



December 21, 2014
Leesburg Presbyterian Church

Fourth Sunday in Advent

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

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

**Please stand if able*

PRELUDE

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Michael Burkhardt
Cindy Hollister, bassoon

THE GREETING OF GOD'S PEOPLE AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

ADVENT SONG # 92

"While We are Waiting, Come"

WAITING

While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come.

Refrain: Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel,

While we are waiting, come

With power and glory, come; with power and glory, come.

Refrain

Come, Savior, quickly come; with power and glory, come.

Refrain

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

We gather in preparation

For good news is about to be proclaimed.

We gather in expectation

For we are those people who have said

yes to the manger,

yes to love embodied

yes to the one incarnate for others,

yes to the wholeness of God.

With preparation and in expectation, let us celebrate!

***CAROL # 113**

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

GLORIA

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

While we ask, Lord, for the most meaningful Advent season ever, we sadly confess having done so little with so much. Forgive us, Lord, for not bending the knee, for not reading your Word, for not searching our hearts, for not facing our sins. Forgive us according to your tender mercies, O God! Grant that when Christmas morning breaks for us this year, we may have a fresh sense of your presence and a renewed resolve to live to the praise of Christ's glory. *(time for silent, personal confession)* Amen.

BLESSING OF FORGIVENESS

***RESPONSE # 583**

"Glory to God"

GLORIA

Glory to God, Glory to God, glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

TIME WITH CHILDREN (11:00am)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 1 (selected verses)

ANTHEM

A Stable Lamp Is Lighted

David Hurd

Jessica Balick, flute

Cindy Hollister, bassoon

SERMON

Rev. Deborah Dodson Parsons

CAROL # 110

"Love Has Come"

BRING A TORCH

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.

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

In Dulci Jubilo

Johann Michael Bach

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

RESPONSE # 143

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

REGENT SQUARE

(verse 4)

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:

Come and worship, come and worship,

Worship Christ the newborn king!

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We worship you with our words, and with our songs, Lord, and we praise you with our money. Everything we have is yours, and these offerings are for the work of your kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven. Amen

***CAROL # 147**

"The First Nowell"
(verses 1.2 & 6)

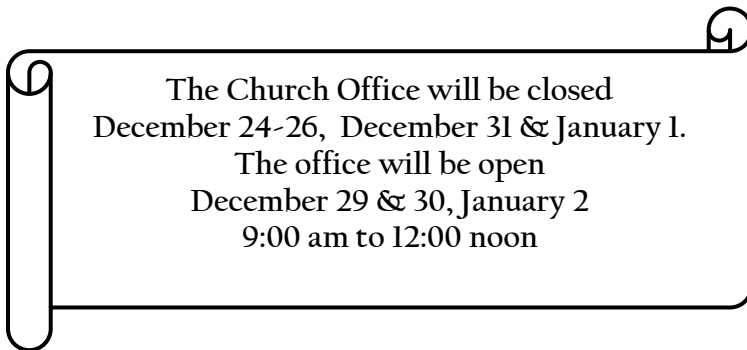
THE FIRST NOWELL

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Herr Gott, der ein'ge Gottes-Sohn

J. S. Bach



WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

ASSISTING:

8:30 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

Liturgists:

John Sawyer

Linda Rawlett

Ushers:

Kathy & Brad Brown

Bud & Joan Elliott

Acolytes:

Megan Helge & Isabelle Marsh

Flowers:

Given by the Worship Committee to the glory of God

Cover Art by Sofia Spivey

TODAY'S SERVICE MUSIC

Prelude – **Comfort, Comfort Ye My People**

Michigan based organist, composer and educator Michael Burkhardt writes fresh new sacred music that honors compositional techniques from earlier times. This organ trio (three independent one note melodies) features a spritely, rhythmic accompaniment figure over the chorale melody, which is today played by the bassoon. Amongst German Lutherans the tune is commonly titled Freu dich sehr. #87 in our pew hymnals.

Choral anthem -- **A Stable Lamp Is Lighted**

This anthem was part of last Sunday's musical service, when it was presented in an arrangement for strings, flute and chorus. Today the bassoon replaces the viola, and the organ covers the remaining strings under the flute, which plays its descant from the original score. The bassoon sound suggests the quiet braying of a donkey in the stable. Seldom do modern hymns exhibit such finely crafted language, in this instance from the pen of Richard Wilbur, a former Poet Laureate of the United States. Written for an Advent church service in the late 1950s, the poem inspired African-American composer David Hurd to write this hymn tune specifically for this text in 1984. #160 in our pew hymnals.

Offertory – **In Dulci Jubilo**

An early member of the Bach dynasty of Lutheran musicians, Johann Michael Bach (1648-1694) was the father of J. S. Bach's first wife, Maria Barbara Bach (because she was J. S. Bach's distant cousin, her last name did not change when she married – still with me?). J. M. Bach was born in Arnstadt, Germany, where he succeeded his brother, J. C. Bach, as organist of Arnstadt's castle chapel. He later became town clerk and organist in nearby Gehren. This charming organ trio (three individual voices), his most enduring work, is based on a 14th century folk melody that became the Christmas carol, Good Christian Men, Rejoice! (#132 in our pew hymnals). Bassoonist Cindy Hollister has made an arrangement in which the flute, organ and bassoon divvy up the parts from the original organ score.

Postlude – **Herr Gott, der ein'ge Gottes-Sohn** – J. S. Bach

Bach's organ setting of this Lutheran Advent chorale expresses the excitement and joy of the text: *Lord Christ, the only Son of God, is the Morning Star; He sends forth His splendor, brighter than any other stars.* This short organ prelude boasts a constant pedal figure of three sixteenth notes followed by an interval of an octave, a compositional element popular in pedal lines written by Dietrich Buxtehude and Georg Böhm, both of whom influenced Bach during his formative years.

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.

NURSERY CARE is provided from 8:15am to 12:15pm for infants through 3 year olds. Miss Pat and Miss Angie are our professional caregivers. Children can be dropped off in the Nursery, located at the east end of the first floor of the Education Wing. We ask that only parents drop off their children.

GODLY PLAY is offered from 11:20am to 12:00pm, for children age 4 to 3rd grade. Children are dismissed to Godly Play immediately after the Time with the Children. Godly Play provides age appropriate worship for children, which helps them deepen their understanding of God through storytelling, hands-on activities, and prayer. Our acolytes will escort children to Godly Play.

At the 8:30am and 11:00 am services, we ask children who are in 4th grade and above to remain in the sanctuary to participate in worship.

Children in Church School

Church School is offered between our two services of worship from 9:45am to 10:45am for children age 3 to 5th grade. Church School takes place in the Education Wing, and is led by members and parents, who serve our children and their families in this vital ministry. We have three classes: Preschool meets downstairs in Rm. 4, Kindergarten-2nd grade meet upstairs in Rm. 3, and 3rd-5th grade meet upstairs in Rm. 2.

Youth Group is held every Sunday evening, upstairs in the Fellowship Hall, from 5:30 to 7:15pm. Our Youth Group is for 7th-12th graders. Each night we have games, food, a short study or devotion, and end with a game of choice. If you would like a calendar of Youth Group events, please contact Pastor James: revjames@lpcva.org. Laura Herring, Wes Rhodes, and Pastor James are the adult leadership, and our meals are provided by Youth Group parents. ***Our regular Sunday evening program is taking its annual Christmas break and will resume on January 4, 2015***

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.

Sunday, December 21, 2014
OPPORTUNITIES FOR THIS WEEK

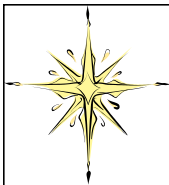
Christmas Joy Offering Today

Sunday—Worship at 8:30am & 11:00 am
Adult Education 9:45 am **“People Look East”**
Youth Group resumes January 4

Church Office Hours

**Closed: Wednesday, December 24—Friday, December 26,
December 31 & January 1**

Open: December 29 & 30 9am—12noon



Sharing Epiphany Star Stories of 2014 on Sunday, January 4th!

Would you be willing to share a story of how the “star word” you chose on Epiphany Sunday in January 2013 became a meaningful guide to you or an “epiphany” of God’s grace in your life?

If you are uncomfortable with speaking, Pastor James or Pastor Debbie could read it aloud for you during worship on January 4th.

If so, please talk with, call, or e-mail
Pastor Debbie!!

The 2015 Flower Calendar is now up outside the church office. Please sign up to provide flowers in the coming year.

Winterhaven Stand Down Event/Coat Drive—LPC is sponsoring a **coat drive** in support of the 2015 Winterhaven Stand Down Event for Homeless Veterans. LPC volunteers will collect your donations of men’s winter clothing (sizes L & above) following both services until Sunday, January 11, 2015. Gently-used winter coats must be dry-cleaned beforehand and donated with dry-cleaning bag and receipt attached. New coats and thermal underwear with store tags attached are also welcome. Monetary contributions can be made by check or cash. If you would like to make an offering via check, please include 'Winterhaven' in the memo line. If you make an offering using cash, please be sure to include your name on the envelope. Volunteers are needed to work at Winterhaven on Saturday, January 24 from 7am to 3pm, distributing coats, boots, duffel bags, blankets, comfort kits, and other items. If interested, please contact Reverend James Cubie.

******“Cleaners 4 Less”, 700 Fieldstone Drive, Suite 104, in Leesburg will clean any coat for \$1.99.**

LEESBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
207 West Market Street, Leesburg VA 20176
Phone: 703-777-4163
www.LeesburgPresbyterian.org
Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday: 9-3; Friday: 9-2

Christmas Eve Services December 24

5:00 pm—Family Candlelight Service

7:30 pm—Traditional Candlelight Service

*10:30 pm—Candlelight Service with Communion * **New Time!**



Sunday, December 28
ONE SERVICE—11:00 am

ELDERS

2015

Trish Fraker
Frank Gasperini
Keith Markel

2016

Todd Joyce
Linda Rawlett
Wynne Rodgers
Cameron Spivey

2017

Wayne Helge
Kim Hovda
Jim Ruddell
Sheryl Tompkins

DEACONS

Kristin Moats
Florence O'Hey
Sharon Schmidt
Dennis Welsh

Rebecca Caprio
Joan Elliott
Sofia Spivey
Krista Ritsema

Christian Hoff
William Marsh
Susan Sutter
Stuart Weikel

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor
Associate Pastor
Administrator
Prayer Chain
Business Manager
Music Director
Nursery

Deborah Parsons
James Cubie
Denise Sheehan
Peggy Moats
Julie Koochagian
Terry Sisk
Patricia Medina & Angie Wynder

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