

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2009

8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

When the church bell is rung let us be silent for worship.

*\*Please stand if able.*

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## THE PRELUDE

## THE RINGING OF THE BELLS

## THE GREETING OF GOD'S PEOPLE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wherever you may be in the journey of faith, Leesburg Presbyterian Church welcomes you. We are a community where persons from different faith backgrounds and understandings find unity in the wide embrace of Christ's love and call to service. If you are passing through, we extend God's blessing to you as you continue on your way. If you are seeking a home, we invite you to join us in the adventure of serving Jesus Christ in a challenging world.

## THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Second & Third Graders

## INTROIT

*Joyous Noel (Christmas Hymn)*

arr. Grundman

## \*THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

**Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God,**

**Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;**

Who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free;

The Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

**The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.**

The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

## \*HYMN 22

*Angels from the Realms of Glory*

REGENT SQUARE

## LITANY OF CONFESSION

Holy God, always you are near to those who seek you in faith, and to all who ask, you grant hope.

Having wandered from your way, we confess we are weak in faith and trust. Centering our lives on our difficulties, we lose hope and we fail to seek your guidance for tomorrow. Living not out of your forgiveness, we search for the perishable and trivial.

We pray for your forgiveness, asking you to prepare us for a new coming of your Son into our Church and our lives and our families. We pray that you, O God, would reveal your intentions to us so that we may walk in newness of life. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## Sunday, December 13, 2009

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR THIS WEEK

Sun.	Dec. 13	8:30a.m.	Worship
		9:30 a.m.	Alternative Giving Faire
		9:45 a.m.	Church School
		11:00 a.m.	Worship
		12:00p.m.	Alternative Giving Faire
		12:15 p.m.	Fellowship
		5:00 & 7:00 p.m.	Annual Christmas Dinner
Wed.	Dec. 16	6:15 p.m.	Children's Choir Program
		10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
Fri.	Dec. 18	7:30 p.m.	Choir
		9:00 p.m.	MA's Group

**To Our Visitors:** Whether you have visited with us before or are visiting today for the first time, we hope you experience the open-hearted hospitality of the Living Christ in our community of faith as we gather in his name for Sabbath worship. Because it is our desire to get to know you better and to be able to communicate to you about our life and ministry, we appreciate you filling out the attendance register. The Session meets after each service on the First Sunday of the month to receive new members at the front of the sanctuary. One becomes a member of a Presbyterian church in one of three ways: 1) Profession of Faith, 2) Re-affirmation of Faith, 3) by Letter of Transfer from a previous church.

**Children and Balcony Pews!!**—If you have small children with you in worship, **please do not sit in the front row of the balcony!** Help us keep the children safe by choosing another pew for all children under the age of ten.

**In Our Prayers** we remember: Dale Wallace, Emily Costello, Corinne Hovda, Mary Elizabeth Williams, Kim Vigil, Nannette Grimes, Ginny Boerlin, and Anne Greene. Our prayers are constant for the women and men of the Armed Forces and their families.

**Prayer Chain:** *Prayer requests* are confidentially and conscientiously lifted to God by members of the Prayer Chain every day. Please contact Fran Wingardner (540-882-4847) or email [prayer@lpcva.org](mailto:prayer@lpcva.org) if you have a special need or concern you wish to share through a praying church.

**Pew Postcards**—If you wish to send a note to a member of our congregation, please write your message on the white postcard and put it in the offering plate. The office will address it and mail it out for you.

**Stewardship Update for 2010 Pledges: \$262,911**

2009 Pledge Amount: **\$310,388**

Difference: **\$ 47,477**

We are hopeful that our members and friends will consider making a 2010 pledge and that we can meet the challenge grant of \$10,000.

Remember, every dollar pledged over 2009 will be matched by an anonymous giver up to \$10,000.

**Congregational Meeting called for TODAY** after the 11:00 worship service for the purpose of holding the annual meeting of the corporation.

**Come to the Alternative Giving Christmas Faire TODAY 9:30am-11:00am & 12n-1pm—**

You will be able to “shop” for gifts & make donations for several different organizations. Come to the Fellowship Hall on the above dates after both worship services. Have some refreshments, listen to the holiday music and get in the Christmas spirit! Browse through our selection of world-wide handcrafts from SERRV available for sale on the day of the Faire. There will be “Shopping Lists” available on the day of the Faire to help you select organizations for charitable donations in lieu of gifts for your family, friends, teachers and coworkers. Questions may be directed to Kathy Brown or Pat Kropp.

**The Angel Tree** gifts are due today. Please remember to bring them in UNWRAPPED and mark the Angel # \_\_\_\_\_ on each gift. Thank you for your generosity.

**The Annual Living Nativity will be on display Sunday, December 20.** We will have three presentations of story and song, on the front lawn beginning at 6pm, then 6:30pm and 7pm. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall to be a part of the Nativity. We need **3 Marys, 3 Josephs, 6 shepherds and 9 wisemen!!!** You will join our sheep and donkey as we portray the birth of Jesus in the manger.

**Have you been thinking of joining a mission team in 2010 – perhaps for the first time?**

Come to the Mission & Witness Committee’s annual Alternative Christmas Faire to learn more about this year’s Katrina RECOVERY Team Mission Trip to New Orleans on March 8-14, 2010. We will have a photo display table, sign-up sheets and experienced volunteers ready to talk with you about their experiences and how mission work can be life changing. You can sign up for email updates and get the travel details and work plans from our team leaders at Catoctin Presbyterian Church in Waterford. You may also call Kathy Brown at LPC or Liz Horton at CPC @ (301) 349-2721 for more information.

**Today in Adult Sunday School—**How do four favorite Advent hymns hold relevance to us today? Find out during this three part series, ***The Four Advent Hymns***. Series begins today at 9:45 in the Lounge.

**Mom’s Alive! (MA!)** meets every Friday from 9:00 to 11:00 am in fellowship hall. Childcare is provided in the nursery. Moms are invited to join us for a time of fellowship, devotionals, and a variety of outreach and other planned activities throughout the year. For more information call Sarah Jones (703-777-1071).



**DON'T FORGET THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER THIS EVENING!**

**There are two seatings: 5:00 & 7:00 p.m.**

**Deacons will provide turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes, gravy, rolls, cranberry sauce, iced tea and coffee**

**Please contribute by bringing a vegetable side dish OR dessert OR help with set-up after 11:00 service OR clean-up after the 7:00 seating.**

**Contact Wynne Rodgers for late reservations at 703-777-7168**

**Church School Stewardship**—In the spirit of giving, the church school children and youth are invited to join in our Biblical Food Offerings beginning next Sunday, November 8th. Non-perishable food items should be brought to the church school rooms where they will be collected and tallied. (All food donations are welcome, regardless of the week's theme.)

TODAY    Silent Night—Bring cocoa mix, tea, instant coffee

Dec. 20    We Three Kings—Bring 3 gifts of food

The congregation is invited to join with the children and youth; food donations can be put in the box at the bottom of the Fellowship Hall steps. The donations will go to Interfaith Relief.

**Sunday Morning Schedule for Children**—Beginning on December 6, our SHARE-THE-CARE program on Sunday mornings, during the 11am worship service, will be expanded to include our first graders. Children age birth through age 3 will be invited to stay in Noah's Ark nursery with our care givers, Bonnie and Patricia. Following the Time with Children, ages 4 through grade one will be escorted to their classroom downstairs. A suggested lesson plan is provided, in advance, to the volunteers. If you would like to be a part of this ministry to young children, please call Karen Werner to select your Sunday. Children in first grade and older are invited to stay in worship with their families or to participate in Children's Choir. There are age appropriate worship bulletins available. Just ask an usher for your bulletin.

**Children's Choir** — Kindergarten-5th grade children are invited to participate in the Children's Choir which practices the second, third and fourth Sundays during the 11:00 a.m. worship service after the Children's Message. Director Wendy Bourloukas will be at the door to escort children upstairs. The children will learn songs to sing in the worship service and also begin practice for the Christmas musical! No Children's Choir on **First Sunday** of the month so children can participate in the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

**Good News- from the Stewardship Campaign Committee**—In the first weeks of our 2010 campaign we have received 76 pledges totaling \$257,711. **More Important news**—We still have approximately 20% of our giving families yet to pledge. If you have not, you can find pledge cards in each pew or the church office. We thank you for your prayerful giving.

**The LPC Book Club** will hold its next meeting on Friday, January 8th, at 9:30 in the church lounge. We'll have tea and scones while discussing Jane Austen's *Persuasion*. Please feel free to join us, even if you have not finished the book. Contact Jennifer Marsh with questions (703-779-0042).

**Christmas Joy Offering—December 20, 2009—“Depending on Prayer”**—Today we read about Vera and Charles Ainley who were always used “to trusting that God would provide what they needed and open the way for what they were to do”. They prayed, listened and trusted. As you read the insert this Sunday, ask yourself about the strength of your own trust. This amazing story has a bit of drama to it, and offers a wonderful example of God providing. It was not ever a matter of CHANCE. When a call “draws people into serving the church, it often means they will earn less than they would in other careers. It means they must learn to live simply, and may also mean no nest egg for the later years. They must also rely upon the rest of us to help them meet their needs. Through our gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering, the assistance programs of the Board of Pensions can meet chronic and one time needs of people who have dedicated their lives to serving the church”. On December 20<sup>th</sup>, please be as generous as you can with your gift to the Christmas Joy Offering.

**Pray for our Mission Partners in the Middle East.** During the month of December, we are requested to pray for our Mission Partners from the National Capitol Presbytery area who are serving our Lord in the Middle East. This week please add a word of prayer for our mission work in Palestine, Israel, Iraq and Lebanon."

**Youth Group**—The Youth Group will attend the Annual Christmas Dinner with their families.



## **Coming Events at Leesburg Presbyterian Church**

**December 20th**

**8:30 & 11:00 AM—Lessons & Carols presented by  
The Sanctuary Choir**

**The Living Nativity**

**6:00, 6:30 & 7:00 PM**

**Refreshments after each presentation!**

**Christmas Eve Services**

**5:00 PM — Family Candlelight Service**

**7:00 PM — Candlelight Communion**

**11:00 PM — Candlelight Communion**

**One Service at 11:00 AM**

**December 27th**

**January 3rd**

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE** *Emmanuel, Emmanuel*

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel,  
His name is called Emmanuel.  
God with us, revealed to us,  
His name is called Emmanuel.**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**TIME WITH THE CHILDREN** (Congregation sings as children come forward and leave)  
**Jesus, we are here; Jesus, we are here; Jesus, we are here, we are here for you.**

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (8:30)**—Lance & Tiffanie Greene present their daughter Makayla Anne for baptism.

**THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON** Isaiah 35: 1-10 Pew Bible Pg.663

**ANTHEM** *And the Glory of the Lord* Handel

**THE GOSPEL LESSON** Matthew 1: 18-25 Pew Bible Pg.1

**SERMON** “The Eloquent Silence of Joseph” Pastor Deborah Dodson Parsons

**HYMN 28** *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* IN DULCI JUBILO

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—THE APOSTLE’S CREED**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**THE PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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.**

**OFFERTORY**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION: Our best we give to you, loving God, for you have given your best to us in the mystery of the incarnation. May our offerings proclaim Jesus in ways that will be received with joy. Send your Word to the world in this season through our caring service. May we share it with one another in ways that help us all to grow. Amen.**

\*HYMN 56

*The First Nowell*

THE FIRST NOWELL

\*BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONALAL RESPONSE

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell.

Born is the King of Israel.

POSTLUDE

*Please join us in the Fellowship Hall  
immediately following the Worship Services.  
All are welcome!*

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## LEESBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

207 West Market Street — Leesburg, Virginia 20176

Phone: 703-777-4163 — [www.LeesburgPresbyterian.org](http://www.LeesburgPresbyterian.org) — Fax: 703-777-4666

Office Hours: Monday-9-3; Tuesday thru Thursday: 9-4; Friday: 9-2

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### SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Worship at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

<b>ASSISTING:</b>	<b><u>8:30 a.m.</u></b>	<b><u>11:00 a.m.</u></b>
	Liturgist: Tom Gurney	Tom Gurney
	Ushers: Andy & Sheryl Tompkins	Rebecca Caprio
	Fellowship:	MA's Group

THE ROSEBUD ON THE COMMUNION TABLE celebrates the birth of Cooper Alexander Vogan on December 3, 2009. He is the son of Lauren & Rex Vogan and the brother of Payton.

### CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Deborah Parsons	<a href="mailto:revdeb@lpcva.org">revdeb@lpcva.org</a>
Director of Music	Becky Sweet	<a href="mailto:music@lpcva.org">music@lpcva.org</a>
Interim Director of Christian Education	Karen Werner	<a href="mailto:dce@lpcva.org">dce@lpcva.org</a>
Youth Group Coordinator	Kristin Petersen	<a href="mailto:kpetersen415@gmail.com">kpetersen415@gmail.com</a>
Office Administrator	Denise Weidele	<a href="mailto:office@lpcva.org">office@lpcva.org</a>
Prayer Chain	Fran Wingardner	<a href="mailto:prayer@lpcva.org">prayer@lpcva.org</a>
Bookkeeper	Julie Gross	<a href="mailto:bookkeeper@lpcva.org">bookkeeper@lpcva.org</a>
Nursery	Bonnie Wiedenmeyer, Patricia Medina	