



Darnestown Presbyterian Church

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Service for the Lord's Day

December 12, 2021

The Third Sunday of Advent

10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE..... *"Let Our Gladness Have No End"*..... Schack

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
(Please sign the attendance register.)

MEDITATION

*Joy's trick is to supply
Dry lips with what can cool and slake,
Leaving them dumbstruck also with an ache
Nothing can satisfy.*

– *"Hamlen Brook,"* by Richard Wilbur

CALL TO WORSHIP & LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Neil, Amy & Etta Jenkins

We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

As the Lord has promised, in days to come . . .

The nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;
(*lighting of the first candle*) **nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.**

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
(*lighting of the second candle*) **the calf and the lion and the fatling will lie down together, and a little child shall lead them.**

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
(*lighting of the third candle*) **like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.**

*HYMN..... *"Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above"*..... 645

*CALL TO CONFESSION

Surely God is our salvation. Have faith, and do not be afraid. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of the future,
you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised**

judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world.		
*SILENT CONFESSION	And let the people say, Amen.	
*ASSURANCE OF GOD’S PARDON	The wilderness will rejoice; the dry land will blossom. The people of God will return with joy and singing. Friends, believe the good news. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.	
*GLORIA PATRI	581	
SCRIPTURE LESSONS	Zephaniah 3: 14-20 (p. 826) The Word of the Lord! Philippians: 4: 4-7 (p. 187) Thanks be to God! Luke 3: 7-18 (p. 56)	
CHILDREN’S MESSAGE		
SERMON	“The Joyful Curmudgeon”	Rev. Neill Morgan
*HYMN	“In the Bleak Midwinter”	144
PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH		
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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.	
MINUTE FOR CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING	Roland Frenc	
OFFERTORY	“A Shoot Shall Come Forth”	Horn Chancel Choir

*DOXOLOGY & PRAYER		
*HYMN	“People, Look East”	105
*BENEDICTION & RESPONSE	“While We Are Waiting, Come”	92
1 While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come. Refrain: Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.		
2 With power and glory, come; with power and glory, come. (Refrain)		
3 Come, Savior, quickly come; come, Savior, quickly come. (Refrain)		
Text: Claire Cloninger, 1986; Music: Don Cason, 1986. Text & Music ©1986 Word Music, LLC		
POSTLUDE	“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”	Manz

A Nursery is available during the service for infants and toddlers in the first room to the right past the Gathering Space.

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You are invited to join us for Coffee Hour after Worship

or

Virtual fellowship on Zoom. Here is the link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9038149343?pwd=Z2ZFcTNPcWQvWG VFVy9vbjdWZ1RVUT09>
Meeting ID: 903 814 9343 Passcode: 1855.

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Welcome to this time of worship. During the announcements, please sign the “Aid to Fellowship” pad at the center aisle seat, pass it to the person next to you, and when all in the pew have signed it, kindly return it to the center aisle seat. After Worship, greet those around you.

“Advent” means “coming” or “arrival.” During the season of Advent, we celebrate Christ’s coming into the world and watch with expectant hope for his coming again. The four weeks of Advent present an opportunity for communal discernment and personal examination. *For the third week of Advent, we focus on Joy.* From Psalm 5:11, “But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, so that those who love your name may exult in you.”

The Deacons ushering today are Lindy Layton and Tim Robison. The Lay Reader is Neil Jenkins. Alan Munter is the A-V and Internet Tech., and Erin Reed is our Facebook Live tech.

Rev. Neill S. Morgan, Pastor
Mr. Eric Waggoner, Director of Music
Mrs. Terrie May, Program Assistant
Rev. Dr. Henry J. Postel, Pastor Emeritus

HYMNS

645

1 Sing praise to God who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love,
the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled,
and every faithless murmur stilled:
to God all praise and glory!

2 What God’s almighty power has made
God’s gracious mercy keepeth;
by morning glow or evening shade
God’s watchful eye ne’er sleepeth.
Within the kingdom of God’s might,
lo! all is just and all is right:
to God all praise and glory!

3 The Lord is never far away,
but, through all grief distressing,
an ever-present help and stay,
our peace and joy and blessing,
as with a mother’s tender hand
God gently leads the chosen band:
to God all praise and glory!

4 Thus all my toilsome way along
I sing aloud thy praises,
that all may hear the grateful song
my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart;
both soul and body, take your part:
to God all praise and glory!

Text: johann Jacob Schultzt, 1675; trans. Frances Elizabeth Cos, 1864, alt. Music: Bohemian Brethren’s Kirchengseang, 1566; harm Maurice F. Bell, 1906, alt.

144

1 In the bleak midwinter,
frosty wind made moan;
earth stood hard as iron,
water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow,
snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

2 Our God, heaven cannot hold him,
nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away

when he comes to reign:
in the bleak midwinter
a stable place sufficed
the Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.

3 Angels and archangels
may have gathered there;
cherubim and seraphim
thronged the air;
but his mother only,
in her maiden bliss,
worshiped the beloved with a kiss.

4 What can I give him,
poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man,
I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Text: Christina Rossetti, c. 1872, alt. Music: Gustav Holst, 1906

105

1 People, look east. The time is near
of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able;
trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Guest, is on the way.

2 Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare,
one more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength the seed to nourish,
that in course the flower may flourish.

People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Rose, is on the way.

3 Birds, though you long have ceased to build,
guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen
God for fledging time has chosen.
People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Bird, is on the way.

4 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim
one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather,
bright as sun and moon together.

People, look east and sing today:
Love, the Star, is on the way.

5 Angels, announce with shouts of mirth
Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming
with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today:

Love, the Lord, is on the way.
Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1928. Alt. (David Higham Associates, Ltd). Music: French folk melody, harm. Martin Shaw, 1928. ©1928 Oxford University Press

SCRIPTURES

Zephaniah 3:14-20

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!
¹⁵ The Lord has taken away the judgements
against you, he has turned away your enemies.
The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow
weak. ¹⁷ The Lord, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing
¹⁸ as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.
¹⁹ I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

And I will save the lame and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

²⁰ At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the Lord.

Philippians 4:4-7

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say,
Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to

everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about
anything, but in everything by prayer and
supplication with thanksgiving let your requests
be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God,
which surpasses all understanding, will guard
your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Luke 3:7-18

⁷ John said to the crowds that came out to be
baptized by him, ‘You brood of vipers! Who
warned you to flee from the wrath to come?’ ⁸Bear
fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say
to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our
ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these
stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even
now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every
tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut
down and thrown into the fire.’

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, ‘What then should
we do?’ ¹¹In reply he said to them, ‘Whoever has
two coats must share with anyone who has none;
and whoever has food must do likewise.’ ¹²Even
tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they
asked him, ‘Teacher, what should we do?’ ¹³He
said to them, ‘Collect no more than the amount
prescribed for you.’ ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him,
‘And we, what should we do?’ He said to them, ‘Do
not extort money from anyone by threats or false
accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.’

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and
all were questioning in their hearts concerning
John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John
answered all of them by saying, ‘I baptize you
with water; but one who is more powerful than I
is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of
his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy
Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing-fork is in his
hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather
the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will
burn with unquenchable fire.’

¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he
proclaimed the good news to the people.

Calendar of the Week

Sunday, December 12 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

- 9:00 a.m. – Adult Class, Library
- 10:30 a.m. – Worship Service
Jr. Church after Children's Message
- 11:30 a.m. – Coffee Hour, Gathering Space
- 5:00 p.m. – Advent Potluck Dinner, Fellowship Hall
- 7:00 p.m. – Purl and Pray via Zoom

Monday, December 13

- 7:00 p.m. – Mission Committee, Library

Tuesday, December 14

- 7:00 p.m. – Circle for All, Library

Wednesday, December 15

- 6:30 p.m. – Bell Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. – Chancel Choir Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. – Building & Grounds, Library

Saturday, December 18

- 10:00 a.m. – Confirmation Retreat
- 12:00 p.m. – Wreaths Across America

Sunday, December 19

- 9:00 a.m. – Adult Class, Library
- 10:30 a.m. – Worship Service
Jr. Church after Children's Message
- 11:30 a.m. – Coffee Hour, Gathering Space
- 5:00 p.m. – Youth Christmas Party

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Prayer List – Long Term Health Needs: the Angeles Family, Lee Atienza (Donna Koh's friend), Lee Barkell (Soren Ashmall's friend), Loretta Cregger, Johnnie Crown (Kevin Crown's mother), Jack Durham (Dave Durham's father), John E. Fleming (Sue Moses' brother), Rebecca Girvin (Dave McClung's sister), Tammy Grenke (Mary Clinedinst's sister-in-law), Maki Inoue-Choi, Christopher Jacob (Lida Stifel's son-in-law), Bill Kanost (Jan Summers' cousin), Stephanie Kreider (Tammie Ashmall's sister), Martha Layton (David Layton's mother), Charles Matheson (Lida Stifel's brother); Maria McDonald (friend of Kay Forsht), Wade Mostrom, Jess Neri, Peg & Doug Newman (friends of Gary Pricer), John Peoples, Pat Petrola (Betty Petrola's husband), Helen Robison (Tim Robison's sister), Bettie Shortt (Tammie Ashmall's mother), Betty Stickler (friend in Drift), Kelly Sullivan (daughter of June Calvin's friends), Ruth Sweet.
Recovering or Just Because: Family of Barbara

Butler (Sue Gordon's mother), Family of Doris Lucille Ciorlito (Larry Ciorlito's mother), Family of Thomas Crown, Doug Eagleson and Family, The Hoggle Family, Family of Glenn Koponen (Jen Cole's uncle), Sandra McWhirter (Dave McClung's cousin), Sue Moses & Family, Soren Nordstrom (K. Henry's son), Family of Juanita Sulmonetti (Artha Jean Snyder's sister), Family of Judy Wenig.

Holiday Giving Project

Thanks to your loving support, Darnestown Presbyterian served Thanksgiving meals (many via gift cards this year in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic) to **50 families in the Montgomery County's Holiday Giving Program** administered through **Germantown HELP**. We're in the process of serving those same 50 families again for Christmas, so your donations of gift cards (Giant Food and/or Target preferred) or funds to buy gift cards are still greatly appreciated. We'd like to provide Christmas dinner *and* gifts for the children (all of our families have at least one and up to six children in the household), so we'll need significantly more support than at Thanksgiving to make for a truly joyous Christmas for all!

If you've expressed interest in adopting a family but haven't received information on your assigned family, **contact Rob Garretson at rgarretson@gmail.com or 301-980-4043 ASAP.** *There is still time to help. Financial donations to the program are welcome throughout the holiday season.*



Please join us TODAY, December 12, 5-7pm for the Advent Potluck Dinner in Fellowship Hall. This is a cherished tradition that can now return for first time since 2017! The Board of Deacons will provide baked hams, dinner rolls and drinks, as well as fun activities for children. Please bring an alternative main dish, a side dish or dessert.

Joy Gift – The **Joy Offering** will be received during Advent and through Christmas! One half of the total will support specific work of the PC(USA), caring for denominational staff and providing scholarships at our colleges. The other half we send to a particular mission or ministry – this year the Medical Benevolence Foundation, which works with churches and medical professionals in several developing countries to expand health care and train local people to care for their fellow citizens. MBF says: "God called the Church to serve the poor and we faithfully went and fulfilled the call....Our role is not to do the work for them – that would be toxic charity. Instead, our role is to equip the medical ministry of the Church in each country to use the gifts God has given them, so they can be who God has created them to be." (Quotation from www.medicalmission.org).

As MBF works in Malawi, Haiti and elsewhere, with its partner churches, it has these goals: Christian witness, excellence in medical care, sustainability, accountability, partnership, and building competence by enhancing skills.

We hope you will share your Christmas joy through this special offering! Use the pews envelopes and indicate on the memo line of your check "Joy Offering"; give electronically via the church website, or mail a check to the church. **Remember, that with these special offerings, if we each give a little, we'll accomplish a lot!**

In addition, you can give online with the Joy Offering dropdown on the giving screen on our website, **or mail a check** to Darnestown Presbyterian Church, PO Box 3070, Gaithersburg MD 20885, with Joy Offering in the memo line.

Mission – Speaking of Gifts...

If you're looking for a meaningful way to honor "someone who has everything" during the holidays, consider a gift of a donation to support those who are in need. Check out the Presbyterian giving catalog: <https://presbyteriangifts.pcusa.org>



This week in Youth Group:

Today: December 12:

Annual DPC Advent Potluck Dinner in Fellowship Hall- to begin at **5 pm**. Come and Bring your family. The Youth will have a Table of their own, and we will make ugly sweater cookies to take home. Please join all of your DPC Family for this festive event!!



Saturday, December 18 - Wreaths Across America Celebration at DPC Cemetery, 12 noon.

Light refreshments and music will proceed the service in the Gathering Area and Lower Narthex at DPC. All are welcome. If you would like to provide cookies, sweet bread, or cheese and crackers for this event, please contact Terrie May, terriemay2017@gmail.com

Next Sunday: There is a lot going on in church, coffee hour, and the Christmas Party for Youth.

Sunday, December 19- 4th Sunday of Advent

9:45 am to 10:15 am- Confirmation Class to meet with the Session of DPC.

11:30 am- Coffee Hour to Celebrate the Confirmation Class of 2021.

5:00 pm to 7:00 pm- Youth Group Christmas Party in the Gathering Area at DPC. We will solve a Nativity Escape Room, share a Festive Meal, and Celebrate.

****Please bring Laundry Detergent** to support a title one elementary school in Frederick, MD- Butterfly Ridge Elementary. This school has 228 families living below the poverty line. Please help support them in this very basic way during the holiday season.

Circle for All will meet **Tuesday, December 14** at 7:00 pm. The class is only one hour. Each lesson is independent so you can join us anytime in the Library. We continue our study in the Horizons Study Program- "What My Grandmothers Taught Me," lesson 4, "Ruth and Loyal Love;" Zoom will be available for those who would like to attend online. Rev. Morgan leads this study.

**2022 Stewardship Pledge Campaign:
Abundant Generosity**

We are in the middle of our Darnestown Presbyterian Church 2020 Stewardship Pledge Campaign: Abundant Generosity

There are several ways you can make your DPC 2022 Pledge:

ONE: You should’ve received a pledge card in the mail at your home. You can return your pledge card in the envelope via the mail or drop it in the offering plate during an upcoming worship service. If you did not receive a pledge card and would like one, please contact the church office: email to:

dpchurch@comcast.net.

TWO: Online Pledging is available on our DPC website (www.darnestownnpc.org). Click the 2022 Pledge Button on the DPC home page, log into the DPC Member Portal and click on the 'My Giving' button. Click the '+ Pledge' link on the upper right-hand side of the page to enter your pledge.

The deadline for turning in your 2022 pledge is **December 19, 2021**. Thank you in advance for your generous support of Darnestown Presbyterian Church in the coming year.

The new Holy Family figurines are brought to you by the Worship Committee. We would like to add additional pieces to the Nativity Set over time and wanted to give the Congregation the opportunity to participate through donations. The following are also available for this set from Joseph’s Studio. If you would like to make a contribution to the effort, please contact Terrie May – terriemay2017@gmail.com.

Ox (\$234)	Shepherd and Lamb (\$238)
Drummer Boy (\$180)	Donkey (\$270)
Seated Camel (\$230)	Three Kings (\$840)



Christmas Eve Worship Services

5:00pm Family Worship Service - Light savory refreshments will be served in the gathering space following the service.

8:00pm Candlelight Worship Service - A reception of cookies and punch will be held in the gathering space following the service.

If you would like to contribute homemade baked goods for this reception, please contact Julie Marsh at jwm@synergy-intl.com.

DPC Book Club

Read, Think, Dessert

The Book Club will not meet in the month of December, but don’t let that keep you from reading a good Christmas story. The book of Luke has a beautiful one! (Luke 2:1-7). We will resume meeting in January 2022, reading “The Rose Code” by Kate Quinn. Meeting Date: January 25, 2022: 7:30 pm in the Gathering Space.



Annual Epiphany Tea

DPW cordially invites **ALL** church members to join us for our annual holiday tea -- it’s a co-ed event this year! [Mark your calendars to join us after service on Sunday, January 9, 2022](#) in the Gathering Room and lower Narthex for refreshments, fellowship and entertainment. More details will follow.



Bible Study Group is moving from Friday mornings to **Thursday mornings** and meeting a half hour earlier at **9:00am**. We are currently studying 2 Samuel, the rise and fall of King David, very dramatic like a soap opera. All are welcome to come join in the discussion. We will resume our studies on **January 6 and 27 at 9am**. We'll meet in the Library. Let's read through 2 Samuel, chapter 16.



Please mark your calendar for **Saturday, December 18** for the annual **Wreaths Across America ceremony** and laying of wreaths on the graves of all known veterans in the DPC cemetery. This is a worldwide event to help REMEMBER fallen U.S. veterans, HONOR those who serve, and TEACH children the value of freedom.

We will meet in the church gathering space (through the main double door entrance from the parking lot) beginning around 11’ish for a munchies and social time. If you would like to provide cookies, sweet bread, or cheese and crackers for this event please contact Terrie May, terriemay2017@gmail.com.

The welcoming ceremony will be held in the Church Parking Lot near the Cemetery entrance **12 pm, followed by the laying of wreaths in the Cemetery**. Everyone is welcome – please invite family and friends! This is an outdoor event and will be held rain or shine (or snow!), so please dress appropriately. Please contact David Layton (laytond@gmail.com) with any questions.

Christian Education

The Advent Study for Adults continues today, December 12 at 9:00 am, led by Sally Belcher. The Study is published by Presbyterians Today: "Come to Bethlehem and Be Nourished" by Donna Frischknecht Jackson... Advent's Hunger Gives Way to Christmas' Fulfillment.

Follow Me To Jr. Church on Sunday mornings during Worship... We will learn to follow Jesus! Follow Me: Biblical Practices for Faithful Living is a 36-unit curriculum based on practices Jesus did and taught us to do as faithful followers. Written for people of all ages who wish to live out their faith, this curriculum examines where these practices are found in the Bible and how they have been used in Christian faith then and now.

Children in Pre-K to 4th Grade will attend Worship with their parents through the Children’s Message by Rev. Morgan and then will depart to classrooms to learn the practices for faithful living through our new curriculum, “Follow Me.” The lesson will be approximately 25 to 30 minutes. **Parents – please pick your child(ren) up at the conclusion of the Worship Service in the first Classroom to the left past the Gathering Space.** Children are always welcome in Worship – if you prefer them to attend the full service, it is your choice. If your child is in 5th grade or above, we’d like to have them attend the full Worship service.