

Grace United Church of Christ



**Christmas Eve Worship Service
With Holy Communion
Friday, December 24th, 2021**

Order of Worship Christmas Eve
TONIGHT WE WILL USE THE RED HYMNAL
(*Indicates when people are invited to stand.)

Prelude:

1. "The Wexford Carol", Traditional English carol, arr. Mark Hayes
2. "Adam Lay Ybounden", Boris Ord, arr. Jennie Huntoon Carrie Minnick, soprano Jennie Huntoon, alto Donald Toms, tenor Alex Winter, bass
3. "Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming", harm. Michael Praetorius Trish Vogel, soprano Teddi Garrison, alto Donald Toms, tenor Lloyd Taylor, bass
4. "Coventry Carol", English Christmas carol, arr. Martin Shaw Trish Vogel, soprano Teddi Garrison, alto Donald Toms, tenor Lloyd Taylor, bass
5. "Ave Maria", harm. Franz Schubert Jennie Huntoon, soprano
6. "I wonder as I wander", Appalachian carol, arr. John Jacob Niles Donald Toms, tenor
7. "Away in a Manger", Traditional Normandy tune, arr. Jennie Huntoon Carrie Minnick, soprano Jennie Huntoon, alto Donald Toms, tenor Alex Winter, bass
8. "Prelude on 'Savior of the Nations, Come'", from *Erfurt Enchiridia (1524)*, Franklin D. Ashdown

Call of the Engelbrecht Memorial Bell

Call to Worship

L: Christ is born; give him glory!

P: Christ has come down from heaven; receive him! Christ is now on earth; exalt him!

L: O you earth, sing to the Lord!

P: O you nations, praise him in joy, for he has been glorified!

1 O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold Him,
Born the King of angels.

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

2 O Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Now to our God be Glory in the highest! [Refrain]

3 Amen, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning,
O Jesus, forever be Thy Name adored;
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing! [Refrain]

*Opening Prayer

O God, you make us glad with the yearly expectation of our redemption. Grant that as we may joyfully receive your only begotten son as our redeemer, we may also see him without fear when he comes to be our judge; even our Lord Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God in glory everlasting. Amen.

*Gloria in Excelsis

**Glory to God in the highest
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
Almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Eternal:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.**

Lighting the Christ Candle

ONE: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world

ALL: A light no darkness can extinguish!

Sung Response: Gloria in Excelsis Deo!

First Reading

Isaiah 9: 2-7

Choral Anthem:

“O Holy Night”, Adolphe Adam, Jennie Huntoon, soprano

Second Reading

Titus 2: 11-14

Carol

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing!

#102

1 Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King:
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain:

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King"

2 Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come
To the earths from heaven's home;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see;
hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel. [Refrain]

3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Risen with healing in His wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise us the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth. [Refrain]

Gospel

Luke 2: 1-20

Sermon

What's Your Element?

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns:
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.

Eucharistic Prayer

ONE: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

ONE: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them to God.

ONE: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

ALL: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

ONE: We give you thanks and praise, Eternal Spirit that you come to us in saving love...

....and so, with the shepherds and angels and saints throughout the ages we join our voices in grateful song:

Response:

**Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Amen.**

Breaking Bread and Pouring Cup

The Lord's 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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Holy Communion

***Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison)**

We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

***Benediction**

***Candlelight Carol:**

“Silent Night”

#101

(The lights will be gradually dimmed as we sing this carol. When passing the light, please dip your unlit candle into the lighted one. Parents should use discretion when giving candles to children.)

Verse 1

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright;
‘Round yon virgin mother and Child, Holy Infant so tender and mild;
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Verse 2

Silent night! Holy night! Darkness flies, all is light;
Shepherds hear the angels sing: Alleluia! hail the king!
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.

Verse 4

Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous Star, lend thy light!
With the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King!
Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.

(extinguish candles)

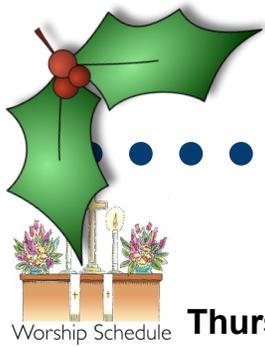
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*Grace goes LIVE!*

*Please know that today's service is being live-streamed for those who can not worship with us in person. **If you prefer NOT to be in the live stream video, please sit in pews behind the center pillars.***

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*The children's moment will be on camera as well.
If you would like your child NOT to be on camera,
please speak to our AV team or an usher.*

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*(Note: Communion and the offering will NOT be live-streamed for privacy reasons.)*  
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***Today's Special Music was brought to you by our
Quartet Performers!
We appreciate you!***



Grace UCC Updates



THIS WEEK AT GRACE:

Thursday 12/23: 7:00PM - Grace Advent Bible Study (Zoom)

Friday 12/24: 7:30PM - *Christmas Eve Candlelight Service & Holy Communion*

Sunday 12/26: 11:00 AM - Worship Service

Wednesday 12/29: 7:00 PM - Grace Book Club (Zoom)

Sunday 1/02: 11:00 AM - Worship Service

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



We are in search of **volunteers for Junior Church**. We would need volunteers on a rotating basis. Training & Materials are provided! If interested in volunteering contact Pastor Rob or Admin@grucc.com!

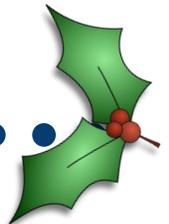
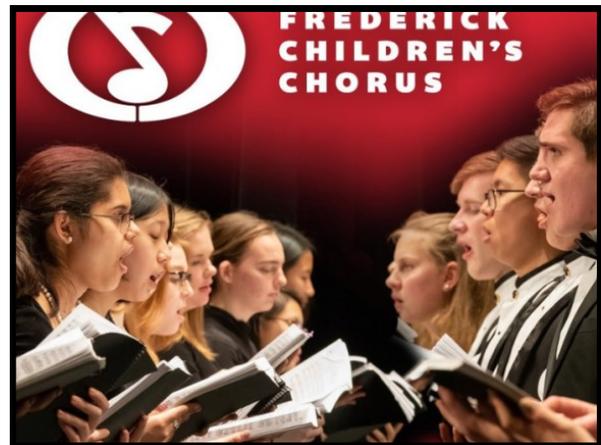
We look forward to seeing you!

MESSIAH SING ALONG

**Presented By Weinberg Center for the Arts
December 21, 2021 | 8:00 PM**

A Frederick community holiday tradition since 1994, director Judith DuBose will conduct a forty voice chorus, twenty-piece orchestra, and four soloists through select choruses and arias of "Messiah" by G. F. Handel. The audience is invited to join the chorus for select numbers such as the "Hallelujah Chorus" and "For Unto Us a Child is Born." Copies of the full vocal score will be for sale in the lobby.

<https://weinbergcenter.org/>





GRACE UCC ANNUAL COAT & SOCK DRIVE

We will begin collecting new warm socks and new, or gently used, winter coats!! The coats & socks will be collected in our Collection Boxes and provide them for the homeless community.



Grace United Church of Christ

Winter
Mission Project



Coats

& Socks

DRIVE



Please donate:

- * **New or gently used men's and women's coats**
- * **New socks (unisex, white or black)**
- * **Other warm articles of clothing**



Collection box will be outside on Sunday mornings and
M-F: 10AM to 3PM at the west-side door (left side of church).

Questions? Contact admin@grucc.com.

~Thank you for your continued generosity!



Grace United Church of Christ



An Open and Affirming Congregation

25 East 2nd Street, Frederick, Maryland, 21701

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

Admin@grucc.com ~ www.grucc.com

Rev. Dr. Rob Apgar-Taylor, Pastor

Pastorrob@grucc.com

Jonas Dawson, Director of Music

Music@grucc.com

James Taylor, Bell Choir Director

Bells@grucc.com

Choir Section Leaders: James Taylor, Taylor Whidden,

Jennie Huntoon, & Donald Toms

Joan Princler, Nursery Attendant

Joan.dancer@comcast.net

Mat Lutman, Caretaker

Trainhouse13@gmail.com

Careen Walker, Church Admin

Admin@grucc.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP – 11:00 AM — Virtual

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Liturgist: Rob Apgar

Children's Message: Pastor Rob

Children's Church: N/A

Altar Guild: N/A

*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**

