

Grace United Church of Christ



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

Call to Worship
Sunday, December 8, 2019
Second 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 "Masters In This Hall" Jonas Dawson
Traditional French Carol, arr. Mark Hayes

Welcome *Please sign the red Friendship Book in your pew.*

Call of the Engelbrecht Memorial Bell

Choir Introit "Blessed Jesus, at Your Word" Grace Choir
Roger Summers

*Call to Worship

L: How shall we prepare this house for the coming King?

P: With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.

L: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

**P: With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion,
death, and resurrection.**

L: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the
Christ?

**P: By hearing again the words of the prophets, who foretold
the saving work of God.**

L: For God did not send the Son into the world to condemn
the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

All: Glory to God in the Highest!

*Opening Hymn "Lift up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates" NCH # 117

Children's Message

Trish Abell

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

"Picture This"

The Rev. Freeman Palmer

We Respond

Prayers of the People

Call for Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

"Reflection on 'Conditor alme siderum'"
Plainchant, Mode IV, Sarum, ca. 9th century, David Lusky

Jonas Dawson

*Offertory Prayer

* 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.

We are Sent

Announcements

*Closing Prayer

*Pastoral Blessing

The Rev. Freeman Palmer

*Recessional Hymn

“There’s a Voice in the Wilderness”

NCH # 120

*Sending Forth

*Choral Benediction

Excerpt from "The Promise and The Prayer"

Grace Choir

from "Christmas Dreams, A Cantata"

words by Joseph Martin, music by Heather Sorensen

Ringing of the Engelbrecht Memorial Bell

*Postlude

"Paeon on 'Wachet auf'"

Jonas Dawson

Philipp Nicolai, arr. David Lasky

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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!***  
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## **Today Grace Welcomes Rev. Freeman L. Palmer, Conference Minister**

Rev. Freeman L. Palmer serves as the Conference Minister for the Central Atlantic Conference United Church of Church.

Freeman began this call in February 2019 after serving nine years as Associate Conference Minister, Congregational Development, for the New York Conference of the United Church of Christ. Freeman currently holds ministerial standing in the Metropolitan Association of that conference, ordained in 2004 to his call as Associate Minister at Middle Collegiate Church in Manhattan, where he served for five years. A member of The Riverside Church since 1993, Freeman supports the clergy as needed, and is a member of the Inspirational Choir. Freeman is also an original contributor to the African- American Lectionary, an online worship, scriptural, and cultural resource used principally by African-American congregations.



Originally from Washington DC, Freeman is a second career minister, attending Seminary after a fifteen-year career with CBS Inc. He had several positions in television and radio financial management before serving as head of Finance and Administration of WCBS-AM News radio 880 in New York City. After graduating from Georgetown Day High School in Washington, Freeman's educational background includes a BA in Economics from Swarthmore College, an MBA in Finance from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, and a M.Div. with honors from New York Theological Seminary, where he served as Comptroller while a student and received an award from the faculty for excellence in theological studies. He also served for two years as Chief Financial Officer for the North Jersey Community Research Initiative, one of New Jersey's largest social service organizations serving people living with HIV/AIDS. Rev. Freeman lives with his spouse, Donal in Jersey City NJ. In his spare time, Freeman enjoys both traditional and contemporary jazz, reading books ranging from biographies to graphic novels, enjoys movies, and as a 'map geek' with extensive knowledge of the US highway system, enjoys getting on a road just to enjoy it and see where it leads.

A prayer that Freeman offers daily is Psalm 143:10, "Teach me to do your will, for you are my God. May your Good Spirit lead me on level ground (NIV)."



**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**



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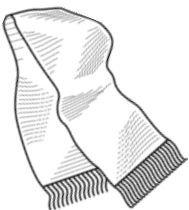
#### CARING & SHARING PRAYER LIST

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.*

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#### 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 8

Second Sunday of Advent

Vision of Peace

9:45 AM Christian Education classes

11:00 AM Worship with The Rev. Freeman Palmer

## Monday, December 9

7:00 PM Finance & Property Meeting

## Tuesday, December 10 - Human Rights Day

6:30 PM Advent Study w/pizza at Grace

6:30 PM Mankind Project

## Wednesday, December 11

6:30 PM TFC Youth Group

6:30 PM Council Christmas Meeting

## Thursday, December 12

10:30 AM Advent Study at Homewood

7:00 PM Disciple Bible Study

## Friday, December 13

## Saturday, December 14

## Sunday, December 15

Third Sunday of Advent

Heartbeat of Justice

9:45 AM Christian Educ.

**11:00 AM Worship & CANTATA:  
"Christmas Dreams"**

4:45 PM Serve at Soup Kitchen

## NURSERY ATTENDANT

### Position Open at Grace UCC

Grace is looking for a Nursery Attendant to work 1 hour per Sunday during 11 AM Worship Service. This is a paid position.

Must be 18 and undergo a background check.

If you are interested or know someone who may be; please contact Pastor Rob at [pastorrob@grucc.com](mailto:pastorrob@grucc.com)





# Grace Advent & Christmas Calendar of Events



Sunday, December 8

Tuesday, December 10

Thursday, December 12

11AM

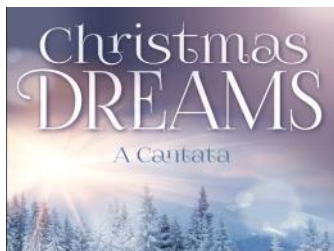
6:30PM

10:30AM

Second Sunday of Advent Worship

Advent Study w/pizza at Grace

Advent Study at Homewood



Sunday, December 15

11AM

Third Sunday of Advent Worship &  
CANTATA, "Christmas Dreams"

Sunday, December 15

Tuesday, December 17

Thursday, December 19

Sunday, December 22

4:45PM

6:30PM

10:30AM

11AM

Serve at FCFA Soup Kitchen

Advent Study w/pizza at Grace

Advent Study at Homewood

Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship  
Christmas Fund Special Offering



Sunday, December 22

7PM

Advent/Christmas Service in German  
with German hymns and candlelight

Tuesday, December 24

7:30PM

Christmas Eve Service

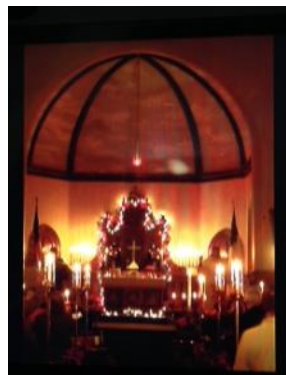
Wednesday, December 25

Christmas Day

Thursday, December 26

4-9PM

2019 Candlelight Tour  
of Historic  
Houses of Worship





## Daily Bible Reading



### **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

### **Monday, December 9, 2019:**

Psalm 21  
Isaiah 24:1-16a  
1 Thessalonians 4:1-12

### **Tuesday, December 10, 2019:**

Psalm 21  
Isaiah 41:14-20  
Romans 15:14-21

### **Wednesday, December 11, 2019:**

Psalm 21  
Genesis 15:1-18  
Matthew 12:33-37

### **Thursday, December 12, 2019:**

Psalm 146:5-10  
Ruth 1:6-18  
2 Peter 3:1-10

### **Friday, December 13, 2019:**

Psalm 146:5-10  
Ruth 4:13-17  
2 Peter 3:11-18

### **Saturday, December 14, 2019:**

Psalm 146:5-10  
1 Samuel 2:1-8  
Luke 3:1-18

### **Sunday, December 15, 2019:**

Third Sunday of Advent  
Isaiah 35:1-10  
Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:46b-55  
James 5:7-10  
Matthew 11:2-11



**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.**



### **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)



## *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@ctsichicago.edu](mailto:jessica.townsley@ctsichicago.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 Whidden, 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 8, 2019**

Scripture Reader: Carol Garrison

Children's Message: Trish Abell

Children's Church: TBD

Altar Guild: Joan Princler

#### **Sunday, December 15, 2019**

Scripture Reader: Rob Apgar

Children's Message: Earl Bartgis

Children's Church: TBD

Altar Guild: Sergei Travis

*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**

