial-ethnic colleges. Envelopes are in the pews.

# **Announcements and Opportunities**

## **Get Your Online Directory Photo Taken Today!**

Need your picture taken and added to the new online directory? Meet Mitzi or Barbara in the Narthex by the Angel Tree following 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship today and on Dec. 16. One of them will snap your smiling face(s) and post the picture to your Servant Keeper profile. Thanks for helping create the new online directory!

## **A Special Advent Study:**

### ***God Is in the Manger*, by Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

This Advent study is led by Dr. Duane Hix (whose Ph.D. thesis was on Bonhoeffer). Through Dec. 19; it's not too late to join in. Soup supper at 6:00 p.m. The class is from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall.

## **Holiday Season Fair Trade Sales**

Stop by our Fair Trade table, located just outside Fellowship Hall, from 9:30-11:00 a.m. to taste Sister's Blend coffee and see our wide selection of coffees, chocolate, tea, and olive oil. Gift baskets as well as festive package assortments available. Today and Dec. 16. Next Sunday will be your last chance to buy Fair Trade items or pick up orders before Christmas. Questions? Contact Jeanne Bolick at [jlbolick@att.net](mailto:jlbolick@att.net) or Betty Boyd at [4eboyd@bellsouth.net](mailto:4eboyd@bellsouth.net).

## **DECEMBER 16: Third Sunday in Advent**

### **Two very special worship services**

**8:30 a.m.** A contemplative service of worship engaging scripture, silence, music, songs of Taize, and quiet reflection.

**11:00 a.m.** *The Beginning* A pageant of humor and meaning with an intergenerational, all-star cast and congregational singing as our journey to Bethlehem continues.

## **A Note from Personnel and Administration**

CPC is blessed with a wonderful and devoted staff. Beginning Sunday December 9 through Sunday December 16, we are collecting monetary gifts. Small envelopes for the gifts are in the Welcome pads. Place the envelopes in the collection plate or drop off checks in the office. Please be sure to write "staff gift" in the memo line. Thank you.

## **Esperanza de Guatemala Thank You**

Thank you to everyone who generously gave to our "Outfit a Classroom" campaign for Giving Tuesday. Esperanza de Guatemala raised over \$1,100! Your generous gifts, combined with the gifts from the Alternative Gift Market will provide classroom supplies for the elementary school in Nimasac, Guatemala. The teachers and students are very appreciative. Thank you! (It's not too late to give! Please visit our website at [www.esperanzadeguatemala.org](http://www.esperanzadeguatemala.org) and click on "donate.")

## ***Christ Be Our Light Labyrinth Walk, Friday, December 21 at 5:00 p.m.***

The word "light" is referenced often in the Bible to symbolize goodness, truth, and knowledge. On the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year, we celebrate the hope, love, and light of Christ's birth.

Join us in the lower parking lot for a short service of song, prayer and poetry. We will then walk to the labyrinth to witness the light of over 100 candles. You may walk the labyrinth, simply stand, or sit as others do so. Hot apple cider will be available to help keep us warm. Questions? Email Diane Garber at [dianegarber@icloud.com](mailto:dianegarber@icloud.com)

### **CPC Door Keypads are Installed and Active**

**The church keypads were installed Monday, Dec. 3 and are now active. You now need to use the codes you have received to enter the church building. (If you have not received a code and need one, you will need to come to the church office during the week and sign to receive one. Your code will be immediately active.)**

Here is how you open a door using the keypads:

1. Enter your 4-digit code. There will be a beep, a red light above the numeric pad will turn green, and you will hear a lock release.
2. Turn the latch below the keypad and above the keyhole to the right, fully. The door will open.
3. While the door is open, TURN THE LATCH BACK TO THE LEFT TO LOCK THE DOOR AGAIN WHILE THE DOOR IS OPEN. When the door closes, it will relock.
4. Please Note: if you don't turn the latch back to the left to relock the door, the door will remain unlocked for an indeterminate length of time.
5. Also note: CHURCH KEYS WILL NO LONGER WORK IN THE KEYHOLE BELOW THE DOOR LATCH.

Thanks for your cooperation and patience as we get acclimated to the new security system.

*CPC Security Team*

# Advent Traditions and Symbols 2018

Advent is filled with images and symbols. Some of us have known them since childhood; for others these are new ways to engage Advent waiting and imagination.

We light candles as a reminder that the light of Christ "shines in the darkness, and the darkness shall not overcome it." Often there are 3 purple candles, 1 pink candle, and the white Christ candle lit on Christmas Eve. Each candle may represent a word or theme like peace, hope, joy, and love. The pink candle is often associated with Gaudete (joy) Sunday, representing Mary's joy. This year at CPC our Advent wreath lighting and liturgy draw on the ideas of taking courage, preparing our hearts, going where we're sent, and the angelic reminder "do not be afraid," so all the candles are purple.

CPC's angels join the choir this year just a bit differently from the past with one added each Sunday.

The tree gracing the front of the sanctuary, decorated in white and gold ornaments, is called a *Chrismon* tree. The ornaments are a collection of ancient Christian symbols and crosses. For example, the shell represents baptism, the dove represents the Holy Spirit, and the crown calls to mind Jesus as King. The word Chrismon is a combination of the words **Christ** and **Monogram** as all the decorations are monograms or symbols which together tell the story of our Christian faith. (*More symbols and their meanings can be found on the purple cards in the pew pockets.*) You will also see Chrismons on the green swags or ropes along the sanctuary walls.

The paraments (the cloths on the lectern, pulpit, Table) are purple, which has long been the color used to represent both royalty and a time of waiting and preparation.

Finally, behind the pulpit is the Bethlehem banner with the star shining over the city. We see it as at a distance as we make our weary, expectant way; along with Mary, Joseph, wisemen and shepherds to the city of David where the Christ child will be born.

So this year, as we tune our eyes to the subtle changes of candles and banners, may we also tune our hearts to hear the old, old story as if for the first time. As Ann Weems wrote,

*"When we are Bethlehem-bound  
we can no longer look the other way  
conveniently not seeing stars  
not hearing angel voices.*

*We can no longer excuse ourselves by busily  
tending our sheep or our kingdoms.*

*This Advent let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing  
that the Lord has made known to us....*

*This Advent, let's go to Bethlehem  
and find our kneeling places."*

## THIS WEEK AT CARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

<p><b>Sunday, December 9</b> Second Sunday of Advent</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.</p> <p>5:15 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Worship Service</b> <b>Sunday School (All ages)</b> <b>Worship Service</b> <b>Congregational Meeting</b> <b>After Worship Coffee Fellowship</b> SH Youth Group – Bridge to Life Youth Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room) CA Youth Group (FH) Christmas Caroling with MS MS Youth Group (MS Room and FH) Christmas Caroling with CA</p>
<p><b>Monday, December 10</b></p>	<p>9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Pastoral Care Team (Office) Abigail Circle (P) Staff Meeting (Office) Staff Christmas Luncheon (FH) Girl Scout Troop 1951 (Youth Area) Childcare Administrative Board (102) Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team (P) Cub Scout Pack 232 Pack Meeting (FH and Kitchen) Christian Faith Formation (Valerie Short's home)</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, December 11</b></p>	<p>10:00 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Ministry Reservation / Clark (105) Connections Group (P) Preschool Teacher Luncheon (FH) Mary and Martha Circle (Off-campus) Men's Caroling (Glenaire Chapel) Cool Books Club (Peg Giesbrecht's home) Boy Scouts 232 (101/103/105) Strength, Hope, and Healing (L) Miriam Circle (P)</p>
<p><b>Wednesday, December 12</b></p>	<p>9:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 10:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Yoga Based Stretching (FH) Hannah Circle (P and L) Ruth Circle (102) Soup Supper for Advent Class (FH) Advent Bonhoeffer Study (FH) YAF Meeting (MS Room: 103) Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)</p>
<p><b>Thursday, December 13</b></p>	<p>8:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m. 6:45 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Generosity Team (102) Health Ministry Team (209) Mindfulness Meditation Group (FH Annex) Missions Team (L) Bob Hall Group (100)</p>
<p><b>Friday, December 14</b></p>	<p>9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Centering Prayer Group (P) Piano Recital / Dickson (Sanctuary)</p>
<p><b>Saturday, December 15</b></p>	<p>9:30 a.m.</p>	<p>Christmas Pageant Rehearsal (FH)</p>
<p><b>Sunday, December 16</b> Third Sunday of Advent</p>	<p>8:30 a.m. 9:45 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.</p> <p>6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Contemplative Advent Worship Service</b> <b>Sunday School (All ages)</b> <b>Christmas Pageant Worship Service</b> <b>After Worship Coffee Fellowship</b> SH Youth Group – (SH Room) Christmas Party CA Youth Group (FH) Christmas Party MS Youth Group (MS Room and FH) Christmas Party</p>

# Poinsettia Order Page

Place your completed 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 16.**

# ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT CPC

December 9 - 15  
Second Week  
of Advent

Sun. 12/9  
Tues. 12/11  
Wed. 12/12

Rev. Alan Bancroft preaching  
Middle School and Christian Adventurers  
Christmas Caroling 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.  
Men's Caroling (Glenaire Chapel)  
7:00 to 9:00 p.m.  
Advent Study: God Is in the  
Manger/Bonhoeffer (FH) 6:30 p.m.  
(Soup supper at 6:00 p.m.)

December 16 - 22  
Third Week  
of Advent

Sun. 12/16  
Wed. 12/19  
Fri. 12/21

Contemplative Advent Worship 8:30 a.m.  
**Christmas Pageant: The Beginning  
11:00 a.m.**  
All Youth Groups Christmas Parties 6:00 to  
8:00 p.m.  
Advent Study: God Is in the  
Manger/Bonhoeffer (FH) 6:30 p.m.  
(Soup supper at 6:00 p.m.)  
**Christ Be Our Light Labyrinth Walk  
5:00 p.m.**

December 23 - 29  
Fourth Week  
of Advent,  
Christmas Eve  
Services

Sun. 12/23  
Christmas  
Eve 12/24

Rev. Lori Pistor preaching  
Julie and Jack Henry, special music  
**Family Service 5:00 p.m.**  
**Candlelight Lessons and Carols 7:00 p.m.**  
**Candlelight Lessons and Carols with  
Communion 9:00 p.m.**

## Remember, Respond, Rejoice!

### A Reminder from the CPC Finance Manager

We are truly grateful to all who have shared God's treasure, regardless of how large or small. All of your gifts are truly appreciated.

If you are up to date with your planned giving commitment, we thank you. If not, we graciously ask that you become current by the end of the year.

If you would like to provide your commitment to the ministry of CPC online, a pledge form is provided for you at this link: <http://carypresbyterian.org/give/stewardship-form>

God's Story. Many Voices.



The Spirit of Generosity