



Looking Toward Bethlehem

Second Sunday in Advent
December 8, 2013

2nd Sunday in Advent

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

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

**Please stand if able*

PRELUDE

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 —THE CANDLE OF LIGHT

Dave and Jackie Mowbray (8:30)

The Folk Family (11:00)

RESPONSE #137

He Came Down

He came down that we may have love (light);

He came down that we may have love (light);

He came down that we may have love (light);

Hallelujah forevermore.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 11:1-9

Wonder of wonders—the wolf shall dwell with the lamb.

No one shall hurt or destroy in God's holy mountain.

Wonder of wonders—the leopard shall lie down with the kid.

The earth shall be full of the knowledge of God as the waters cover the sea.

Wonder of wonders—calf and lion together shall be led by a little child.

No one shall hurt or destroy in God's holy mountain.

Wonder of Wonders—cow and bear, lion and ox shall share their dinner in peace.

The earth shall be full of the knowledge of God as the waters cover the sea.

Wonder of wonders—the nursing baby will play with the serpent, and a child will sit unharmed by the venomous snake.

No one shall hurt or destroy in God's holy mountain.

Wonder of wonders—the Messiah shall judge for the world's poor, for the meek, the lowly, and the little of the earth.

The earth shall be full of the knowledge of God as the waters cover the sea.

This is how you shall know the Messiah—by the spirit of wisdom and understanding, of counsel and might, of knowledge and fear of God.

Wonder beyond wonders, grace upon grace, joy at the heart of joy

*HYMN #82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

**Almighty God,
You sent your Son into our world, so that his light would banish our darkness.
We claim to rejoice in his light, yet we have turned away from it in fear.**

Let the fire of your Spirit purge us of all selfishness and self deceit that cause us to hide in darkness. Enable us to live as children of light, rejoicing in the hope and promise of our Lord's coming Kingdom.

(silence is kept)

Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

***RESPONSE #583** *(unison, then round)* *Glory to God* GLORIA (Taize)
Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!
Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN (11:00)

ANTHEM *Fling Wide the Door* arr. John Yarrington

GOSPEL LESSON *Matthew 3:1-12* pew bible p. 2

SERMON "A Grace-full Man: Joseph Looks Toward Bethlehem"
Rev. Deborah Dodson Parsons

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

RESPONSE #143 *Angels, from the Realm of Glory* REGENT SQUARE

OFFERTORY PRAYER

While we are waiting and preparing for Christ to appear, we are seeking, O God, to act as faithful followers. May these gifts offer hope to all whose suffering and loss seem too heavy to bear. May our church be a listening, caring presence for all its members, and through us for all those we meet in our work and leisure. Amen.

***HYMN #105** *People, Look East* BESANCON

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

LEESBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Phone: 703-777-4163
www.LeesburgPresbyterian.org
Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday: 9-3; Friday: 9-2

Looking Toward Bethlehem
2013 Advent/Christmas Celebration at LPC

December 8: *Second Sunday of Advent*

Joseph Looks Toward Bethlehem

Alternative Giving Christmas Faire in Fellowship Hall after both services

Adult Studies Class: *The New Hymnal and Advent Hymns* Debbie Parsons

Pageant Rehearsal

Youth Group Christmas Party

December 15: *Third Sunday of Advent*

Mary Looks Toward Bethlehem

Adult Studies Class: *The New Hymnal 101* Debbie Parsons

Church Christmas Dinner and *All Church Christmas Pageant*

5:00 First Seating

6:00 *The All Church Christmas Pageant!*

7:00 Second Seating

December 22: *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

The Angels & Shepherds Look Toward Bethlehem

No Church School

December 24: *Christmas Eve*

God Looks Toward Bethlehem

5:00 pm Family Candlelight Service

7:00 pm Candlelight Service

11:00 pm Candlelight Service with Communion

December 30

One Service at 11:00 a.m., No Church School

SUNDAY SCHEDULE
Worship at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

ASSISTING: 8:30 a.m.

Liturgists: Stu Brown

Ushers: Andy and Sheryl Tompkins

Acolytes:

11:00 a.m.

Chuck Rodgers

Krista Martino and David Parsons

Bailey Vigil and Calvin Sweeney

Sunday, December 8, 2013
OPPORTUNITIES FOR THIS WEEK

Sun.	December 8	9:30 a.m.	Alternative Giving Christmas Faire
		12:00 p.m.	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
		12:00 p.m.	Alternative Giving Christmas Faire
Mon.	December 9	9:30 a.m.	Book Club
		7:00 p.m.	Mission & Witness Committee
		7:00 p.m.	Preschool Board
		7:00 p.m.	Associate Pastor Nominating Committee
Tues.	December 10	7:30 p.m.	Worship Committee
Wed.	December 11	7:00 p.m.	Choir
Fri.	December 13	9:00 a.m.	Moms Alive!

Children in Worship:

Because the safety of our young children matters deeply to all of us, we encourage families with little ones to choose a seat other than the front row of the balcony.

Infants to 3 year olds – are cared for by two professional caregivers, Miss Pat and Miss Bonnie, in the nursery on the first floor of the education wing from 8:15 to 12:15. *Only parents* can drop off children at the nursery in order to communicate with providers. Drop off can happen before worship, after Time with Children message, or at any other time during the worship service. Ushers or the acolyte will be happy to show parents where the nursery is located.

4 year olds to 3rd grade – are invited to participate in *Godly Play* after the children's message. *Godly Play* provides age appropriate worship for children that helps them deepen their understanding of God through storytelling, hands-on activities and prayer. If children decide not to enter the *Godly Play* room, or are too young or too old for the designated age range, they will be accompanied by the acolyte back to the sanctuary and reunited with their parents.

4th grade and up – remain in the sanctuary to participate in the worship service.

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 with you about our life and ministry, we appreciate you filling out the attendance register. 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.

Prayer Chain Prayer requests are confidentially and conscientiously lifted to God by members of the Prayer Chain every day. Please email prayer@lpcva.org if you have a special need or concern you wish to share through a praying church.

In Our Prayers we remember: Kim Vigil, Harry Brown, Barbara Drumm, Jane Wallace, Hal and Mary Lib Glovier. Our prayers are constant for the women and men of the Armed Forces and their families.

LPC Men's Night All LPC men are invited to a "Men's Night Out" on Thursday, December 12, from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm, hosted by Christian Hoff at his home in Leesburg. Sliders and brats will be grilled, so please bring a drink of your choosing and/or a side dish to share. Please RSVP to Cindy in the office at 703-777-4163 or office@lpcva.org by Tuesday, December 10th so we can have an approximate head count. Watch for an email with more details.

Advent Adult Study Sunday mornings, 9:45 a.m.
December 8 – The New Hymnal and Advent Hymns!
December 15 – The New Hymnal 101

Our next mission opportunity for **Grace to Go** will be Sunday, January 5 at Deli South from 1:30-3:30. If you would like to join us as we prepare meals for distribution in our community, you can sign the bulletin board in the church hallway or email fraker1@verizon.net.

Christmas Joy Offering December 22, 2013. On Sunday, December, 22nd, the Christmas Joy Offering will be received. This is the fourth and last of the PC(USA) offerings and is divided equally between two recipient groups. The first half goes to the ASSISTANCE Program of the Board of Pensions. This program helps Church workers and their families in time of financial difficulty. The second half adds support to Presbyterian- related racial ethnic schools and colleges. Please take a moment to read the inserts in the bulletins.

2013 Alternative Christmas Faire TODAY after both services For the past several years, the Mission & Witness Committee has provided the congregation several opportunities to shop for alternative gifts during the holiday season. This year we have decided to focus on Youth activities. You have the chance to make gifts to support: Backpack Buddies Weekend Meals, R.O.C.K. (Recreational Outreach to Community Kids in Leesburg), Mobile Hope Health Services in Loudoun County Support for Orphans in Njoro, Kenya (with NY Ave Presbyterian Church in DC), Support for School Children in Cuba (books and other needs in conjunction with our trip to Cuba in February).

Haven't been to an alternative fair before? It's simple! Come to the Fellowship Hall, visit the display tables, talk to representatives about the organizations you want to support, then purchase your gifts. Cards will be available to give to family and friends that explain a donation has been made in their name.

Overflowing Generosity 2014 Stewardship Campaign Update

Thank you to all who have pledged for 2014! To date we have received 106 pledges, including 22 new pledges, for a total of \$368,520. Our goal for 2014 is \$376,100. If you have not yet made your financial pledge for the 2014 church year and plan to do so, please submit your pledge to the church office as soon as possible. The Finance & Stewardship Committee is completing the proposed budget for 2014, and it will be submitted to the Session for final approval on December 17. Before we can do this, however, we would like a realistic assessment of all sources of income, especially pledges.

Pledge cards are still available in the pews or the church office. You may place your pledge in the offering plate on Sunday, or mail it to the church office marked "bookkeeper."

Thank you for your generous contributions to the ministry of Leesburg Presbyterian Church; we appreciate your thoughtful participation in reaching our goal for 2014!

Loaves and Fishes Offering for 2013 Well, what a great way to share food with those who experience hunger daily. This year from January thru December, Leesburg Presbyterian Church sent 1951 pounds of food to Interfaith Relief. Let me say that again, 1,951 lbs. It was almost a ton!! Awesome! We will begin the next Loaves and Fishes on Sunday, January 5th 2014. As Jesus shared bread with us, let us do the same with others. Thanks to all of you, Loaves and Fishes was quite a success.

Believing and Belonging Friends, visitors and new members are invited to lunch and conversation about membership in Leesburg Presbyterian Church on Sunday, January 12 after 11:00 worship. We'll discuss our congregation, your interest in church membership, questions about the church, its Presbyterian heritage, and what becoming a member means. The Session will meet with any who are ready to join and receive them into church membership.

Advent Practice of Daily Prayer

December 8—December 14

Household Prayer: Morning

Holy One, Holy Three,
be my guide, my guardian, and my strength today.
Let me be treated fairly by all whom I meet,
and remind me to treat fairly all whom I meet.
Grant me Christ's forgiveness for anyone I harm,
and charge me in Christ's name to forgive anyone who does me harm.
So, guard my ways, guard my life,
and grant me strength to honor the crucified Son,
Holy Three, Holy One. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Eternal God,
as this day comes to a close,
I thank you for every blessing I have received.
Forgive me for the wrongs I have done and the good I have neglected.
Grant me rest in your arms, free of regret and worry.
Let sleep restore and refresh me, so that I may rise to a new day,
giving you thanks and praise by the power of the Holy Spirit,
in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ELDERS

2014

Chris Folk
Randy Jackson
Steve Potter
Doug Sweeney

2015

Trish Fraker
Frank Gasperini
Tom Gurney
Keith Markel

2016

Todd Joyce
Linda Rawlett
Wynne Rodgers
Cameron Spivey

DEACONS

Glenna Bingham
Tom Chase
Babe McGuire
Nancy Vanzandt

Kristin Moats
Florence O'Hey
Sharon Schmidt
Dennis Welsh

Rebecca Caprio
Joan Elliott
Sofia Spivey

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor
Administrator
Prayer Chain
Business Manager
Nursery

Deborah Parsons
Cindy Hollister
Peggy Moats
Julie Koochagian
Bonnie Wiedenmeyer, Patricia Medina

revdeb@lpcva.org
office@lpcva.org
prayer@lpcva.org
bookkeeper@lpcva.org

Annual Christmas Dinner



Sunday, December 15

First Seating: 5:00 PM

Second seating: 7:00 PM

The Pageant of the Nativity: 6:15 PM

Name _____

of adults _____ # of children _____

_____ We will attend the First Seating at 5:00

_____ We will attend the Second Seating at 7:00

YES! I will bring one of the following in a **disposable dish**:

_____ Side Dish – last name beginning with A – M

_____ Dessert – last names ending with N – Z

OR

_____ I will contribute \$15.00 to help purchase hams for the dinner.

The Pageant of the Nativity

Sunday, December 15



Come and enjoy the joy and wonder of an old-fashioned Christmas pageant where everyone has a part!

While the children will play the characters of the nativity, the congregation will have their role to play—that of a choir interspersing carols throughout the script. Special music will be provided by Eric and Alana Nanz and the youth. And maybe, just maybe, we will have some happy warm-up music before the Pageant begins!

This is a program for the young and old to enjoy and remember!

The Deacons invite you to a traditional holiday dinner. We will provide ham, rolls, and beverages. You complete the meal by bringing your tastiest side dish, dessert or make a \$15 contribution. Complete the RSVP on the reverse side to let us know you will be there.

First Seating: 5:00 PM

Second seating: 7:00 PM

The Pageant of the Nativity: 6:15 PM