

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 24, 2006

11:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Organ Prelude

The Life and Work of the Church

Welcome, friends and members

Nursery care available in Education Building

Restrooms found in Education Building

Prayer requests for offering plate

Fellowship Hour following worship

Announcements – please use microphone

Steeple Bell

Choral Introit

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent means coming.

“And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord. And they shall live secure; and he shall be the one of peace.”

“My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my savior. Alleluia!”

Let us walk in the light of the Lord. Let us pray.

God of grace, your eternal Word took flesh among us when Mary placed her life at the service of your will. Prepare our hearts for his coming again; keep us steadfast in hope and faithful in service, that we may receive the coming of his kingdom for the sake of him who is Ruler of all. Amen.

***Hymn: #53 “What Child Is This”**

***Prayer of Adoration and The Lord’s Prayer**

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Great God,

**we behold the gift of the child yet again,
yet we are also mindful of how we have failed to
receive the fullness of that gift.**

**The story of this day points us to your glory,
yet we struggle daily to join in the angels' song.**

We are distracted and confused,

so focused on things that matter little

that we have overlooked the good news of great joy.

Tell us again that the Savior is born.

Tell us again that we are forgiven.

**Tell us again that life can be abundant in faith and
hope and love,**

**not because of who we are, but because of what you
have given us in Jesus Christ.**

(silent prayers)

Assurance of Pardon

***Sung Response: tune: #9**

**Now to the great, and sacred Three,
The Father, Son, and Spirit, be
Eternal power and glory given,
Through all the worlds where God is known,
By all the angels near the throne,
And all the saints in earth and heaven**

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson: Micah 5:2-5a Page: OT 865

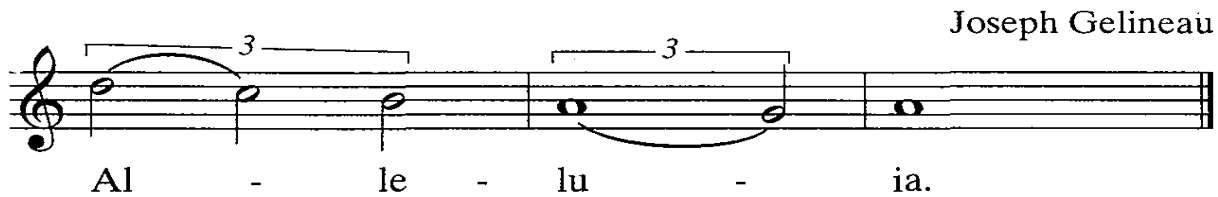
Hymn #44: “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

A Scripture Conversation

Anthem: “Advent Jubilate!” Shackley

Gospel Lesson: Luke 1:39-46 Page: NT 57

Canticle of Mary: Luke 1:47-55



Copyright 1963, 1986 by the Ladies of the Grail (England). Used by permission of G.I.A. Publications, Inc., exclusive agent. All rights reserved.

*My soul glorifies the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior. **Alleluia.***

*You look on your servant in her nothingness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **Alleluia.***

*The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy is your name! **Alleluia.***

*Your mercy is from age to age on those that fear you. **Alleluia.***

*You put forth your arm in strength and scatter the proudhearted. **Alleluia.***

*You cast the mighty from their thrones and raise up the lowly. **Alleluia.***

*You fill the starving with good things, send the rich away empty. **Alleluia.***

*You protect Israel, your servant, remembering your mercy, **Alleluia,***

*the mercy promised to our forebears, for Abraham and his children forever. **Alleluia.***

Sermon *“A Mother’s Song”*

***Hymn #600** *“Song of Mary”*

***An Affirmation of Faith The Nicene Creed**

- page #15 front of The Presbyterian Hymnal

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Offerings of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

Reception of Offerings by Ushers

*Presentation

***Doxology:** Tune: #22

Glory be to God the Father,

Glory to th’eternal Son;

Sound aloud the Spirit’s praises;

Join the elders round the throne;

Hallelujah, Hallelujah,

Hail the glorious Three in One.

*Prayer of Thanks

Pastoral Prayers

GO IN GOD'S NAME

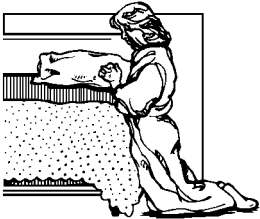
***Hymn #49** “Once in Royal David’s City”

*Charge and Benediction

Choral Benediction

Steeple Bell

Organ Postlude



Prayer List:

Nursing Home and Hospital

Calvert Manor Healthcare Ctr.: *Emma Nichol*

Cokesbury Village: *Isabel Klein*

Prayers for:

Special Gifts Memorial Case:

Marshall Schafer
1916-2001

Walter Keen
1918-1998

This morning, our Ushers are:
Bob Briggs*, Lyn Briggs, Rachel Briggs,
John Hopkins, Joanne Hopkins

Someplace Else: Molly Fouracre

Advent Family:
Jason, Danielle & Morgan Barrett

The Beautiful Christmas Display of Flowers
 In the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of



L^{IN}*oving*
Memory and

Carlo & Joan Viola	In Memory of Gladys Viola and Esther Paff
Carol & Gene Mayhew	In Memory of Rebecca & Kenneth Mayhew and Evelyn & William O'Neill
Irv & Susan Lipp	In Honor of Family & Friends
Jim & Beverly Stoudt	In Honor of Mason, Miles, Ayden & Samuel
Mary & Herbert Pratt	In Memory of our Parents
Barb & Jim Quillen	In Memory of Gladys & Bob Quillen
Chuck & Joan Smith	In Memory of Joan's Parents
Nanette Nichol	In Honor of Loved Ones
Jim & Linda Neel	In Memory of our Parents and Linda's sister, Nancy

The Beautiful Christmas Display of Flower
In the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of



Loving
Memory and

John & Joanne Hopkins	In Memory of Bill & Carrie Hopkins and Nelson & Ruth Murray
Louise Thornton	In Memory of my Husband Morrial G. Thornton
Monty & Ellie Gerhart	In Memory of Loved Ones
Steve Martin, Cynthia Robbins & Katie Martin	In Memory of Ann Fulmer, Mitta & Thelma Kern
Pat & David Bird	In Memory of Loved Ones
Janet Spring	In Honor of Bill & Mary of Friendship House
Rick & Chris Fagles & Family	In Memory of George & Peg Twyford and Jean Fagles
Betty Carpenter	In Memory of Bill & Jay Carpenter
Joe & Debbie Harrington	In Memory of Loved Ones

The Beautiful Christmas Display of Flower
In the Sanctuary are given to the Glory of



L^{IN}*oving*
Memory and

Bob & Ruth McCullough	In Memory of Ralph Johnson, Jr and In Honor of the 350 th Anniversary
Arlene Olds & Sue Townsend	In Memory & Honor of the Hutchins, Olds & Townsend Families
Earl & Janet Reed	In Memory of Loved Ones
Dean & Lyn MacEwen	In Memory of Ralph Johnson
Frances Handy	In Memory of Hiram P. Handy
Bill Anthony	In Memory of my Parents
Bob & Lyn Briggs	In Honor of the Briggs & McGovern Families
Jason & Dot Campbell	In Memory of servicemen and women who lost their lives serving their country

The Beautiful Christmas Display of Flowers
 In the Sanctuary are given to the Glory

L^{IN}*oving*
Memory and



Ruth Moore	In Memory of my Mother and Father, Margaret & Henry Laughlin
Maryellen Wample	In Memory of Ivan M. Wample, Jr.
Chris Grant	In Honor of Ammie Aitken
Nancy Rowland	In Honor of Janice & Richard Rowland, Jenny, Clint & Sarah In Gratitude for New Castle Presbyterian Church
Dan & Shirley Knox	In Honor of our Children Christine, Andrew & Danielle
Karen Dobson & Children	In Memory of Erle (Buddy) Dobson
Herb & Jean Swanson	In Memory of Ted Markiewicz

The Beautiful Christmas Display of Flowers
 In the Sanctuary are given to the Glory

L^{IN}*oving*
Memory and



Don & Connie Reese	In Honor of our Children and in Memory & Honor of our Parents
Bill & Marcia Quillen	In Memory of Loved Ones
Dick & Ginny Appleby	In Memory of Loved Ones
Jim & Susan Flook	In Memory of our Parents
Sid Wilson	In Memory of my Husband Hess G. Wilson
Bob & Joan Appleby	In Memory of Loved Ones
Doug & Linda Twyford	In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. George Twyford and Mr. & Mrs. R. Bunting
Rob & Juliann Barry	In Memory of James Adair III
Bruce & Kay Gordon	In Memory of Bruce & Anne Gordon and Leslie & Virginia Eklund

NOTICES

Thank You

Thank you all for the outpouring of love you provided with the avalanche of cookies you made for the Johnson Memorial Service. They were wonderful! And many, many thanks to all of you who helped with the planning, purchased supplies, packed the cookies for transport and delivered them to First and Central, came to put up tables and chairs, filled the cookie trays, made the coffee and lemonade, brought flowers for the tables, helped with serving, kept the pitchers and urns filled, and stayed after the reception to clean up, and even laundered the tablecloths.

After "feeding the 5000" (well, that might be a slight exaggeration), the rest of the cookies you made were taken to the Friendship House to share with the homeless on Sunday morning. I think Ralph would have been pleased with that. You all would have made him proud!

-Mary Pratt

Flower Guild

Every week of the church year we are blessed with beautiful, creative floral arrangements. I am always astounded at the variety and creativity of the many gorgeous arrangements. Some have unusual flowers and some have very unusual containers but all are breathtaking. I am so very thankful for the ministry of these capable volunteers. Your work each Sunday and for every special occasion in the church is truly commendable. Our congregation appreciates your hard work! -Linda Neel

Our New Website

Just in time for Spirit of Christmas and our 350th Anniversary, our new church website is on-line. Find on it the weekly bulletin, newsletter, calendar, and descriptions and photos of many church programs. Many thanks to Bruce and Lisa Raker and the Website Committee: Pat Bird, Jo Viola, Kathy Kelly, and Judy Hentkowski. Webmaster is Bruce Raker (send changes and additions to the church e-mail address – ncpc1651@verizon.net - and we will send them on to him). Now check it out for yourself: www.newcastlepreschurch.org.

Support Our Anniversary

We will continue to sell the Cat's Meow, a replica of our original Meeting House, each Sunday after services in the CE Building. The price is \$20. You may also purchase Christmas tree balls for \$15 and/or note paper for \$10.

Progressive Dinner

Don't delay in signing up for the New Year's Eve Progressive Dinner! The festivities begin at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Sue Townsend (110 W. 7th Street) and progress from there. All sites are in Old New Castle. A service of worship will be held at 10:00 p.m. during which our Anniversary Quilt will be hung in the Meeting House. Following worship, join us at the Manse at 10:45 p.m. for desserts and celebration. Don't miss our welcome to the New Year, our 350th as a congregation!

Last Minute Contributions

Please be advised that in order to have any contribution to the church count as a gift for 2006, it must be received by the church or postmarked by December 31, 2006. The IRS rules are stringent and there is no "grace period".

Cookies Aplenty, Cookies Galore

On Sunday morning, December 17th, I took three very large boxes of cookies to the Friendship House breakfast for the homeless at the Church of St. Andrew and Matthew. These cookies were the remains of the very generous donation of cookies for the reception after the funeral of our dear friend, Ralph Johnson. Volunteers from Christ Church and the Centerville School helped me bag the cookies into sandwich bags. After we bagged about 120 bags of cookies, the students walked around the breakfast tables and handed everyone a bag of cookies. It is absolutely amazing how much joy a small bag of cookies can bring to people!! Bill Perkins took the remaining cookies (there were still quite a few left), to the Women's Shelters to share with the women and their children who are living there. Many thanks to all of the bakers who were so generous. What a wonderful tribute it was to a life well-lived. Can't you just hear Ralph saying, "Right on, Brothers and Sisters!!"?

To all of you soup and bread makers extraordinaire

Thank you for the delicious soup and bread you made for the Spirit of Christmas. There were 13 varieties of bread and 17 varieties of soup, and even some fudge! You will be happy to know that every loaf of bread and every last quart of soup (and the fudge) was bought by 4:30, and we were able to make a substantial contribution to our chosen charities. God bless you all for making this possible.

Meeting Ground Herb Sale and Friendship House Sugar/Cremora Drive

During the months of November and December, the Mission and Outreach committee sold herbs and spices to help raise money for the homeless shelter at Meeting Ground. We are very happy to report that we made over \$500.00 in sales. We would also like to thank all the members who graciously donated bags of sugar and jars of Cremora for Friendship House shelters. These donations are greatly appreciated by Bill Perkins and his staff.

"You are never more like God than when you give."

-Author unknown

Coffee Project

We've added to our line of coffees by popular demand! The newest shipment will now include:

Tanzanian Jubilee	\$5.00 ea. / \$30.00 case
Café Salvador	\$5.00 ea. / \$30.00 case
Columbian (drip)	\$5.50 ea. / \$33.00 case
Columbian (whole bean)	\$5.50 ea. / \$33.00 case
Columbian Decaf (drip)	\$6.00 ea. / \$36.00 case
Columbian Decaf (whole bean)	\$6.00 ea. / \$36.00 case
Hazelnut Crème	\$5.75 ea. / \$34.00 case
French Vanilla	\$5.75 ea. / \$34.00 case
Toffee Caramel	\$5.75 ea. / \$34.00 case
Hot Cocoa	\$4.00 can
Tea (6 varieties)	\$4.00 box

Purchase coffee in Pastor Nancy's office. If you pay by check, make out to: New Castle Presbyterian Church, with "coffee project" on the memo line.

