

A Service For The Worship Of God
4th Sunday of Advent ~December 20, 2015
8:30 a.m. in Lingle Chapel; 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Gathering Around the Word

PRELUDE
(8:30) Once He Came in Blessing Michael Burkhardt
(11:00) Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming John Ferguson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE
Hymn No. 314 Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT
(Choir sings stanza 1, all sing refrain)
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Shout aloud and sing for joy,
For great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.
Surely God is our salvation.
Shine in our hearts, Lord Jesus.

A story from Amahl
Let us pray: **Holy God, with you nothing is impossible. Through Mary, a poor young woman in a small town, you gave birth to your realm of love. Fill us with new life and hope in your promises. Amen.**

*HYMN No. 104 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Arise, shine: for your light has come.
O God, we live as if the light had never defeated the darkness in the world or in us.
And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
We confess that we ignore the Christ you sent to be among us, to be in us.
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will be seen upon you.
We've kept the birth of your Son confined to the Christmas season and do not yearn for his birth each moment in our waiting hearts.
And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.
Lord, you came to us in the fullness of time.
Forgive us for not opening our eyes to your coming.
Let the light break forth, we pray.

Silent Prayers of Confession

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON Based on Psalm 139: 11-12
Hear the good news of the psalmist's proclamation:
If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me, And the light around me will be night,"
Even the darkness is not dark to God,
and the night is as bright as the day.
The God who promised never to leave us or forsake us has come to us in Jesus Christ who binds up the brokenhearted. heals all our infirmities, and relieves our burden of sin.
So arise, shine; for your light has come,
And the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
Thanks be to God!

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE No. 121 O Little Town of Bethlehem ST. LOUIS
O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE
Hearing the Word
(11:00) WORD FOR CHILDREN Come and See Marilyn Houser Hamm
(Children are invited to come forward.)
"Come and see, come and see, I am the way and the truth," said he.
"Follow me, follow me, come as a child, O come and see."

ANTHEM
(8:30) Arise, Shine, for your Light Has Come K. Lee Scott
Geneva Choir
(11:00) In the Bleak Midwinter Harold Darke
Madalyn Alexander and Kyra Hurst

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON Isaiah 58-61 *(selected verses)*

SERMON From Darkness to Light: Conflict to Reconciliation
Lib McGregor Simmons

Responding to the Word

*HYMN No. 123 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear CAROL

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER p.35

THE OFFERING
(8:30) From Heaven Above Johann Pachelbel
(11:00) The Snow Lay on the Ground arr. Leo Sowerby
Chancel Choir
(Please pass the fellowship register to the end of the pew and back at this time.)

*DOXOLOGY No. 606

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Bearing and Following the Word into the World

*HYMN No. 119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing MENDELSSOHN

*BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE Hark the Herald Angels Sing MENDELSSOHN
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

POSTLUDE From Heaven Above to Earth I Come Raymond Haan

*Those who are able, please stand.

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY
Preacher: Lib McGregor Simmons
Assisting Ministers: Robert Alexander, Mary Margaret Porter
TIC TOC: Linda Griffeth
Director of Music: Jane Cain
Music Associate: David Brinson
Lighting of the Advent Candle: Barbara Bentley (8:30) Kit Piephoff (11:00)
Amahl: Cooper Bryan
Sound: Rick Cardenas
Ushers: Doug Fitzpatrick, Judy Newbold (8:30) Ralph and Carol Quackenbush, Ann Brindisi, Brad and Trish Jones, Brian Leeper, Alex Rankin (11:00)
Greeters: Tom Noell, Judy McLean (8:30) Sally and Bill DuBose, Bev Mitchell, Jan Tevepough, Sue and Charlie Massey (11:00)
Bulletin Cover: Artwork by Lisle Gwynn Garrity

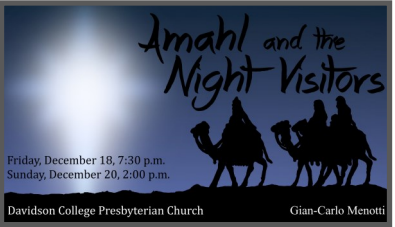
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WE WELCOME YOU to Davidson College Presbyterian Church and trust that you will find God's presence here. When you cannot be here, join our live broadcast at 11 a.m. on WDAV 89.9 or www.wdav.org. For more information: www.dcpcc.org or 704-892-5641.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES Our Advent journey from darkness to light is symbolized by the increasing candlelight from the Advent wreath each week. This Advent journey has a parallel in the travels of the three kings as they seek the light of the Christ Child. On the fourth weekend of Advent, our church is producing "Amahl and the Night Visitors," a Christmas opera imagining the visit of the three kings in the home of a poor, crippled shepherd boy and his mother. Each Sunday, one of the characters from the opera will introduce the lighting of the candles and relate a portion of their story, illuminating our path to the Christ Child.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING A cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s, the Christmas Joy Offering is one of the four special offerings designated by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Because Advent and Christmas shine a light not only on our world's greatest hope but also on our world's greatest need, the PC(USA) provides this timely opportunity for congregations to support causes specifically designed to shine the One True Light of Christ's love on the poor in circumstance or spirit. Undesignated gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering will be distributed equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to support student scholarships at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges.

CHRISTMAS OPERA PERFORMANCE "Amahl and the Night Visitors" today, December 20 at 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Menotti's opera tells the legend of a poor mother and her crippled son who give shelter to the three wise men as they journey to find the newborn Christ. The viewer will be not only charmed by a touching story and lyrical music, but moved by the humanity of the kings, the fierce love of Amahl's mother, the impulsive generosity of Amahl, and the celebration of the miracle. The performance is under an hour and will be enjoyed by all ages. This program will benefit Habitat for Humanity; donations of any size will help to fund the next home being sponsored by Davidson College Presbyterian Church.



YOUTH will not meet this Sunday, December 20 or next Sunday, December 27.

CONGREGATION GATHERING As part of the Conciliation Process at DCPC there will be a second congregation wide gathering on January 10 at 3:00 pm in the Congregation House. Specific concerns identified during the first phase of the Conciliation Process will be discussed. The committees of the Session and Diaconate are already in the process of identifying ways to address these concerns and this information will be shared with those in attendance.

There will be **ONE WORSHIP SERVICE** on Sunday, December 27, at 11 a.m. in the sanctuary. Child care begins at 10:30 a.m. Sunday School and youth groups will not meet.

STEEPLETALK DEADLINE The January issue of Steepletalk will be published on January 6. Please submit articles to jnardella@dcpc.org by December 31.

CHRISMON ORNAMENTS are symbols representing the birth and ministry of Jesus and were first created by Frances Spencer of Danville, VA, as an alternative to commercial Christmas tree ornaments. Our Chrismon ornaments have been handcrafted by sisters Marty Leak and Gerry Corwin.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed December 25, December 28, and January 1 in observance of the holidays. For emergencies call 704-892-5641 for instructions.

YEAR END DONATIONS: In order for your contributions to count in 2015, they must be received by Trish Jones (pjones@dcpc.org) or Harriett Rosebrough (hrosebrough@dcpc.org or 704-892-5641) in the church business office on the main floor no later than **noon on Thursday, December 31**. Contributions postmarked by December 31 will also be counted toward 2013.

CONGREGATIONAL RETREAT is January 22-24. Brochures are available at the information center in front of the office or at www.dcpc.org.

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY the defibrillator and first aid box are located in the west hall of the main building next to the women’s restroom.

Faith Formation

December 20
Covenant (9:45 a.m. Congregation House) Gerardo Marti, the LR King Associate Professor of Sociology at Davidson College, will teach: “Innovation, Resistance, and the Near Future of the American Church.” Christianity—both as a set of firm beliefs and a configuration of ritual practices—is always changing, and the changing structures of the 21st Century provide particular opportunities and challenges to the development of Christianity in the United States. The class will focus on three themes over three weeks: intriguing innovations in American Christianity, the dynamics of resistance and traditionalism in relation to Christianity in congregational life, and speculation on the near future of the American Church.

Maloney (9:45 a.m. Parlor) and **The Pines** (Marshall Room)
Dedication of Firstborn: Exodus 13:13-15; Luke 2:22-32

Jubilee (9:45 a.m. Student Center) "Conversations on Advent"

The Wired Word (11:00 a.m. Parlor) Each week we will have an opportunity to discuss a current event with the help of Biblical and theological resources. Those who wish may have the upcoming topic emailed to them prior to class—send a request email to jnardella@dcpc.org. All High School age and Adults are welcome to get some coffee in the tent and come to the parlor for lively discussion.

Sunday School will meet each Sunday in December except December 27. Nursery care will be available, and children in first grade and up should attend worship with parents. TIC TOC will also break on December 27 and resume January 10. Questions? See Leslee Kirkconnell.

December 27
Maloney (9:45 a.m. Parlor) A Generous Gift: Matthew 23:2-12; Mark 12:38-44

No other classes will meet.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE				
	8:30	9:45	11	Total
12/13/2015	108	112	264	484
YTD Av2015	92	113	233	438
YTD Av2014	104		299	

DCPC FINANCIAL UPDATE			
Offering	12/13/15	YTD	
Receipts	\$24,505	Receipts	\$1,256,317
Budgeted Exp.	\$29,590	Actual Exp.	\$1,331,474
O/(U)	(\$5,085)	O/(U)	(\$75,157)

CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS FOR
DECEMBER 20—DECEMBER 27

Sunday, December 20

8:30am

Worship Service

Lingle Chapel

9:45am

Worship Service

Lingle Chapel

9:45am

Sunday School

Various Rooms

11:00am

Worship Service

Sanctuary

11:00am

Sunday School

Various Rooms

2:00pm

Christmas Opera Performance

Sanctuary

Monday, December 21

7:00am

AA

Jetton Hall

9:30am

Shalom Group

Room 207

7:00pm

AA

Jetton Hall

Tuesday, December 22

7:00am

AA

Jetton Hall

6:45pm

Stephen Ministry

Room 201, Library

7:00pm

NA

Jetton Hall

Wednesday, December 23

7:00am

AA

Jetton Hall

9:30am

Disciple Class

Parlor

8:30pm

Music Team

Choir Room

Thursday, December 24

7:00am

AA

Jetton Hall

4:00pm

Christmas Eve Service

Sanctuary

7:00pm

NA

Jetton Hall

7:30pm

Christmas Eve Service

Sanctuary

11:00pm

Christmas Eve Service

Sanctuary

Friday, December 25-Church Office Closed

7:00am

AA

Jetton Hall

7:00pm

AA

Jetton Hall

Sunday, December 27-ONE WORSHIP SERVICE

11:00am

Worship Service

Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Services

On Christmas Eve, we welcome Christ who is the Light of the world as we worship in the sanctuary

~4:00 pm

(Sanctuary) A participatory service for all ages.

~7:30 pm

(Sanctuary) Candlelight service with music by the Chancel Choir and Lib McGregor Simmons preaching.

~11:00 pm

(Sanctuary) Candlelight service led by DCPC college students with the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper and music by the Geneva Choir.

DAVIDSON COLLEGE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (PCUSA)

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704-892-5641, info@dcpc.org, www.dcpc.org

Weekday Preschool: 704-655-1271

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Davidson College Presbyterian Church

From Darkness to Light

We are the body of Christ—
worshipping, learning, serving,
loving, giving—
seeking to realize God’s vision for the world.

DCPC Vision Statement