

**THE ORDER OF WORSHIP  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

December 13, 2009

11:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Organ Prelude

The Life and Work of the Church

Welcome, friends and members

Please sign welcome folders

Nursery care available in Education Building

Restrooms found in Education Building

Prayer requests for offering plate

Fellowship Hour following worship

Announcements – please use microphone

Handbell Prelude:

“Savior of the Nations, Come”

Mocklebust

Celebration Ringers

A Time of Greeting

Steeple Bell

Choral Introit

## **Lighting of the Third Advent Candle**

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent means coming. Sing aloud and shout! Rejoice and exult with all your heart; The Lord, your God, is in your midst. He will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you with his love.

**Shout aloud and sing for joy, for great in our midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

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

**Almighty God, you have made us and all things to serve you; now prepare the world for your rule. Come quickly to save us that your children may rejoice, honoring one another with justice and love. Through Jesus Christ, our Judge and Redeemer. Amen.**

**\*Hymn: #38**            “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

**\*Prayer of Adoration**

**\*The 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.**

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

**God of compassion, have mercy on us, your children.  
We are blind for looking after the narrow interests of  
ourselves and our kind. We are lame from running  
after false hopes. We are numb for lack of good news.  
We are oppressed by our efforts to get ahead. God of  
mercy, pour out your healing love on us and make us  
whole. Let your children come home to you with joy  
and gladness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



Canticle: Isaiah 12:2-6

Marty Haugen



With joy you shall draw wa - ter from the  
springs of end - less life; With joy you shall draw  
wa - ter from the liv - ing well of God.

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1. *God indeed is my Savior, I will never be afraid, my strength and courage is the Lord, my Savior and my song. Refrain*
2. *Give thanks and praise the name of God, sing out to all the earth the wondrous deeds that God has done, our Savior and our song. Refrain*
3. *Shout with joy, O Zion, for dwelling in your midst is the Holy One of Israel, our Savior and our song. Refrain*

Epistle Lesson: Philippians 4:4-9

Page: NT 198

Gospel Lesson: John 3:1-18

Page: NT 93

Sermon: *“The Hardware of Restoration”*

# \*Hymn "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen"

GOD REST YOU MERRY: Irregular, with Refrain  
 English melody, 18th century  
 Har. in *Christmas Carols Old and New*, 1871

English carol, 18th century

1. God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men, Let noth - ing you dis - may,  
 2. From God our heav - en - ly, Fa - ther A bless - ed an - gel came;  
 3. "Fear not, then," said the an - gel, "Let noth - ing you af - fright,  
 4. Now to the Lord sing prais - es, All you with - in this place,

Re - mem - ber Christ our Sav - iour Was born on Christ - mas Day;  
 And un - to cer - tain shep - herds Brought ti - dings of the same;  
 This day is born a Sav - iour Of a pure Vir - gin bright,  
 And with true love and broth - er - hood Each oth - er now em - brace;

To save us all from Sa - tan's power When we were gone a - stray.  
 How that in Beth - le - hem was born The Son of God by name.  
 To free all those who trust in Him From Sa - tan's power and might."  
 This ho - ly tide of Christ - mas All oth - ers doth de - face.

REFRAIN

O ti - dings of com - fort and joy, Com - fort and joy;

O ti - dings of com - fort and joy. A - MEN.



**\*Doxology (#592)**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God above ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*Prayer of Thanks**

Pastoral Prayers

**GO IN GOD'S NAME**

**\*Hymn: #40**            "Joy to the World"

**\*Charge and Benediction**

Choral Benediction

Steeple Bell

Organ Postlude

*You may recycle your bulletins in the basket at the back of the Meeting House.*

## **Childcare**

Child Care for infants is available. Please see an usher for directions. Children ages 2 and above may exit after the Scripture Conversation for **Someplace Else** (a lesson and activities in the CE Building) or remain in worship. Children of any age are always welcome in worship.

## **Worship Assistance**

Please see an usher to receive hearing assistance, a large print bulletin or bible, or a personal seat cushion.

## **Prayer List:**

### ***Nursing Home and Hospital***

#### **The Arbors at New Castle:**

32 Buena Vista Dr, New Castle, DE 19720  
phone: 302-326-4121

***Arline Olds***

#### **Cokesbury Village:**

726 Loveville Rd, Hockessin, DE 19707;  
Attn: Rm 1026 phone: 302-235-6017

***Isabel Klein***

### ***Shut-Ins:***

#### ***Annabelle Witt***

119 Stuyvesant Avenue  
New Castle, DE 19720  
(302) 328-4983

The Flowers are given to the glory of God by:  
*Flower Guild*



Special Gifts Memorial Case:  
*Tessa McChesney Klein*  
*1884-1970*

*Ella Brown*  
*1877-1970*

This morning, our Ushers are:  
Bob & Lyn Briggs and John & Joanne Hopkins

Someplace Else (Children's Bible Study and Activities):  
Esther Lindell & Lisa Raker

Worship Leader: Irv Lipp

Advent Family: Scott & Miranda Matthews and  
Charlotte Mitchell-McDowell



## New Members

We welcome into active membership this morning, Scott and Miranda Matthews by Reaffirmation of Faith and Charlotte Mitchell-McDowell by transfer of letter from Forest Presbyterian Church in Middletown. Welcome, friends in Christ.

Please add these entries into your directory:

Scott & Miranda Matthews  
2 Grady Lane  
Rutledge  
New Castle, DE 19720 7656  
302-838-2764  
theotormon@comcast.net

Charlotte Mitchell-McDowell  
1031 Bear Road  
Monterey Farms  
New Castle, Delaware 19720 4601  
302-528-7387  
whitelace1950@yahoo.com



## **Ralph Johnson Memorial Cookie Drive**

We will be assembling 125 bags of cookies to be given out at the Friendship House Breakfast on December 20th at the 8th and Shipley location. Our church will not be serving that day, but we would like to continue the tradition of sharing a bag of cookies with friends. This tradition began a few years ago when we had many leftover cookies from Ralph's Memorial service. We decided to bag them up and distribute them to the individuals who come to the Sunday breakfast program at Friendship House. Although a very small token of caring, these bags of cookies were very gratefully received, appreciated and enjoyed. Please consider donating some homemade or store purchased cookies. We will need the cookies by Friday, December 18th. Please put them in the kitchen in the CE building. If you are able to help by sending in cookies or to help bag the cookies on Friday evening, please sign up on the volunteer sheets in the CE Building. We will start at 7:00 and should be done in about an hour. Thank you again for all you do!



## **Congregational Meeting**

There will be a meeting of the congregation on December 20<sup>th</sup> following worship for the purpose of receiving the 2010 Budget as information and acting on changes in the pastor's terms of call.



## **Caroling in Old New Castle**

Be sure to mark your calendar for a great evening of Christmas Caroling on Friday night December 18th! We will meet at the church at 7:00pm and proceed from there walking around Old New Castle and caroling.

We will end up at Gene and Carol Mayhew's house (17 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street in New Castle) for refreshments and fellowship (we usually arrive there between 8:00 and 8:30pm).

Please join us at the Mayhew's even if you are unable to walk around and carol.



## **Each Sunday of Advent** **“White Gifts”**

The Deacons will collect donations of non-perishable food for the local New Castle food cupboard operated by St. Vincent DePaul Society at St. Peter’s Catholic Church for hungry people who live in New Castle. The food will be collected each of the four Sundays in Advent, as well as Christmas Eve. Please bring donated breakfast or canned meat and protein items, juice, soup, vegetables, fruit or even dessert items and place them in the marked box in the narthex of the Meeting House.

The term “White Gifts” referred to the white wrapping paper around each donated can or box. We no longer wrap individual items. However, our celebration of the hope, love, joy, and anticipation of Christ in our lives will wrap each donation with the sparkling glory of God’s working presence in our midst.

Thank you,  
The Deacons



*This Week's Schedule*

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>12/13</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Adult Bible Study</b>
		<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Worship &amp; Someplace Else</b>
		<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Fellowship</b>
		<b>12:30pm</b>	<b>Resource Development</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>12/14</b>	<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Joint Mtg (3 Boards)</b>
			<b>Dinner @ Manse</b>
		<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Session</b>
		<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Deacons</b>
		<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>Trustees</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>12/16</b>	<b>1:00pm</b>	<b>Bible Study</b>
		<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>Choir</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>12/17</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>Literacy Volunteer</b>
		<b>6:45pm</b>	<b>Colonial Chimers</b>
		<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Al-Anon Meeting</b>
		<b>8:00pm</b>	<b>Celebration Ringers</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>12/18</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Caroling in New Castle</b>
		<b>8:00pm</b>	<b>Refreshments at Mayhews</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>12/19</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>Tai Chi</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>12/20</b>	<b>9:30am</b>	<b>Adult Bible Study</b>
		<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Angel Tree Gifts due</b>
		<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Worship &amp; Someplace Else</b>
		<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Congregational Meeting</b>
		<b>12:10pm</b>	<b>Fellowship</b>
		<b>12:30pm</b>	<b>Youth Fellowship</b>