

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

COLLEGE PARK BAPTIST CHURCH

23 December 2018

11:00 AM

GATHER

Meditation of Preparation

Fortune sides with the one who dares.

Virgil

A bend in the road is not the end of the road, unless you fail to make the turn.

Helen Keller

The practice of love offers no place of safety. We risk loss, hurt, pain. We risk being acted upon by forces outside our control.

Bell Hooks, *All About Love*

Lighting of the Candles

Iris Pickard

Welcome and Announcements

Lin Story-Bunce

GRACE

Prelude

The Coventry Carol/The First Nowell

arr: Mark Hayes

* Call to Worship

You wait for us until we are open to you

We wait for your word to make us receptive.

Attune us to your voice, to your silence;

Speak and bring your Son to us-Jesus, the word of your peace.

Your word is near, oh Lord our God, your grace is near.

Come to us then with mildness and power.

Do not let us fail to hear you,

But make us receptive and opened to Jesus Christ your Son, who will

come to look for us and save us today and every day, forever and ever.

You, God, arouse faith in our hearts whoever we are.

You know and accept all your people, whatever their thoughts are of

you.

Speak to the world, then, your word, come with your heaven among us.

Give to the good and to the bad your Son, forever and ever. Amen

* Prayer of Thanksgiving

* Baptist Hymnal #79

Blessed Be the God of Israel

FOREST GREEN

* Lighting the Advent Candle of Love

Allison Wray & James Blay

Leader: What love brings you here today?

People: We are summoned by an everlasting love that brings us to ourselves and nurtures us onto salvation.

Leader: How can this be?

People: It is of God. Unconditional love that accepts us as we are;

undiluted love that conquers sin; unfettered love that saves to the uttermost them that believe.

All: We light this candle to symbolize our deep love for God.

E. Lee Phillips

* Response

Gloria in excelsis Deo

GLORIA



GROW

New Testament Reading

Matthew 1:18-25

The Message (MSG)

The birth of Jesus took place like this. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. Before they came to the marriage bed, Joseph discovered **she was pregnant. (It was by the Holy Spirit, but he didn't know that.)**

Joseph chagrined but noble, determined to take care of things quietly so Mary would not be disgraced. While he was trying to figure a way out, he had **a dream. God's angel spoke in the dream: "Joseph, son of David, don't hesitate to get married. Mary's pregnancy is Spirit-conceived. God's Holy Spirit has made her pregnant. She will bring a son to birth, and when she does, you, Joseph, will name him Jesus—"God saves"—because he will save**

his people from their sins." This would bring the prophet's embryonic sermon to full term: Watch for this—a virgin will get pregnant and bear a **son; They will name him Immanuel (Hebrew for "God is with us"). Then Joseph woke up. He did exactly what God's angel commanded in the dream:** He married Mary. But he did not consummate the marriage until she had the baby. He named the baby Jesus.

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.

Anthem

Still, Still, Still

German carol

arr. Philip Ledger

Children's Sermon

Ed Drew

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

Jesus' Step Dad

Michael Usey

Moment of Silence

Do you want me to tell you something really subversive? Love is everything it's cracked up to be. That's why people are so cynical about it. It really is worth fighting for, being brave for, risking everything for. And the trouble is, if you don't risk anything, you risk even more.

Erica Jong, *Fear of Flying*

GIVE

* Glory to God #100 Canticle of the Turning STAR OF THE COUNTRY DOWN



* Offertory Prayer

Offertory

See Amid the Winter's Snow

tune: HUMILITY

arr: John Goss

So we shall let the reader answer this question for him- or herself: who is the happier person, the one who has braved the storm of life and lived or the one who has stayed securely on shore and merely existed?

Hunter S. Thompson

* 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!

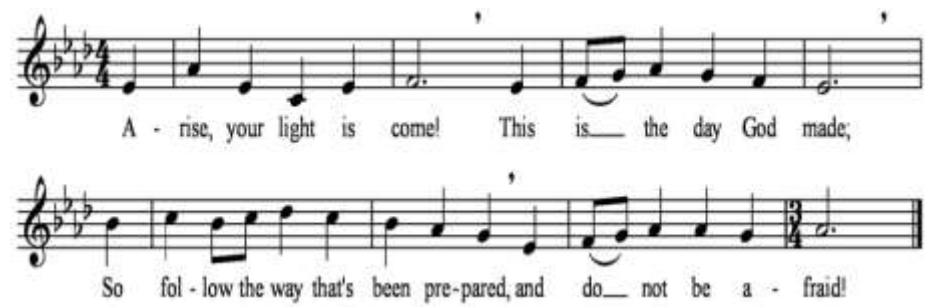
* Recognition of New Members

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 *Angels We Have Heard on High* arr: Larry Visser
Depart in Peace
There is no intensity of love or feeling that does not involve the risk of crippling hurt. It is a duty to take this risk, to love and feel without defense or reserve.
William S. Burroughs

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 Randy Henderson.
The Deacon Greeter today is Margaret Bell.

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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

Adult Choir

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

No Youth Activities December 23, and December 30.

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 26— No Wed. Night Program
January 2—Grimsley Madrigal Singers
January 9—Regular Wednesday Programming Resumes

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.

Mostly Men's Occasional Book Club

The Mostly Men's Occasional book club's new book, *This Mortal Coil* by Emily Suvada is now available for pick up. The meeting date is Tuesday, January 15, 6:30pm at Fat Dogs, corner of Spring Garden and Holden Rd.

Women of Valor

The Women of Valor meeting has been moved to Tuesday Jan. 8, 7 pm at Lisa Elkins' home. The book being read remains *Parable of the Sower* by Octavia E. Butler. Please bring snacks to share.

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.

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/

23 December 2018
College Park Church
Advent Four

'Twas the Sunday after Christmas

Join us December 30 for a combined service of worship and celebration. Come dressed casually in jeans, your favorite Carhart hoody, new Falcons jersey, REI pullover, or new ski sweater.

Coffee and donuts will be served in the chapel at 9:00am, followed by worship at 10:00 am.

There will be no Tessera Service. Sunday school classes will not meet.

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Celebrations & Concerns

Celebrations

Birthdays: Tuesday: Ashley Boatman, Brendan Boatman
 Wednesday: Angela Brady-Fleming Saturday: Craig Bowyer
 Anniversary: December 23: Robert & Angela Williams
 Jack Miller is back at home. Address, 3141 Wood Point Street, Jamestown 27282
 Phone 336-852-3562
 Drew Westervelt will be attending the University of Miami (FL) in the fall. He has been accepted into the Marine Affairs program in their Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences.
 Christian Burkhead has a new job with a security police group.
 Ann Usey has a new job as an English Teacher at Southwest Guilford High School.

Concerns

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. 23</u>	<u>Jan 6</u>
Childcare	Alison Schwartz	Dianne Ingold
Wee Worship	Sue Ellen Team	Ginny Olson

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