

Grace United Church of Christ



Sunday, December 1, 2019
First Sunday of Advent
11:00 a.m.

Call to Worship
Sunday, December 1, 2019
First Sunday of Advent

*Welcome! It is a pleasure to have you with us this morning.
This morning we will use the New Century Hymnal (NCH)*

We Gather

Prelude

Welcome

Please sign the red Friendship Book in your pew.

Call of the Engelbrecht Memorial Bell

Choir Introit

*Call to Worship

Show us your mercy Lord,

And grant us your salvation

Truth shall spring up from the earth

And righteousness shall look down from heaven.

*Processional Hymn

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

NCH # 116

(vs 1-3)

*Opening Prayer (unison)

God of Israel, with expectant hearts, we, your people, await Christ’s coming.

**As once he came in humanity, so now may he come in glory, that he may make
all things perfect in your everlasting Realm. For Christ is Lord, forever and ever.**

Amen

Passing the Peace

Lighting the Advent Candle

Today we enter Advent, a season of possibilities, a time of "not yet."
But daily lives reflect human struggles. Sometimes we are surrounded by
brokenness--in our lives, among our friends and families, in our worldwide family.
Hope seems a far-off vision; yet we yearn for it to fill us. We cry together:

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

When hope is lost, **Restore us, o God.**

When people are hurting, **Restore us, O God.**

When nations are fighting, **Restore us, O God.**

When children are hungry, **Restore us, O God.**

Restore us, God of Life. Bring us closer to hope, the hope that lights the way on
the journey to Bethlehem. During this season of waiting may we be open to signs
of your restoring love. As we light this first Advent Candle, let us pray for God's
restoration in the midst of brokenness and despair.

Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved. Amen.

(Light the Candle)

Sung Response: "We Light the Advent Candles" Insert
(verse 1)

We Listen

Scripture Reading Isaiah 2:1-5 Teddi Garrison

Choral Anthem

*Gospel Matthew 24:36-44 Rev. Rob Apgar-Taylor

Children's Message Pastor Rob

*Following the Children's Message, Kindergarten through 5th graders are invited to the
fellowship hall for Children's Church; a time of Bible lessons, crafts, songs and fun activities.*

For children 5 years and younger, our Nursery is available during the worship service.

Sermon

“You Gotta Look At It!”

Rev. Rob Apgar-Taylor

Sacrament of Baptism

Ivy Jean Stewart

We Respond

Prayers of the People

Call for Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Offertory Prayer

*The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

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

Leader: ...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory,

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: ...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**ALL: Christ has died;
Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

Leader: ...Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

* The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Breaking Bread and Pouring Wine

Please be seated

Sharing the Elements

As you are dismissed from your pew, come forward using the center aisle. This morning we offer bread and your choice of wine (in the silver chalice) or grape juice (in the pottery chalice). Please return to your seats using the side aisles.

Blessing after Communion

We invite all who would like a blessing, especially children and those who did not participate in communion of bread and cup, to come forward.

We are Sent

Announcements

*Closing Prayer

*Dismissal with Blessing

*Recessional Hymn

“Come Almighty, We are Waiting “

W&S # 3047

*Dismissal with Blessing

*Choral Benediction

Ringing of the Engelbrecht Memorial Bell

*Postlude

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Today we welcome Ivy Jean Stewart into the family of God through the Sacrament of Baptism. Ivy is the daughter of Bryce and Diana Stewart. God Bless Ivy!



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The yellow rose on the altar is presented by the Altar Guild in memory of deceased war veterans and in honor of those who have served our country, as well as those currently on active duty.

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**WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!**

We are delighted that you joined us for worship this morning. Please be sure to sign the red Friendship Book in your pew. If you have any difficulty hearing the service, one of our ushers can provide you with a hearing assistance device. We also have large print bulletins and hymnals available.

Children in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join us for Children’s Church - a time of Bible lessons, crafts, songs and other fun activities. We leave the Sanctuary following the Children’s Message. For children 5 years and younger, our Nursery is available during the worship service. Following the worship service, please join us for fellowship.

***Welcome to Grace Church!***



**Advent Study w/pizza at Grace**  
**Tuesdays, December 3, 10, 17**  
**6:30PM**

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**Advent Study at Homewood**  
**Thursdays, December 5, 12, 19**  
**10:30AM**

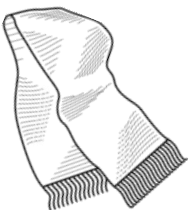


**CARING & SHARING PRAYER LIST**

The following are members and friends of our church family who are currently ill, hospitalized, or home-bound. ***Please keep them in your prayers and perhaps send a note or a card.*** If you know of anyone who should be added to this list, please contact the church office at [admin@crucc.com](mailto:admin@crucc.com)

- |                  |                                                                              |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Millie Davis     | 801 Pine Ave., Frederick, MD 21701                                           |
| Joe Free         | Citizens Nursing & Rehab Center                                              |
| Miriam Himes     | Edenton, Orchard Terrace, 5905 Edenton Court, Room #705, Frederick, MD 21702 |
| Charlotte Hoover | 7404 Willow Road, Nursing at Meadows, Frederick, MD 21702                    |
| Pam Kehne        | 1632 Wall Dr., Pasadena, MD 21122                                            |
| Betty Linton     | Sunrise Senior Living 990 Waterford Dr., Unit 206, Frederick, MD 21702       |

*Please note that hospitals are no longer permitted to contact churches on behalf of their patients. If you know of a church member who is hospitalized, please inform the church office. If you or a family member is hospitalized in an emergency situation, please call Pastor Rob at 240-217-2767.*



**Do you get a little chilly in church?**

Please know that there are hand-made shawls available for you to use as you need. They are spread throughout the sanctuary. Please ask an usher if you don't see one near you. Many thanks to Pam Marshall for this idea and for making the shawls!

# GRACE UCC WEEKLY CALENDAR

## Sunday, December 1

First Sunday of Advent

Called To Gift

9:45 AM Christian Education classes

11:00 AM Worship

After Worship: Deck the Halls at Grace (decorate)

**1:00 PM Planning for a Secure Future—Free Seminar at Grace**

## Monday, December 2

## Tuesday, December 3

6:30 PM Mankind Project

## Wednesday, December 4

6:30 PM TFC Youth Group

## Thursday, December 5

THANKSGIVING DAY

Church Office Closed

## Friday, December 6

## Saturday, December 7

## Sunday, December 8

Second Sunday of Advent

Vision of Peace

9:45 AM Christian Education classes

11:00 AM Worship



**ORDER your**

***Christmas Poinsettia***

**NOW!!!!**

Your poinsettia will help decorate and beautify our Sanctuary during the Advent & Christmas season and Candlelight Tour on December 26th.

Use the form inserted in bulletin or pick-up a form from the narthex.

Place in Sunday offering plate, drop-off or mail to the church office, or

CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE at  
301.662.3312 / [admin@grucc.com](mailto:admin@grucc.com)

**BY DEC. 2ND!**





& *Gift Wrapping* NIGHT  
at *Grace UCC*

Friday, December 6 — 6 to 9 PM

We will be

wrapping gifts

and viewing a

Christmas Movie



Donations of wrapping paper,  
bows, and tape welcomed!

Contact Gwen Edwards for more  
info at [ggedwards922@gmail.com](mailto:ggedwards922@gmail.com)



Get in the Holiday Spirit with a visit to  
*Hershey Park Christmas Candylane*

Saturday, December 7 (snow date 12/14)

Carpool leaving Frederick @ 9:30 am

Sign up in Fellowship Hall or text Gwen at 717-360-6331

Buy tickets online at <https://www.hersheypark.com/>

by November 24 for \$23.95 (20% Discount off Regular Price)



**Light Displays**



*Rides* Shows

*Santa and his Reindeer*



**DID YOU KNOW...**

***Grace UCC has a YouTube channel!***



**Watch our Sermons and Choir on  
YouTube @ GraceLiveFrederick**

Videos are normally posted weekly and  
ready to view by Sunday Evening.

View our sermons and choir anthems on YouTube.  
Just search on Youtube or on Google for GraceLiveFrederick.

**Please take time to subscribe!**

***Join the GraceLiveFrederick Team!***

**When we reach 100 subscribers we get additional features.**

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### **Sanctuary Audio/Video Project Update**

We continue our work towards completing our AV system installation the goal of being able to provide in-service projection on the wall, and live streaming to the internet. At the moment **ONLY** the sermon and the anthems are being posted on the internet. Any change in this will be clearly communicated.

### **Please consider joining the Grace AV Team!**

We need both system operators and individuals to discuss privacy and policy, and to help brainstorm ideas to grow our digital footprint!

If you are interested please speak with Mark Edwards or mail [mse103@mac.com](mailto:mse103@mac.com)



## Daily Bible Reading



### **Sunday, December 1, 2019**

First Sunday of Advent  
Isaiah 2:1-5  
Psalm 122  
Romans 13:11-14  
Matthew 24:36-44

### **Monday, December 2, 2019:**

Psalm 124  
Genesis 8:1-19  
Romans 6:1-11

### **Tuesday, December 3, 2019:**

Psalm 124  
Genesis 9:1-17  
Hebrews 11:32-40

### **Wednesday, December 4, 2019:**

Psalm 124  
Isaiah 54:1-10  
Matthew 24:23-35

### **Thursday, December 5, 2019:**

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19  
Isaiah 4:2-6  
Acts 1:12-17, 21-26

### **Friday, December 6, 2019:**

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19;  
Isaiah 30:19-26;  
Acts 13:16-25

### **Saturday, December 7, 2019:**

Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19;  
Isaiah 40:1-11;  
John 1:19-28

### **Sunday, December 8, 2019:**

Second Sunday of Advent  
Isaiah 11:1-10  
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19  
Romans 15:4-13  
Matthew 3:1-12



## *Grace United Church of Christ*

*An Open and Affirming Congregation*

25 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Frederick, Maryland, 21701

301-662-3312 ~ Office Hours: 9AM-3PM/M-F

[admin@grucc.com](mailto:admin@grucc.com) ~ [www.grucc.com](http://www.grucc.com)

Rev. Dr. Rob Apgar-Taylor, Pastor

[pastorrob@grucc.com](mailto:pastorrob@grucc.com)

Jessica Townsley, Youth Minister

[jessica.townsley@ctschicago.edu](mailto:jessica.townsley@ctschicago.edu)

Jonas Dawson, Director of Music

[music@grucc.com](mailto:music@grucc.com)

James Taylor, Bell Choir Director

[bells@grucc.com](mailto:bells@grucc.com)

Taylor Knapp, Nicola Sussman, Donald Toms & James Taylor,

Choir Section Leaders

Tammy Eyler, Nursery Attendant

[eyler32@gmail.com](mailto:eyler32@gmail.com)

Mat Lutman, Caretaker

[trainhouse13@gmail.com](mailto:trainhouse13@gmail.com)

Sarah Petermann, Church Admin

[admin@grucc.com](mailto:admin@grucc.com)

### SUNDAY WORSHIP – 11:00 AM

Holy Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of every month.

### WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

#### **Sunday, December 1, 2019**

Scripture Reader: Teddi Garrison

Children's Message: Pastor Rob

Children's Church: TBD

Altar Guild: Karen Kehoe

#### **Sunday, December 8, 2019**

Scripture Reader:

Children's Message:

Children's Church: TBD

Altar Guild:

*If you would like to serve as a greeter, or host fellowship time after worship, please add your name to the sign up sheet in the Good Shepherd Room.*

**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**

