

**THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

November 27, 2016

10:30 a.m.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

The Life and Work of the Church

Welcome, friends and members

Please sign back page of bulletin

Nursery care available in Education Building

Restrooms found in Education Building

Prayer requests for offering plate

Fellowship Hour following worship

Announcements – please use microphone

* A Time of Greeting

Steeple Bell

Choral Introit

Lighting of the First Advent Candle:

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent means coming. We are preparing ourselves for the days when "The nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore."

"For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, 'Peace be within you.' For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good."

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

O God, we have lit this candle as a symbol of expectation. May your light shine in our darkness to show us the way to salvation. O come, O come, Emmanuel. Amen.

***Hymn: #88 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" verses 1, 7**

*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

**Holy God, we confess
that we do not walk in your light.**

**We hurt and destroy one another
and neglect the poor and hungry.**

**We let evil grow among us
and fail to bear good fruit.**

Forgive us, God of grace.

**Awaken us to your Word,
so that we may be ready
to welcome you with joy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

(silent prayers)

Assurance of Pardon

***Sung Response: #88, verse 4**

**O come, thou Root of Jesse, free
thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save
and give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 2:1-5

Page: OT 631

Anthem: "The People Who Walk in Darkness" Barrett/Angerman

The Choir

The people who walk in darkness, the people in shadows will see a great light. The people who live in the valley of death, light will come to you. Alleluia. Come, O come Emmanuel. O Savior of the nations, come. The valleys all shall be exalted. Let Zion sing to the Lord and rejoice. Let every mountain be brought low. Come sing to the Lord and proclaim His name. The crooked places all will be made straight. All places rough will be made plain.

A Scripture Conversation

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 24:32-44

Page: NT 27

Sermon: *“Through the Eyes of Hope”*

***Hymn: #367** “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

***Affirmation of Faith:** The Confession of Belhar

**We believe that God has entrusted the church
with the message of reconciliation
in and through Jesus Christ.**

**We believe that the church is called
to be the salt of the earth
and the light of the world.**

**We believe that the church is called blessed
because it is a peacemaker.**

**We believe that the church is witness
both by word and by deed
to the new heaven and the new earth
in which righteousness dwells.**

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Offerings of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

Reception of Offerings by Ushers

*Presentation

***Doxology: tune #336**

**We praise Thee, O God, our Redeemer, Creator,
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.**

**We lay it before Thee, we kneel and adore Thee,
We bless Thy holy name, glad praises we sing.**

***Prayer of Thanks**

Pastoral Prayers

GO IN GOD'S NAME

***Hymn: #357** “The Days Are Surely Coming”

***Charge and Benediction**

Choral Benediction

Steeple Bell

Postlude

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

Opportunities for Infants and Children

A Nursery Care Program for infants through age 3 is available in Room 207 after the Scripture Conversation. If your child needs to leave before that, please see an usher. Children 4 through 10 may also exit after the Scripture Conversation for **Someplace Else** (a lesson and activities in the CE Building, Rooms 201 and 203). *Please see an usher for a child safety registration form.* 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:

To place a name on the confidential Prayer Chain, contact Susan Flook, 302-328-7346 suzieflook@hotmail.com

Continuing Care Homes:

Vic Clark

The Lorelton
2200 W 4th St, Apt 328
Wilmington, DE 19805
(302) 419-7037 (cell)

Jean Swanson

Sunrise - Apt. 238
1555 W Horizon Ridge Pkwy
Henderson, NV 89012
(302) 824-8030 (cell)

Barbara Beaumont

The Watermark at Logan Sq
2 Franklin Town Blvd.
Room 526
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215)575-9697

Mildred McGraw

Kentmere Rehab
1900 Lovering Avenue
Wilmington, DE 19806
(302) 652-3311

Dot Campbell

The Summit
5850 Limestone Rd, Apt. 1215
Hockessin, DE 19707
(302) 635-2059

At Home:

Linda Twyford

513 East Roosevelt Avenue
New Castle, DE 19720
(302) 328-6824

Judy Hentkowski

128 E. 2nd Street
New Castle, DE 19720
(302) 328-8266

The Flowers are given to the glory of God by
Peter & Kelly McCurdy
In Memory of Phyllis Koczak & Other Loved Ones



Special Gifts Memorial Case:
James T. Eliason Jr.
1895-1981

Maryellen Wample
1942-2013

This morning, Our Ushers are:
Brenda Walters & Jim Stoudt

Nursery Attendants: Melissa Boris & Molly Cooney

Someplace Else: Diana Reilly & Ron/Susan Studd

Flowers: Brenda Walters

Coffee Hour: Carol Mayhew

Worship Leader: Ray Snyder

Advent Family: The Borises

Spirit of Christmas – Saturday, December 10, 2016
Sign Up!



Sign up sheets have been posted in the CE Building. Please sign up early! Sign up often! Your sign up counts! For questions, contact Pat Taylor, Miranda Matthews or Kelly Koczak McCurdy.

Spirit of Christmas – Saturday, December 10, 2016
Book Donations



We are looking for book donations for Spirit of Christmas - last year books about New Castle, Delaware, coffee table and Christmas themed books were great sellers. Please drop off at the Continuing Ed Building any time after Thanksgiving. Contact Peter McCurdy at petermccurdy@yahoo.com with any questions.

Spirit of Christmas – Saturday, December 10, 2016
Cookies



Calling all Cookies!!! It's that time again and, as you may know, UIC beverage/cookie table is always appreciated by Spirit of Christmas visitors. Please deliver your cookies (home-baked or purchased) to the church kitchen Friday, 12/9 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or early Saturday morning. Thank you, Brenda Walters & Conchita Showell.

Spirit of Christmas – Saturday, December 10, 2016
Craft Table

Crafters, please keep up the good work on items to contribute to the Spirit of Christmas craft table! We welcome more pocketbooks, mittens, ornaments, scarves, etc., which many of you have already perfected--or surprise us with something entirely new! The church craft room upstairs is stocked with material, yarn, buttons, and zippers for your use. Please call Miranda Matthews (302-838-2764) or Ellie Gerhart (302-328-0908) if you have questions.

Spirit of Christmas – Saturday, December 10, 2016
Soups, Breads, and Homemade Goodies!

Now is the season to open your recipe book. Tis the season to think about your culinary contributions for Spirit of Christmas.

If you would like to offer not only your delicious homemade soup and bread for sale, but also your homemade jams, jellies and fudge (*hint hint*). Some of these have been donated in the past, and were a great hit with the patrons. If you are talented in that way, please share your gifts in jars as well.

We need additional helpers for bread and soup sales? The soup containers and bread bags are in the kitchen cupboards.

If you need further information, please call:
Susan Townsend (302-328-5533)

Get in the Holiday Spirit for Our Spirit of Christmas
Community Mission for Friendship House, Dec. 10, 2016

We are asking everyone to gather and shop for items valued at more than \$20. If you have interesting pieces in your home to donate, or happened upon things during your summer travels - even clearance items found at summer sales - we are ready to receive them!

We encourage donations of Gift certificates/cards and event tickets worth more than \$20 for local and Wilmington restaurants and events.

We are accepting items up to and including December 4th, 2016. If you need somewhere to store items you have, please see Carol Mayhew, 328-5194 or Joanne Viola, 545-0794.

Miranda Matthews, Pat Taylor & Kelly Koczak McCurdy
2016 Spirit of Christmas Chairs

2016 YEAR-END GIVING MESSAGE

As we wrap up 2016, please keep the church in mind when planning your year-end giving. The church closes its fiscal year at the end of December, and every dollar counts. Help us meet our budget in the final weeks of the year!

Did you know . . .

There are lots of ways to give. Even if you have pledged at the beginning of the year, you can still place a check or cash in the basket, visit the website to find a donation form, or sign up for an automatic deduction. Your pledge is not a maximum - what you decide to give is ultimately up to you.

Your generosity makes a difference. \$1, \$10, \$100, \$1,000 - every gift matters, as your contribution is directly invested in the mission and administration of the church.

Your contribution made in the calendar year 2016 is a Christmas gift – to yourself. Every dollar you give is tax-deductible, to the full extent permitted by law so your gift benefits both the church and can reduce your tax bill.

Thank you all for your dedication and personal investment in the success of our church.

Sincerely,
The Resource Development Committee

White Gift Donations

As fall arrives the need for the food closet is ever increasing. There is a large need for feminine products, baby diapers and proteins such as tuna and peanut butter. Here is a list of items that St. Peter's suggests and doesn't suggest for their food closet.

Recommended Food:

Apple Sauce
Box Potatoes
Campbell Soup (Tomato & Chicken)
Campbell Chunky Soups
Canned Fruits (Peaches & Pears)
Canned Meats (Spam & Ham)
Canned Vegetables (String Beans, Peas, Corn, Potatoes, Chili, Cannelli Beans)
Capri Drinks
Cereal
Cranberry Sauce (in season)
Canned Turkey & Chicken
Dinty Moore cans & bowls
Fruit Cups (Dole & Mott)
Healthy Choice, Marie Callender prepared meals
Jelly Juices (Apple, Cranberry, etc)
Mac & Cheese
Microwave cups Maruchan and Ramon
Dehydrated soups
Peanut Butter
Prepared Tomato Sauce (Ragu, Prego, Rinaldi)
Progresso Soups (Traditional)
Rice
Spaghetti & Spaghettios (Chef Boyardee)
Stove Top Stuffing (in season)
Tuna
Toiletries
Yams (in season)

Not Recommended:

Food Baked Goods (cake mixes, cookies, jello, flour)
Canned Vegetables (mix vegetables, carrots, beets, pumpkin, lima beans, sauerkraut, pineapple)
Canned Soups (lentils, onion, vegetarian, cream of mushroom/celery)
Pasta (rigatoni, ziti, shells, bows, fusilli, lasagna)
Canned Tomato products (Tutto Russo - diced tomatoes, puree, paste)
Miscellaneous (sodas, gravies, broth, cooking oil, ketchup, mustard, cooking wine, syrups, candies)

Also, please give generously each week in Advent to the White Gift utility assistance fund!

Christmas Pageant Costumes

The Christian Education Committee is organizing a tableau pageant for children, to be given in the Meeting House during Spirit of Christmas on December 10. We need costumes! If you have anything you can donate or lend that would outfit a Mary, Joseph, angel, shepherd, or wise man, please bring to the church office.

Flower Guild Annual Poinsettias



Donations are being taken for poinsettias. Please fill out the attached form and return to the office. The Sanctuary will be decorated for two weeks. Flowers may be taken home after the Christmas Eve service. The deadline for orders will be December 11, 2016. The cost is \$15.00. Please make checks payable to NCPC.

NAME: _____

In Memory/Honor of: _____

How many: _____



**Never too early to
Donate a Frozen Turkey!**



If you earn credit for a free turkey this fall please consider donating that free turkey to a Christmas Food Basket project being organized by the Newark Area Welfare Committee. Beverly Stoudt is co-chairperson of this large undertaking. Approximately 375 families and senior citizens will receive a week's worth of non-perishable food on Saturday, December 17. Each basket also will be accompanied by a **10—15 lb. frozen turkey** for Christmas dinner.

Many grocery stores are offering bargain prices and offers of free turkeys before Thanksgiving. And, some companies give their employees a free turkey for Thanksgiving and/or Christmas. If you have accumulated credit or expect a gift of a turkey and do not want it, please consider giving it to our Christmas Food Basket project.

We will need your donated turkey **any time** before **Sun. Dec. 11**. If you plan to donate please call Beverly Stoudt, as soon as you get the turkey, at 368-9354 to arrange for pick up and storage. We have a facility that will store as many turkeys as we can get. If you would like to bring your donated turkey to any Sunday church service that would be wonderful and hopefully easy for your family. Put it in the kitchen freezer and tell Beverly it is there.

If you want to purchase a turkey and donate it we will be very grateful.

Remember the prices are much better before Thanksgiving than after.

- _____ We will pledge a turkey.
- _____ We will bring our donated turkey to church.
- _____ We do not have space to store a turkey and will need to have our donated turkey picked up.

Please call our family at _____.

Thank you for considering this loving project and taking the time to secure a frozen turkey!

-Beverly Stoudt (368-9354), Newark Area Welfare Committee, P.O. Box 951, Newark, DE 19715

November & December Birthdays and Anniversaries

Griffon Anderson, 11/27

Lisa Fries, 12/5

Conchita Showell, 12/6

Vic Clark, 12/8

Robert McCullough, 12/8

Daniel Barry, 12/9

James Anderson, 12/13



Pat Taylor, 12/16

Kim Beebe, 12/17

Celia Viola, 12/19

Lyn Briggs, 12/22

Annabelle Kern, 12/22

Charlotte McDowell, 12/30

Bruce & Lisa Raker, 12/14

Connie & Don Reese, 12/28

Jim & Susan Flook, 12/30



Mark Your Calendar - Yard Clean-up

Please join us for our church/manse yard clean-up on Saturday, December 3 at 9:00am until noon. Please bring rakes and/or brooms. All are welcome!

- Trustees

NCPC Directory



Pickup your newest copy of the New Castle Presbyterian church directory.

This Week's Schedule

SUNDAY	11/27		FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
		10:30am	Worship & Someplace Else
		11:30am	Fellowship Hour
		12:00pm	Colonial Chimers
Monday	11/28	7:00pm	Al-Anon Meeting
Wednesday	11/30	7:30pm	Choir
Thursday	12/1	7:30pm	Celebration Ringers
Friday	12/2		<i>Nancy's Day of Rest*</i>
Saturday	12/3	9:00am	Yard Day
		10:00am	Presbytery Meeting
			@ St. Andrew's PC, Newark
SUNDAY	12/4		SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
		10:30am	Worship – The Lord's Supper
			Someplace Else
		11:30am	Fellowship Hour
		12:00pm	Colonial Chimers

**Pastor Nancy is always available for pastoral emergencies.*