

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 11, 2016

10:30 a.m.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Hand Bell Prelude:

“Let all Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” arr. Julie Turner
Celebration Ringers

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 Third Advent Candle:

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Advent means coming. “The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the rose it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing”

**“My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is God’s name.”**

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

**O God, we have lit this candle as a symbol of joy.
May the joyful promise of your presence make us
rejoice in our hope of salvation. O come, O come,
Emmanuel. Amen.**

***Hymn: #100 “My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout”**

Canticle of the Turning

Luke 1:46-55

*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 praise the high and mighty
and look down upon the lowly.**

**We have great faith in human efforts
and little patience for your way.**

**Forgive us; deliver us;
strengthen our hearts by your Spirit,
so that we may be ready
to greet the Savior you send,
Jesus Christ our Lord.**

(silent prayers)

Assurance of Pardon

***Sung Response: #99, verses 1, 5**

**My soul gives glory to my God;
my heart pours out its praise.**

**God lifted up my lowliness
in many marvelous ways.**

**Praise God, whose loving covenant
supports those in distress,
remembering past promises
with present faithfulness.**

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 11:2-15

Page: NT 11

Anthem: "Prepare the Way of the Lord" Michael Larkin
The Choir

Prepare the way of the Lord. Make straight in the desert a highway for our God. He shall feed his flock like a shepherd, and carry the lambs in his arms, for he is meek and lowly of heart, and we shall find rest for our souls. Every valley shall be exalted, every mountain and hill made low; the crooked made straight, the rough places plain.

A Scripture Conversation

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 35:1-10

Page: OT 663

Sermon: *“The Way Out”*

***Hymn: #79** “Light Dawns on a Weary World”

***Affirmation of Faith: A Brief Statement of Faith, Sec.3**

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
who gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples
to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others
for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch
for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”**

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Offerings of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory:

“Do You Hear What I Hear?” Regney/Shayne/Wagner
Celebration Ringers

Reception of Offerings by Ushers

*Presentation

***Doxology: tune #123**

**The God of mercy be adored,
Who calls our souls from death;
Who saves by His redeeming Word,
And new creating breath.
To praise the Father, and the Son,
And Spirit, all divine,
The One in Three, and Three in One,
Let saints and angels join.**

*Prayer of Thanks

Pastoral Prayers

GO IN GOD'S NAME

***Hymn: #134** “Joy to the World”

*Charge and Benediction

Choral Benediction

Steeple Bell

Postlude

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



Use this space to make note for yourself of prayer concerns raised and insights received:

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



Special Gifts Memorial Case:

James Couper

1778-1839

Helen G. Calloway

1928-2013

This morning, Our Ushers are:
Conchita Showell, Lindy Ballance & Kay Fry

Nursery Attendants: Bev Stoudt, Ron & Susan Studd

Someplace Else: Diana Reilly & Heather Raezer

Flowers: Brenda Walters

Coffee Hour: Gail Seitz

Worship Leader: Kay Fry

Advent Family: Celebration Ringers

Sock Drive

During the month of December our congregation will be collecting socks for men and women to be distributed to the homeless community during the winter months. On November 28th, I was able to deliver a large bag of socks that had already been donated. On cold and wet winter days, the gift of dry and warm socks is a blessing indeed! There is a box located in the CE Building (under the display case) where you can place your donated socks. I will deliver the collected socks every Monday. Thank you for your generosity. White tube socks are the most requested, but we are grateful for any donation.



Last Minute Contributions

Please be advised that in order to have any contribution to the church count as a gift for 2016, it must be received by the church or postmarked by December 31, 2016. The IRS rules are stringent and there is no “**grace period**”. The easiest way to have these in the system is to set up direct bank giving.

*Forms for direct bank giving are available in the church office or on the church website:
newcastlepreschurch.org/stewardship*

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

Needs for the food closet are 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)

White Gift Donations (cont'd)

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)

The White Gift Tradition

The White Gift tradition goes back several generations in many congregations, when Christmas gifts and canned goods were wrapped in white before being presented ceremonially at worship. Back in that day, we just gave the wrapped gifts to agencies for the poor, expecting that they would then do all the unwrapping.

Nowadays, our food pantries rightly expect that canned goods not be wrapped. In the future, the Deacons will be discussing a new name that reflects a new reality. In the meantime, the need is greater than ever! Please give generously to this utility fund and food drive throughout the Advent and Christmas seasons!

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 18**. The cost is \$15.00. Please make checks payable to NCPC.

NAME: _____

In Memory/Honor of: _____

How many: _____



Caroling in Old New Castle

Be sure to mark your calendar for a great evening of Christmas Caroling on Sunday 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. 5th 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.

December Birthdays and Anniversaries

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



This Week's Schedule

SUNDAY	12/11		THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
		10:30am	Worship & Someplace Else
		11:30am	Fellowship Hour
		11:40am	Resource Development Meeting
		12:00pm	Colonial Chimers
Monday	12/12	6:00pm	Mtg of the 3 Boards @ Manse
		7:00pm	Session
		7:00pm	Deacons
		7:00pm	Al-Anon Meeting
Wednesday	12/14	7:30pm	Choir
Thursday	12/15	7:30pm	Celebration Ringers
Friday	12/16		<i>Nancy's Day of Rest*</i>
Saturday	12/17	8:00am	Tai Chi
SUNDAY	12/18		FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
		10:30am	Worship – Sacrament of Baptism & Someplace Else
		11:30am	Congregational Meeting
		11:40am	Fellowship Hour
		12:00pm	Colonial Chimers
		7:00pm	Caroling
		8:00pm	Refreshments @ Mayhew's

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