

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

COLLEGE PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

2 December 2018

11:00 AM

GATHER

Meditation of Preparation

Fearlessness is the first requisite of spirituality. Cowards can never be moral.
Mahatma Gandhi

Let me not pray to be sheltered from dangers, but to be fearless in facing them. Let me not beg for the stilling of my pain, but for the heart to conquer it.
Rabindranath Tagore, *Collected Poems*

Fear of a name increases fear of the thing itself.
J.K. Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*

Lighting of the Candles

Bradley Webb

Welcome and Announcements

Lin Story-Bunce

GRACE

Prelude *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* tune: Veni Emmanuel
arr: David Cherwein

★ Call to Worship

In each heart lies a Bethlehem, an inn where we must ultimately answer whether there is room or not.

When we are Bethlehem-bound we experience our own advent in his. When we are Bethlehem-bound we can no longer look the other way conveniently not seeing stars not hearing angel voices.

We can no longer excuse ourselves by busily tending our sheep or our kingdoms.

This Advent let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing the Lord has made known to us. In the midst of shopping sprees let's ponder in our hearts the Gift of Gifts.

Through the tinsel let's look for the gold of the Christmas Star. In the excitement and confusion, in the merry chaos, let's listen for the brush of angels' wings.

This Advent, let's go to Bethlehem and find our kneeling places.
Ann Weems

★ Prayers of Thanksgiving

★ Baptist Hymnal #77 *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* HYFRYDOL

★ Lighting of Advent Candle *Hope*

Leader: What Hope brings you here today?

People: We are summoned by hope that ties our trust to love and nurtures us in faith.

Leader: How can this be?

People: It is of God. Hope that covers the earth, Hope that spans the centuries, Hope that fills the soul with anticipation.

All: We light this candle to symbolize our eternal hope in God.

E. Lee Phillips

★ Response

Gloria in excelsis Deo

GLORIA



GROW

New Testament Reading Luke 1.5-25 *The Message (MSG)*

During the rule of Herod, King of Judea, there was a priest assigned service in the regiment of Abijah. His name was Zachariah. His wife was descended from the daughters of Aaron. Her name was Elizabeth. Together they lived honorably before God, careful in keeping to the ways of the commandments and enjoying a clear conscience before God. But they were childless because Elizabeth could never conceive, and now they were quite old. It so happened that as Zachariah was carrying out his priestly duties before God, working the shift assigned to his regiment, it came his one turn in life to enter the sanctuary of God and burn incense. The congregation was gathered and praying outside the Temple at the hour of the incense offering. Unannounced, an angel of God appeared just to the right of the altar of incense. Zachariah was paralyzed in fear. But the angel reassured him, don't fear, Zachariah. Your prayer has been heard. Elizabeth, your wife, will bear a son by you. You are to name him John. You're going to leap like a gazelle for joy, and not only you—many will delight in his birth. He'll achieve great stature with God. He'll drink neither wine nor beer. He'll be filled with the Holy Spirit from the moment he leaves his mother's womb. He will turn many sons and daughters of Israel back to their God. He will herald God's arrival in the style and strength of Elijah, soften the hearts of parents to children, and kindle devout understanding among hardened skeptics—he'll get the people ready for God. Zachariah said to the angel, Do you expect me to believe this? I'm an old man and my wife is an old woman. But the angel said, "I am Gabriel, the sentinel of God, sent especially to bring you this glad news. But because you won't believe me, you'll be unable to say a word until the day of your son's birth. Every word I've spoken to you will come true on time—God's time. Meanwhile, the congregation waiting for Zachariah was getting restless, wondering what was keeping him so long in the sanctuary. When he came out and couldn't speak, they knew he had seen a vision. He continued speechless and had to use sign language with the people. When the course of his priestly assignment was completed, he went back home. It wasn't long before his wife, Elizabeth, conceived. She went off by herself for five months, relishing her pregnancy. "So, this is how God acts to remedy my unfortunate condition!" she said.

For the word of God in scripture,
for the word of God among us,
for the word of God within us,
Thanks be to God.

Special Music

Do Not Be Afraid

Christian McIvor

Children's Sermon

Walt Pickard

Children ages 3 through 4th grade are invited to come to the front for the children's sermon. Afterwards, children aged 3 may go to the toddlers' room, children ages 4 through 1st grade may leave for children's worship (room 110), 2nd graders & older may return to their seats.

Prayer for the World & Unison Response

I must not fear. Fear is the mind-killer. Fear is the little-death that brings total obliteration. With God, I will face my fear. I will permit it to pass over me and through me. And when it has gone past I will turn the inner eye to see its path. Where the fear has gone there will be nothing. Only God and I will remain.

Sermon

Do Not Be Afraid

Michael Usey

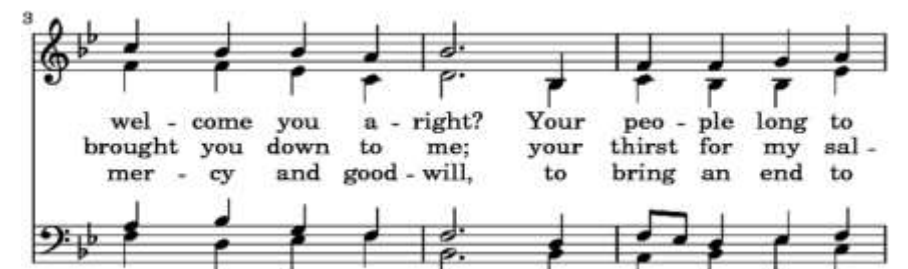
Moment of Silence

It was so risky and so scary, and yet at the same time, so beautiful. Maybe the truth was, it shouldn't be easy to be amazing. Then everything would be. It's the things you fight for and struggle with before earning that have the greatest worth. When something's difficult to come by, you'll do that much more to make sure it's even harder -if not impossible- to lose.

Sarah Dessen, Along for the Ride

GIVE

★ Glory to God #104 *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You* ST THEODULPH



Offertory Prayer

Offertory *Creator of The Stars of Night* tune: Conditor alme siderum
arr: David Lasky

We can easily forgive a child who is afraid of the dark; the real tragedy of life is when people are afraid of the light.
Plato

★ Response

Doxology 27

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below; O praise God! Alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.
O praise God, O praise God! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

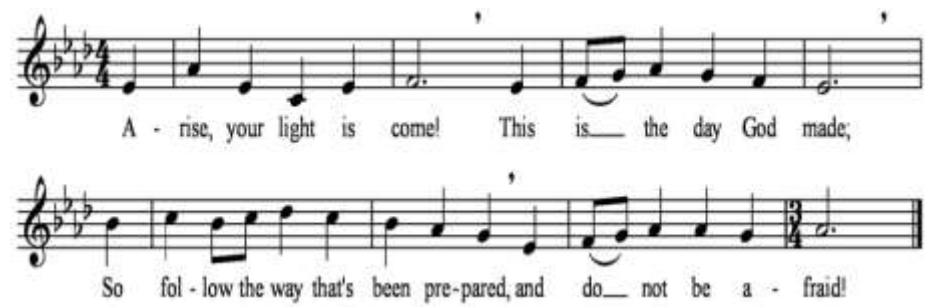
★ Recognition of New Members

In response to your decision, we pledge ourselves to be the family of God for you in this place. We offer you our love, our care, our kinship and our hopes.

We hope to learn from you, give to you and receive from you, by God's grace. Thank God you are here!

GO

- ★ Benediction Michael Usey
- ★ Response *Arise, Your Light is Come* words: Christian Mclvor
music: William H. Walker



- ★ Postlude *People Look East!* tune: Besancon
arr: Robert Lau
- Depart in Peace
- I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave person is not one who does not feel afraid, but one who conquers that fear.*
Nelson Mandela

College Park Baptist Church fully welcomes and affirms all persons without distinction regarding race, ethnicity, national origin, class, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other human category.

The Liturgist today is Caroline Joyce.
The Deacon Greeter today is Andrea Turner .

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★ Please stand as you are able.



Priorities of Our Church

1. We serve our community. We actively work for the benefit of our community; **we are known for seeking Greensboro's welfare, both as a congregation and as individuals.**
2. We encourage everyone to be connected. We seek connection through small groups that offer opportunities for fellowship, for deeper relationships, and for developing our faith. Because of the growing number of these groups, new members will find ready opportunity for becoming involved and making friends.
3. We sustain the financial health of our congregation. We are mindful of the financial well-being of our congregation; we ensure that the buildings housing our ministries are maintained and preserved, and the programs and staff supporting our ministry are fully funded.
4. We nurture lay involvement and empower leadership. We are purposeful in encouraging members to undertake their individual calls to ministry and in helping them prepare for involvement and leadership.
5. We exist and minister in the name of God in Christ. We are distinctively Christian and seek to follow Jesus as Lord.

Sunday Announcements

COMBINED SERVICE AT 10:00 on Dec 16
No Tessera at 8:30, no 11:00 service.
Sunday School & Coffee hour at 9:00.

Adult Choir

Fall rehearsals for the Adult Choir are Wednesday evenings from 7:30pm-9:00pm. Please see Christian Mclvor if you're interested or feel free to just come to rehearsal!

Youth Schedule

Sunday Nights: 5 pm Youth Choir; 6 pm Youth Dinner; 6:30—7:45 pm Holy Chaos

Wednesday Night Schedule & Calendar

5:30 pm	Dinner
6:00—7:00 pm	Kid's Choirs (Pre-K and Grades 1-5)
6:30—7:30 pm	Special Programming
7:30—9:00 pm	Adult Choir

Special Programming Calendar

December 5—Bible Study w/ Jason Myers—6:30 pm, Chapel
December 12—Love Feast—5:30 pm, FH
December 19—CP Christmas Dinner—5:30 pm, FH

Wednesday Night Bible Study

Outrageous Acts: Scenes from the Acts of the Apostles, taught by Dr. Jason Myers, Associate Professor of Biblical Studies at Greensboro College, Nov. 28 & Dec. 5

Angel Tree Update & Wrapping Party

Angel Tree cards have flown off the trees, thanks to your generosity. Please return your unwrapped gifts **to one of the three angel trees at church when you've finished your shopping.** Peck Elementary and Prison Fellowship gifts are due Dec. 9; Adult Group Home gifts by Dec. 16. The youth group has a shopping outing to make sure all cards have been chosen and to add extras where needed. If you need help with spending guidelines or gift ideas, feel free to text or call me at 336-455-0172. The Prison Fellowship Angel Tree program suggests that we spend \$25 on each child. Last year, thanks to you and our youth, we gave all children two or three gifts. If you prefer to contribute money, please designate your offering with Angel Tree in your check memo, your envelope or in your **online giving. We'll add that to the money the youth raise for their Angel Tree shopping trip and also make sure caregivers get grocery money for their families. Come wrap gifts with the Missions Team on Dec. 9 after the 11 a.m. service. We'll gather about 12:15 in the downstairs conference room, have a short meeting and then begin wrapping presents.** All supplies provided. Please bring a snack to share and a beverage of your choice. Margaret Bell

Building Your Resilience

Pressure happens - stress doesn't have to. How resilient are you when dealing with the everyday pressures of life? Ginny Olson, from the Center for Creative Leadership, will conduct a complimentary workshop at College Park January 9. To participate, you need to complete a brief resiliency assessment during the month of November. Pick up a copy of the assessment on the book table in the parking lot foyer.

Tai Chi

According to the November 2018 *Consumer Reports*, "Research suggests that [tai chi] cuts the risk of falls in older adults, helps with chronic pain, and may ease the symptoms of **dementia, depression, osteoarthritis, and Parkinson's disease.**" **Learn Tai Chi Chuan**, the gentle exercise, method of moving meditation, martial art and means of cultivating a sense of well-being. Tai Chi can be done by almost anyone. If you can walk, you can do Tai Chi. In preparation for his instructor certification, Mark Fleming will conduct a free class in the Chapel, Thursdays, 6:30-7:30 pm. Wear comfortable clothing.



Announcements Continued

Mostly Men's Occasional Book Club

The Mostly Men's Occasional book club meets this Tuesday, Dec 4, at Fat Dog's (3021 Spring Garden St, Greensboro, NC 27403) in the backroom from 6:30-8:00. Join us! We're discussing *Smoke Gets in Your Eyes*.

Women of Valor

New book is *Parable of the Sower* by Octavia E. Butler. The next meeting will be Tues., Dec. 11, 7 pm at Lisa Elkins' home. Please bring snacks to share.

The Outdoor Club

The Outdoor Club meets on Saturdays at 10:30am at the end of Bur-Mill Club Rd Ext. We'll park in the cul de sac across from the Frank Sharpe Jr. Wildlife Education Center and run/walk/jog/bike on the Atlantic & Yadkin Greenway. If you'd like an informal chance to get out in nature for some fellowship and exercise with no expectations and no judgment, come on out!

GUM

It's that time of year again. The air is brisk and beautiful and winter is upon us. As many of us are snuggled in our warm homes there are many more that are not and are in need of warmth. So beginning Sunday there will be an Urban Ministry box for donations of gloves, socks and hats (preferably knitted, etc.), placed in the area leading to the side door parking lot. Our goal is to have enough gloves, socks and hats to give out December 16th and January 20th at GUM. Any questions, contact Eileen Lloyd at eileenmari-e6@yahoo.com or 336-549-7766. Thank you so much for your great caring and giving.

New Hymnals

In September, a committee was convened to consider options for a new pew hymnal, and the decision was made to add the ecumenical Glory to God hymnal to our pews. We will keep our Baptist Hymnals, as we want to honor our tradition and carry it with us. We look forward to soon adding the *Glory to God* hymnal in an effort to provide more progressive, ecumenical, diverse, and welcoming options for congregational songs! Copies are available for viewing in the church office and at the front of the sanctuary.

Combined Service

On December 16 we will hold a combine service at 10:00am in the sanctuary. All music ministry groups will lead in worship, and some favorite congregational Christmas hymns will be included. Please feel free to suggest some of your favorites to Christian and/or David over the next two weeks. A reception will be held in Forest Chapel after the service, so please stay and say hello to some College Parkers you don't know!

Conservation Report

Thanks to Bill Ingold for completing a report on "An Overview of Current Practices Concerning Lighting & Energy Conservation" at CP! If you'd like to see what our church is actively doing in these areas, copies are available to view in the church office and at the front of the sanctuary.

Office & Media Manager

Annette Waisner our Office and Media Manager has left for a job posting at UNCG. James Blay will serve as interim in her position. James, who has preached a few times at College Park, is a 2016 graduate of McAfee School of Divinity and was recently serving as Vice President for Administration at the Liberia Baptist Seminary. We wish Annette all the best as she takes on her new post, and express our gratitude to James as he serves during this interim period.



Creation Care Consideration

Recycle to lower the amount of environmental waste you produce. Aim to recycle as much glass, metal, plastic, and paper as you can. It's easy to use Greensboro's curbside recycling service. Questions about what can be recycled? Ask Nancy Lindemeyer, the City's recycling communications manager.

Creation Justice has a webpage: www.collegeparkchurch.com/creation-justice-team/

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Celebrations & Concerns

Celebrations

Birthdays: Sunday: Ellie Beatry Monday: Sam Austin, Duncan Chapman, Deanna Miller, Alison Schwartz Wednesday: Gay Hensley, Iris Pickard Friday: Ruby Webb Jack Miller is back at home. Address, 3141 Wood Point Street, Jamestown 27282 Phone 336-852-3562
 Mark File received the Charles Kurault Award by the NC Travel Industry Association. The award honors an individual who brings exceptional, positive public attention to the state through mass communication.
 Rachel Kirkman has been appointed by the governor to serve on the NC Board for Licensing of Geologists.

Concerns

Wendy Smithey who was mauled by a dog 2 weeks ago is now home recovering. Address, 3705 Hobbs Rd, Greensboro, 27410. Phone 336-288-0369.
 Lauren Sandifer is being treated for lung cancer. Address: 1921 New Garden Rd., Apt. P108, 27410
 Kari Baumann lost her grandmother to a heart attack on the 8th of November. Funeral service was held on the 12th of November. Address, 813 Montpelier Drive, Greensboro 27410. Phone 336-601-1370
 Mary Ann Stone broke her hip. Address, 1122 Westridge Road, Greensboro 27410. Phone 336-292-3377.
 Betty Lowrance was hospitalized for diverticulitis. She is at home. Address, 2402 Hardie Street Greensboro, 27403. Phone 336-292-0004
 To add or update the concerns list, contact the church office: 336-273-1779 or cpbcgbo@bellsouth.net

New Addresses/Other Information

Rydell & Monica Harrison 34 Scenic View Dr., Northfield, CT 06778
 Lewis Harter (*letters*) Mozart Beethoven Dorm, P.O. Box 200, Interlochen, MI 49643; (*packages*) Mozart Beethoven Dorm, 9900 Diamond Park Rd. Interlochen, MI 49643; email: lewis.harter@interlochen.org
 D.J. Jones 504 Possom Trot Lane, Hope Mills, NC 28348
 Roland Russoli & Sarah Nelson 2510 Kensington Gardens #207, Ellicott City, MD 21043

Child Care

	<u>Dec. 2</u>	<u>Dec. 9</u>
Childcare	Amy Lowrance	Susan Phillips
Wee Worship	Alison Schwartz	Hayatt Sael

This Week	Looking Ahead
<u>Sun Dec 2</u> 8:30 am Tessera Service, Chapel 10 am Sunday School 11am Blended Worship, Sanctuary 5 pm Student Activities 6 pm Deacons' Meeting	Dec. 3 NA Noon, Chapel; Zumba 6 pm, FH 4 NA Noon, Chapel; 6 pm Zumba, Chapel; 6:30 pm Mostly Men's Occasional Book Club, Fat Dogs 5 NA Noon, Chapel; 5:30 pm Dinner, FH; 6:30 pm Bible Study, Chapel; 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
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Concerns

Wendy Smithey who was mauled by a dog 2 weeks ago is now home recovering. Address, 3705 Hobbs Rd, Greensboro, 27410. Phone 336-288-0369.
 Lauren Sandifer is being treated for lung cancer. Address: 1921 New Garden Rd., Apt. P108, 27410
 Kari Baumann lost her grandmother to a heart attack on the 8th of November. Funeral service was held on the 12th of November. Address, 813 Montpelier Drive, Greensboro 27410. Phone 336-601-1370
 Mary Ann Stone broke her hip. Address, 1122 Westridge Road, Greensboro 27410. Phone 336-292-3377.
 Betty Lowrance was hospitalized for diverticulitis. She is at home. Address, 2402 Hardie Street Greensboro, 27403. Phone 336-292-0004
 To add or update the concerns list, contact the church office: 336-273-1779 or cpbcgbo@bellsouth.net

New Addresses/Other Information

Rydell & Monica Harrison 34 Scenic View Dr., Northfield, CT 06778
 Lewis Harter (*letters*) Mozart Beethoven Dorm, P.O. Box 200, Interlochen, MI 49643; (*packages*) Mozart Beethoven Dorm, 9900 Diamond Park Rd. Interlochen, MI 49643; email: lewis.harter@interlochen.org
 D.J. Jones 504 Possom Trot Lane, Hope Mills, NC 28348
 Roland Russoli & Sarah Nelson 2510 Kensington Gardens #207, Ellicott City, MD 21043

Child Care

	<u>Dec. 2</u>	<u>Dec. 9</u>
Childcare	Amy Lowrance	Susan Phillips
Wee Worship	Alison Schwartz	Hayatt Sael

This Week	Looking Ahead
<u>Sun Dec 2</u> 8:30 am Tessera Service, Chapel 10 am Sunday School 11am Blended Worship, Sanctuary 5 pm Student Activities 6 pm Deacons' Meeting	Dec. 3 NA Noon, Chapel; Zumba 6 pm, FH 4 NA Noon, Chapel; 6 pm Zumba, Chapel; 6:30 pm Mostly Men's Occasional Book Club, Fat Dogs 5 NA Noon, Chapel; 5:30 pm Dinner, FH; 6:30 pm Bible Study, Chapel; 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal
<u>Mon Dec 3</u> 6 pm Zumba, FH	6 NA Noon, Chapel; 6:30 pm Tai Chi, Chapel
<u>Tue Dec 4</u> 6 pm Zumba, Chapel	7 Al-Anon Noon, FH, 6:30 pm Chinese Student Ministry
<u>Wed Dec 5</u> 5:30 pm Dinner, FH 6:30 pm Bible Study, Chapel 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	8 Qigong, 9:30—11:30 am, Chapel 9 8:30 am Tessera, Chapel; 10 am Sunday School; 11 am Blended Service, Sanctuary; 5 pm Youth Activities
<u>Thur Dec 6</u> 6:30 pm Tai Chi, Chapel	10 NA Noon, Chapel; Zumba 6 pm, FH 11 NA Noon, Chapel; Zumba 6 pm, Chapel; 7 pm Women of Valor, Lisa Elkins' Home
<u>Fri Dec 7</u> 6:30 pm Chinese Student Ministry, FH	12 NA Noon, Chapel; Dinner 5:30 pm, FH; Bible Study 6:30 pm, Chapel; Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm
<u>Sun Dec 9</u> 8:30 am Tessera Service, Chapel 10 am Sunday School 11 am Blended Worship, Sanctuary 5 pm Student Activities	13 NA Noon, Chapel; Tai Chi 6:30 pm, Chapel 14 Al-Anon Noon, FH; 6:30 pm Chinese Student Ministry 15 Qigong 9:30—11:30 am, Chapel 16 GUM, 3rd Sunday Refreshments