

Grace United Church of Christ



From Generation to Generation

Sunday, November 27th, 2022

First Sunday of Advent

Worship

***There's Room for Every Story
We Gather***

*Please stand as you are able

Prelude Savior of the Nations, Come Deiterich Buxtehude
(During our prelude, please take your seat and enjoy the music as we center ourselves for worship and invite God's presence into our hearts.)

Welcome

Ringing of the Bell

Choral Introit Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn Marty Haugen

*Opening Poem Room Sarah Speed

*Opening Hymn O Come, O Come, Emmanuel 116

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Child of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,
and order all things far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show
and help us in that way to go. Refrain

3 O come, O come, O Adonai
who came to all on Sinai high
And from its peak, a single law
proclaimed in majesty and awe. Refrain

4 O come, O shoot of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny!
From depths of hell your people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave. Refrain

5 O come, O Key of David, come
and open wide your heavenly home.
Make safe the path to endless day
To hell's destruction close the way. Refrain

*Passing the Peace *(Let us pass the peace with a Covid-Friendly smile, wave or some other sign of Christ's love)*

Call to Confession

In God's house, everyone is welcome— those who seem like they have it all together, and those who feel like their world is falling apart. No matter who we are, there's room for us here. With that confidence, we turn to God in prayer, speaking the truth of our lives. Let us pray:

Prayer of confession God of today and God of tomorrow, you say, "Bring your full self. There's room for you here."

But we say, "Our lives are too messy."

You say, "Bring your hopes and your dreams. There's room for you here."

But we say, "It's too risky to hope."

You say, "Bring your grief and your prayers. There's room for you here."

But we say, "Some things are easier to forget."

God of today and God of tomorrow, we know in our hearts that there's room for us here.

Forgive us for withholding our full selves from you. Forgive us for giving only our Sunday best.

Help us remember, today and tomorrow,

There's room for every story. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness: Family of faith, We who feel scattered are held together. We who have lost our way are forgiven and found. And we who are lonely are brought into the fold and are told, "There's room for you here." From generation to generation, this is the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ we are held, forgiven, found, and welcomed.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Lighting the Advent Candle

Response: Make way, make way, for Christ the King, in splendor arrives.

Fling wide the gates and welcome Him into your lives!

Make way (make way) make way (make way)

For the King of Kings (For the King of Kings)

Make way (make way) make way (make way)

And let His Kingdom in!

We Listen

Reading

Isaiah 2: 1-5

Anthem

We Await You

Ruth Elaine Schram

*Gospel

Matthew 1: 1-17

Childrens' Moment

Sermon

We Respond

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in a God who promised to Abraham,
who wrestled with Jacob, who walked with Ruth,
who spoke with Moses, who grieved with Bathsheba,
who danced with David, who dreamed with Joseph,
and who hoped like Mary.

We believe in a God who has been loving, inviting, transforming, and challenging us from generation to generation.

And we believe that same God is here with us now, saying, "Come on in; there's room for you here." Amen.

Intercessions Response: **We Are waiting, O Lord**

Offering My Lord, What a Morning arr. Richard Billingham

Prayer of Dedication

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

*Blessing

*Closing Hymn

Now Bless the God of Israel

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1 Now bless the God of Israel,
who comes in love and power,
Who raises from the royal house
deliverance in this hour.

Through holy prophets God has sworn

To free us from alarm,
To save us from the heavy hand
Of all who wish us harm.

2 Remembering the covenant
God rescues us from fear
That we might serve in holiness
And peace from year to year.

And you, my child, shall go before,
to preach, to prophesy,
That all may know the tender love
The grace of God, most high.

3 In tender mercy, God will send
the dayspring from on high.
Our rising sun, the light, of life,
for those who sit and sigh.
God comes to guide our way to peace
That death shall reign no more.
Sing praises to the Holy One!
O worship and adore!

*Dismissal

As you leave this place, may you go knowing that from generation to generation, we have been claimed and loved. From generation to generation, God has been by our side. From generation to generation, we are not alone. The God of yesterday and the God of tomorrow knows you by name, loves you, and calls you forth, saying, "Go be the person you are called to be, love wildly, do justice, and come back soon." May it be so.

Amen.

Choral Benediction

As You Go

Roger Summers

Postlude

Wake, Awake! For Night Is Flying

arr. Paul Manz

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.

NOTE: If today's service contains a processional (check bulletin) and you do not wish to be in the live stream video, please see an AV Team member or an usher.

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.

(Note: Communion and the offering will NOT be live-streamed for privacy reasons.)



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.



Welcome

We are delighted that you joined us for worship this morning. Please be sure to sign the red Friendship Book in your pew or text “check-in” to (301) 857-4626. 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 1st through 5th grade are invited to join us for Children’s Church - a time of Bible lessons, crafts, snacks and fun activities in room 13. We leave the Sanctuary following the Children’s Message. For children 5 years and younger, our Nursery is available during the worship service.

Grace Announcements



THIS WEEK AT GRACE UCC:



- Sunday 11/27:** 11:00AM - Worship Service First Day of Advent
- Sunday 11/27:** Following Service– Decorating for Christmas
- Wednesday 11/30:** 7:00PM - Grace Book Club (Zoom)
- Thursday 12/01:** 5:30-7:30PM Health Department Meeting
- Thursday 12/01:** 7:00PM - Advent Bible Study (Zoom)
- Sunday : 12/04:** 11:00 AM - Worship Service



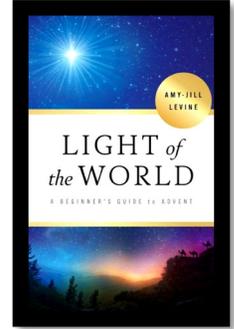
ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

Starting Thursday December 1st

Light of the World: A beginners guide to Advent by Amy Jill Levine

The book can be ordered on Amazon or in ebook form from Google Books.

Zoom Information: Topic: Light of The World Advent Study
Time: Dec 1, 2022 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Every week on Thu, 4 occurrence(s)
Dec 1, 2022 07:00 PM
Dec 8, 2022 07:00 PM
Dec 15, 2022 07:00 PM



<https://us02web.zoom.us/join?pwd=MCtRUEJZMmxpVjBxUUhVdG5zYUZQU09>
icsToken=98tyKuGrrTgqG9WQtx2ORpwqA4jCc-vzmCVagrcPxUvsDwR4d1qmEOESG7MqMeDo

Dec 22, 2022 07:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83330115749?pwd=MCtRUEJZMmxpVjBxUUhVdG5zYUZQU09>

Meeting ID: 833 3011 5749 Passcode: 319715

GRACE MOVIE NIGHTS

Movie nights have been so much fun! We are opening our doors Friday, December 16th at 7:00pm to watch Micky's Once Upon A Christmas. If you haven't had a chance to join us, we would love to see you for the last movie night of the year!



Deck the halls with boughs of holly

Grace is Decorating for Christmas! Today, November 27th 2022 at 1:00pm,
If you'd like to come, we'd love to have you!

'Tis the season to be jolly

REMINDER: OUR NEW YORK TRIP IS WEDNESDAY!

Welcome to New York City, New York!

Not sure where to go first?

Try this list of major points of interest!

<u>Saint Patrick's Cathedral</u>	<u>631 5th Avenue</u>
<u>Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine</u>	<u>1047 Amsterdam Avenue</u>
<u>Grace Church</u>	<u>802 Broadway</u>
<u>Church of Saint Francis Xavier</u>	<u>46 W 16th Street</u>
<u>M&M World</u>	<u>1600 Broadway</u>
<u>Radio City Music Hall</u>	<u>1260 6th Avenue</u>
<u>Empire State Building</u>	<u>20 W 34th Street</u>
<u>Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island</u>	<u>Battery Park</u>
<u>Famous Rays Original Pizza</u>	<u>736 7th Street</u>
<u>Madame Tussauds Wax Museum</u>	<u>234 W 42nd Street</u>
<u>Macy's Department Store</u>	<u>151 34th Street</u>
<u>Central Park</u>	<u>North of Midtown</u>
<u>Museum of Modern Art (MOMA)</u>	<u>11 W 53rd Street</u>
<u>TV & Radio Museum</u>	<u>25 W 52nd Street</u>
<u>IMAGINE Mosaic</u>	<u>Terrace Drive</u>
<u>New York Public Library</u>	<u>476 42nd Street</u>
<u>New York Information Center</u>	<u>Herald Square</u>
<u>Ghostbusters Fire House</u>	<u>4 N Moore Street</u>
<u>National September 11 Memorial & Museum</u>	<u>180 Greenwich Street</u>
<u>Wall Street</u>	<u>Lower Manhattan</u>
<u>American Museum of Natural History</u>	<u>200 Central Park West</u>
<u>Carnegie Hall</u>	<u>881 7th Avenue</u>
<u>Chrysler Building</u>	<u>405 Lexington Avenue</u>
<u>New York City Hall</u>	<u>260 Broadway</u>
<u>Grand Central Terminal</u>	<u>89 E 42nd Avenue</u>
<u>Grant's Tomb (Grant National Memorial)</u>	<u>26 Wall Street</u>
<u>Guggenheim Museum</u>	<u>1071 5th Avenue</u>
<u>Intrepid Sea, Air, and Space Museum</u>	<u>Pier 86, W 46th Street</u>
<u>Madison Square Garden</u>	<u>4 Pennsylvania Plaza</u>
<u>New York City Fire Museum</u>	<u>278 Spring Street</u>
<u>New York Historical Society</u>	<u>170 Central Park West</u>



<u>Tenement Museum</u>	<u>103 Orchard Street</u>
<u>United Nations Headquarters</u>	<u>405 E 42nd Street</u>
<u>Rockefeller Center</u>	<u>45 Rockefeller Plaza</u>

Care to take in a Broadway show?

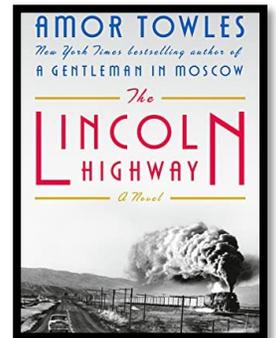
Here's what's playing!

<u>Title</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Length</u>	<u>Cost Per Person</u>
MJ: The Musical	2:00PM	2 hours 30 minutes	\$76
Harry Potter & the Cursed Child	1:00PM	3 hours 30 minutes	\$80
Kimberly Arimbo	2:00PM	2 hours 30 minutes	\$84
A Beautiful Noise: Neil Diamond Musical	2:00PM	2 hours 15 minutes	\$84
Take Me Out	2:00PM	2 hours 15 minutes	\$64

Grace UCC (Virtual) Book Club

Every Wednesday at 7:00pm

Join us if you'd like to *socialize, stretch your mind, or just leave the daily grind of life behind for a bit!*



The Lincoln Highway by Amor Towles

In June, 1954, eighteen-year-old Emmett Watson is driven home to Nebraska by the warden of the juvenile work farm where he has just served fifteen months for involuntary manslaughter. His mother long gone, his father recently deceased, and the family farm foreclosed upon by the bank, Emmett's intention is to pick up his eight-year-old brother, Billy, and head to California where they can start their lives anew. But when the warden drives away, Emmett discovers that two friends from the work farm have hidden themselves in the trunk of the warden's car. Together, they have hatched an altogether different plan for Emmett's future, one that will take them all on a fateful journey in the opposite direction—to the City of New York.

Spanning just ten days and told from multiple points of view, Towles's third novel will satisfy fans of his multi-layered literary styling while providing them an array of new and richly imagined settings, characters, and themes.

Thank You!

A HUGE Thanksgiving Thank you to the following turkeys for all their help!! We had a great meal!

Steve Faylor

Tony Nemler

Gwen Edwards

Joan Princler

Mat Lutman

Peter Abell

Jerry Princler

Rob Apgar

Bob Faylor

Trish Abell

And all who helped make it such a wonderful day to come together.



MEAL TRAIN

We are keeping Racheal Fisher in our hearts and prayers as she heals, and want to remind you there is a meal train set up for her.

You can contact the office at admin@grucc.com to get the details.

If you love cooking, but not driving, Sam and Susan Swann have graciously volunteered to drive the food to her, you can talk to them after service to coordinate pick up.



YARN DONATIONS

The “-ber” months are officially here! With the chill in the air we are reminded how blessed we are, and how we can share the gift of warmth with those less fortunate. We are asking for donations of yarn, and knitting/ crocheting materials to make scarves, hats, and mittens. Below is a note from Jess K.

Any congregants who wish to participate in knitting or crocheting items are encouraged to grab a skein from the box in the back of the church near the rocking chairs to work on during service. We ask that all works are dropped back off in the box after service. Completed works will be taken to the shelter as they come in. Incomplete items will remain in the box for you to pick back up, and work on the following service.



If you want to help monetarily, mark your donation with “Yarn” in the memo line or on the envelope. See Jessica or Donald after service for details, or contact Kelly in the office at admin@grucc.com to help



It's time! Please sign up for the San Mar Annual "Christmas Elf Program" for 2022

Dear friends of San Mar Children (Treatment Foster Care Children, Bester Community of Hope Children, South Side & JEB Center Children), we invite you to join our annual Christmas outreach. Each year giving people like you reach out and sponsor children with San Mar by purchasing Christmas gifts. Thank you for sharing your love and joy this Christmas!

At this time, children are completing wish lists. We are collecting the lists and Laura Iager, our volunteer will match you with a child. We provide the child's first name, his or her favorite color, age & other information. Once you have purchased the gifts, we ask that you wrap them, put the child's name & number on each package. There will be A LOT of gifts being dropped off so please have each gift well marked. Please deliver them to San Mar by December 12th. Please include the wish list with your name and address on the back of the gift list. Thank you for giving. Your help is genuinely appreciated. Note: call San Mar before you deliver the gifts so we can set a date and time assuring someone will be here to meet you.

Note: If you are not able to shop this year, we need gift cards for children and their families. At this time, we are going to give gift cards for Amazon & food. Simply let us know that you would like to buy gift cards and we'll sign you up. Another option is Family Game baskets and/or teenage hygiene baskets (huge hit!) Another option to volunteer for would be "Last Minute Elves". Would you consider being on hold and shop for a child that enters the program in December (Shop up until Dec 18th). Please email Laura and get signed up for the option in which you want to participate.

If you would like to participate, please contact Laura Iager. Laura may be reached at Liager@sanmarhome.org or 301-331-2548. Emails are the best way to communicate with Laura. Please make sure to indicate in the subject line of your email San Mar Children's Elf Program.

Merry Christmas,
Terri Siefert

Treatment Foster Care Bester Community of Hope

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

Rev. Guy S. Johnson, Clergy in Residence

Gsj612@aol.com

Director of Music Nathan Strite

Music@grucc.com

James Taylor, Bell Choir Director

Bells@grucc.com

Choir Section Leaders: James Taylor, & Donald Toms

Kelly Pineda, Children & Youth Ministry

Admin@grucc.com

Joan Princler, Nursery Attendant

Joan.dancer@comcast.net

Mat Lutman, Caretaker

Trainhouse13@gmail.com

Kelly Pineda, Church Admin

Admin@grucc.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP – 11:00 AM – Virtual and in person

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

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Liturgist: Earl Bartgis

Children's Message: Rob Apgar-Taylor

Children's Church: Kelly Pineda, Joan Princler

Altar Guild: N/A

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

