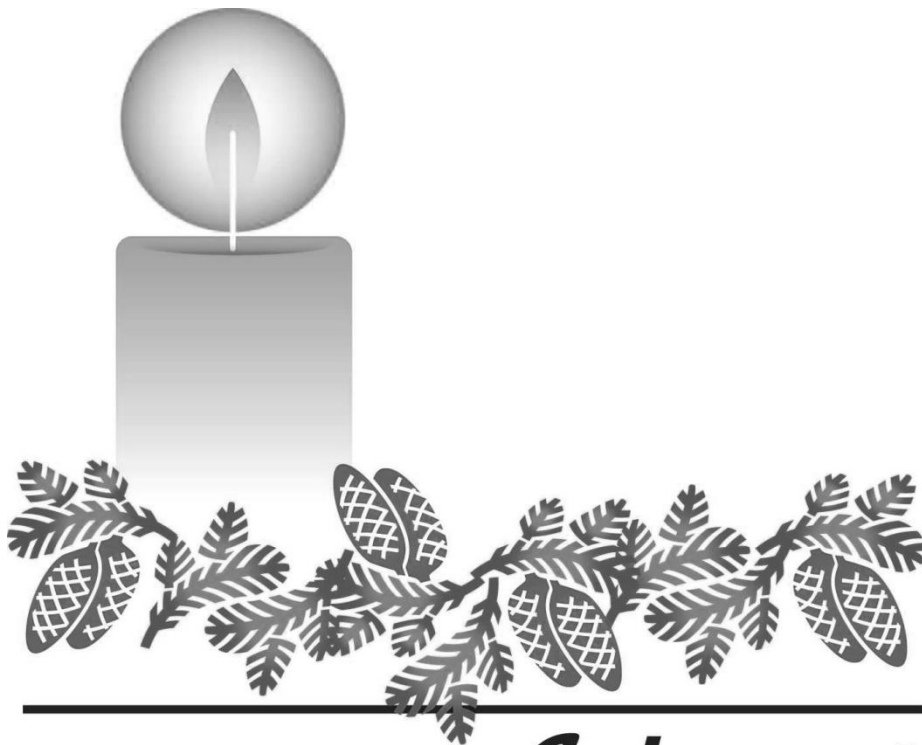


CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

A United Church of Christ

9525 Colesville Road · Silver Spring, MD 20901

301-585-8010 · www.cccsilverspring.org



FIRST SUNDAY OF *Advent*

December 3, 2017

10:30 AM Service of Worship

Christ Congregational Church covenants to be faithful as ...

A Just Peace Congregation

An Open and Affirming Congregation

An Anti-racist Congregation

At CCC, we honor and celebrate people
of all races, cultures, ages, abilities, sexual orientations & gender identities.

10:30 A.M. SERVICE OF WORSHIP
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 3, 2017

**Please stand as you are able
Please turn off mobile phones before worship begins*

Let us now enter into the Holy One's presence.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastors Matt Braddock & Gloria Grant

PRELUDE

Flute Ensemble

Allemande from Suite No. 11
George Frideric Handel, arr. Robert S. Frost

FOR REFLECTION

Welcome to this time of worship. How does this Advent find you?
Does it find you empty, wondering how this story can become new again
when you have already wrung every miracle and promise within it dry?
Does it find you cynical, wondering how long you can hold the faith
when with all the waiting and yearning and longing of Advent's past, the world has barely changed?
Does it find you wanting so badly for this all to be true that you will talk the world into joy and hope
out of fear that if you don't it just might not appear?
Does it find you reluctant, here only because something tells you it's that time of the year again
and the world offers you no other choice?
In this time of worship this morning let Advent find you,
wherever you are, to create a space inside us and the world where mystery and presence might grow.
Let us worship God.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Natalie, Charlie, & Carter Miller

SUNG RESPONSE

Christ Be Our Light

Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts, Shine through our dark - ness.

Christ be our light! Shine in your church gath-ered to - day.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the response, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION & THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Middle School Church School Class

May our time together renew our hope.

May the stories we share refresh our courage, and the songs we sing, lift our spirits.

May the touch of hands, the sound of laughter, and the sight of faces new and familiar, restore us in faith.

We pray together saying ...

Holy God, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. AMEN

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Pastor Matt Braddock

Children are dismissed for communion education time.

MUSICAL OFFERING

Pavane

Flute Ensemble

Gabriel Fauré, arr. Douglas Woodfull-Harris

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 9:18-9:1

The Middle School Church School Class

MEDITATION

"Is There No Balm in Gilead?"

Pastor Matt Braddock

CALL TO OFFERING

Pastor Matt Braddock

OFFERTORY

Lost in the Night

The Chancel Choir

Kyle Haugen

*DOXOLOGY

VENI EMMANUEL

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Our Dwelling Place; your mercies bestow;
Praise God aloud, you heavenly choirs,
Creator, Christ, and Spirit which inspires,
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

The Middle School Church School Class

We offer these gifts. We pray that the joy we have in offering our gifts pleases you. We pray these gifts serve those in need, and that in all things your will be done, O God. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

CCC practices open communion. Anyone who seeks the love of God is welcome at the Table. Jesus shared his life for the whole world; we seek to be as welcoming and open as he is. Ushers will invite you to come forward by row from the center aisle. As you approach the Table, you may take bread and then dip the bread in the cup, returning to your seat by the side aisle. Gluten free bread is available.

Invitation

Responsive Prayer of Blessing

God is with us

We are not alone

Christ is present here

The Spirit moves within us

Let us give thanks to God

In memory and in hope

Blessings be to you, Creator God, who in the beginning brought light and life to the world and who continues to bring it love and light everlasting. Your song of wisdom echoes through the ages and your ancient promise still brings us hope. Over the ages you have called people to embrace your hope and share your love. But even when they have closed their ears to the song you did not stop singing. You sent prophets and messengers to your people, reminding them of the promised time of peace and justice that would surround the world. They came in the midst of our despair and filled us with hope. And then you came to a young woman named Mary and laid out the promise in a new way; Promising her a son who would be called Jesus; promising her that in her son the world would be changed. And now as we prepare for that child to be born, we echo the ancient cry:

O come, O come Emmanuel

*We invite you to speak aloud the names of those whom we hold in our prayers
as we come to the Table.*

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

***CAROL OF GOING FORTH**

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul, and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: News, news! Jesus Christ is on the way!
All the earth to him will bow; our hearts prepare the manger now.
Go! Prepare the way, Go! Prepare the way!

Good Christian friends, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
now we hear of endless bliss: News, news! Jesus Christ is born for this!
Christ has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ is come for this, Christ is come for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave: News, news! Jesus Christ is born to save!

Calls us one and calls us all, to gain his everlasting hall.

Christ is come to save, Christ is come to save.

***RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION**

We take the light of our prayer into the world

To pray for those who are unable to pray; to offer ourselves as answers to prayer.

We take the light of our compassion into the world:

To come alongside those who are suffering and to be as Christ for them.

We take the light of God's power into the world:

God's power made perfect in powerlessness,

strength made known in weakness,

life made known in dying.

God enters the hearts of all who pray and feel they are not heard — suffers our pain — carries the burdens of the world and comes to us that we might live. May our God bless us

The Creator, The Christ, The Spirit.

And until we meet again,

may God keep us, and hold us.

POSTLUDE

Flute Ensemble

Allegro from Sonata in G Major
Benedetto Marcello, arr. Wayne Fritchie

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in the downstairs social hall following the service.

Flute Ensemble Participants

Claudia Bach

Jana Hertz

Lauren Jones

Lynne Joseloff

Ann Keeler

Megan Repoley

A special thank you to the member of the Flute Ensemble for sharing their musical talents with us this morning.



The flowers on the altar this morning are given by Priscilla and John Peterson
in celebration of our first grandchild, Amelia Finé Peterson,
born on Thanksgiving Day.

The Sanctuary Committee invites you to take a bouquet of flowers, made from the beautiful altar arrangement, to someone to whom you'd like to extend support and prayers. You will find the bouquets in the church lobby window after the 10:30 worship service.

THIS WEEK IN PASTORAL CARE

THIS WEEK IN PASTORAL CARE

As the church of God in this place, we ask your prayers for the persons listed below. If persons no longer need our immediate prayers, please let the church office know so we can keep the list current.

Immediate care . . . We ask your prayers for Steve Anderson; Merlene Bagley; Corine Bloss; Carl Brandt; Autumn, Tim and Brian; Randy and Ellen Caswell; Frank and Ruth Erk; Ben Gallup; Paul Gayer; Marilyn Hall; Joanne Hollcroft; Ruth Kaupert; Tina Lincoln; Doris Raber; Barbara Thorn; Harriett Duff, mother of Larry Duff; Roz Gallahan, sister of Glenda Neal; Thelma B. Howard, mother of Doris Jordan; Joe, friend of Paul and Betsy Thomas; Eleanor Stoke, sister-in-law of Bud Dennie; Bob and Sally Wales, parents of Scott Wales.

In Memoriam: Jean Caswell; Erv Boettner; Jeffrey Eugene Jarvis.

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TODAY?

At 9:00 AM

Contemporary Theology, Conference Room

Covenant Class, Room 207

Intergenerational Spiritual Pathways, Lounge, Room 106

During the 10:30 Service

Childcare for infants and toddlers – Room 104

Little Lambs (2 & 3 year olds) – Room 003

Middle School Class will participate in the Worship Service.

Big Lambs through 5th Grade Classes will participate in the group

Church School Communion Sunday Activity.

At 5:30 PM

Cooperative Youth Ministry

What's happening with CommunUNITY Sundays?

On Communion Sundays, children aged K-5 grade participate as a group in a project that benefits our community. The next three months projects are detailed below, and as always we appreciate your support!

On December 3, this Sunday the children will have a short lesson on the Season of Advent and then transition into thinking of others who are in need, rather than wanting gifts. The Children's Offering is traditionally distributed according to vote by the children. This year there will be a wealth of options for the kids to consider from Hurricane Relief, Wildfire Relief, Uganda ministry supported by Lois Stovall (a member at CCC), Gandhi Brigade, Shepherd's Table, and many many others. Please remember to bring gently used or new mittens, scarfs, coats, and boots for our annual mitten tree.

On January 7, the children will be wrapping diapers for Greater DC Diaper Bank. We will be collecting diapers for the project in the bin in the vestibule, size 3 and 4 are the most needed sizes, but any diapers, even in open packages can be accepted. In addition, DCDB takes donations of unexpired formula, personal care products (soap, shampoo, etc), feminine hygiene products, and baby gear (single & double strollers, baby carriers, and pack n plays).

Between now and February 4, we are collecting gently used kids backpacks, gently used-athletic shoes, regular pencils, colored pencils, protractor sets, solar scientific calculators, and small handheld pencil sharpeners for Krma-USPartners, a 44-acre women's cooperative farm in Uganda. Supplies can be purchased off the [Krma-uspartners Amazon list](#) or from any store, and deposited in a bin outside of the church office. As part of the February 3, commUNITY project held during service on Communion Sundays, kids will learn more about Krma and prepared the supplies for the team over in 2018.

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 3, 2017

9:00 AM–Contemporary Theology, Conference Room
9:00 AM–Intergenerational Spiritual Pathways, Lounge, Room 106
9:00 AM–Covenant Class, Room 207
9:45 AM–Children’s Music Time, Room 009/010
10:30 AM–Worship Service, Sanctuary
12:00 PM–Advent Wreath Workshop, Social Hall
12:00PM–Intergenerational Orchestra, Sanctuary
12:00 PM–Youth Leadership Team/Advisory Council, Conference Room
5:30 PM–Cooperative Youth Ministry

Monday, December 4, 2017

8:30 AM–Monday morning coffee at Kaldi’s, off-site
12:00 PM–Steff Meeting, Conference Room
7:35 PM–Coordinating Council, Conference Room

Tuesday, December 5, 2017

6:30 PM–Meditation Circle, Meditation Room
7:30 PM–Green Team, Room 208

Wednesday, December 6, 2017

7:30 PM–Because We Care Breeze Training, Conference Room

Thursday, December 7, 2017

7:30 PM–Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room

Friday, December 8, 2017

Saturday, December 9, 2017

10:30 AM–Cooperative Youth Ministry Decorates Social Hall

Sunday, December 10, 2017

9:00 AM–Contemporary Theology, Conference Room
9:00 AM–Intergenerational Spiritual Pathways, Lounge, Room 106
9:00 AM–Covenant Class, Room 207
9:45 AM–Children’s Music Time, Room 009/010
10:30 AM–Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:45 AM–Fair Trade Sale
12:00 PM–Cooperative Youth Ministry Cookie Sale, Social Hall
12:00PM–Intergenerational Orchestra, Sanctuary
5:30 PM–Cooperative Youth Ministry
7:00 PM–CCC Book Group, Off-site



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Pastor Matt's Blog: www.drybonesarise.blogspot.com

The Church Office is open 9:00 – 2:00 Monday through Thursday and closed on Friday.

The Rev. Dr. Matthew Braddock | Senior Minister, Ext 223, matt@cccsilverspring.org
The Rev. Gloria Grant | Minister for Care & Community, Ext 226, gloria@cccsilverspring.org
The Rev. Dr. John Ahn | Cooperative Youth Ministry Leader, cym@cccsilverspring.org
Sandra 'Sam' Wack | Music Director, Ext 224, sam@cccsilverspring.org
Chris Braddock | Interim Church School Superintendent, churchschool@cccsilverspring.org
Dwelley Gardiner | Church School Nursery
Dianne Abraham | Church Administrator, Ext 222, propertyAdmin@cccsilverspring.org
Susan Gray | Administrative Assistant, Ext. 221, cccoffice@cccsilverspring.org
The Rev. James A. Todhunter | Minister Emeritus