

# Grace United Methodist Church

United Methodist Mission Statement

*The mission of the Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*

**December 9, 2018**

**Second Sunday of Advent**

## GATHERING

Prelude                                      The Newborn King                                      G. Martin

Welcome and Announcements

\*Prayer

**Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation. Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may celebrate aright the commemoration of the nativity, and may await with joy the coming in glory of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, forever and ever. Amen.**

\*Hymn of Praise                                      *O Come, All Ye Faithful*                                      #234

\*Responsive Reading                                      *Canticle of Zechariah*                                      #208

\**Gloria Patri*                                      #70

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

## PROCLAMATION

Children's Message

Reading of the Word                                      Malachi 3:1-4

Proclamation of the Word                                      *Advent Advisory*

## RESPONSE

Joys and Concerns and Morning Prayer

Hymn of Response                                      *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*                                      #196

Apostles' Creed 882

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Offering/Offertory                                      Sing We All Noel                                      Grace Choir

\*Doxology                                      #95

\* Prayer of Thanksgiving

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 trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory forever. Amen.**

## GOING FORTH

\* Hymn                                      *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*                                      #229

\* Benediction

\* Postlude                                      Hark! The Herald Angels Sing                                      D. Hegarty

**Children's bulletins** and crayons are available in the front pew. You are welcome to take a bulletin to work on during worship. Return crayons after worship. Enjoy!

Helping Us			
<b>Head Usher</b>		Thomas Yarris	
<b>Organist</b>		Kathy Russell	
<b>Communion ~ January</b>		Jamie Tinnemeyer	
<b>Today</b>		<b>Next week</b>	
<b>Offering Counter</b>	David Ciuchta Walter Rutkowski	<b>Offering Counter</b>	Carolyn Rutkowski Joyce Euler
<b>Lay Reader</b>	George Reese	<b>Lay Reader</b>	Howard Russell
<b>Acolytes</b>	Skylar Brown	<b>Acolytes</b>	Sierra Brown
<b>Sunday School</b>	Linda Schaefers	<b>Sunday School</b>	Carol Peters
<b><i>In our hearts this week:</i></b>			
<b>Helen Beers</b> Sugar Creek Rest 120 Lakeside Drive Room 123 Worthington, PA 16262			
<b>Deborah Davidowski</b> 1456 Donnellville Road Natrona Heights, PA 15065			

**GRACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

1333 Freeport Road, Natrona Heights, PA 15065 / 724-224-7663

**Church Office Hours** Tuesday 9-12pm and Wednesday 9-3pm

graceumchurch@hotmail.com / https://gracechurch-today.org

**Rev. Dr. Andrew P. Spore, Pastor**/814-450-3606/[drspore@hotmail.com](mailto:drspore@hotmail.com)

**Office hours** Tuesday 10:30 – 1:00pm

**Wednesday floating between both churches and by appointment**

Upper Allegheny Valley Director of Ministry & Community Development

**Pastor Raphael Koikoi**/ 281-620-9928/ [emailpastork@gmail.com](mailto:emailpastork@gmail.com)

Established in 1877

This week at Grace United Methodist Church	
1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in December	Gift Card Order Day
1 <sup>st</sup> – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday in December	Gift Card Distribution (back table)
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	Change for UMCOR
Monday	9:30 am Thrift Shop Sorting/Cleaning
Monday	6:30 pm Book Study
Wednesday	1:00 – 4:00 pm Thrift Shop

The messenger  
of the covenant  
in whom  
you delight—  
indeed,

**he is coming,**

says the  
**LORD**  
of hosts.

MALACHI 3:1, NRSV

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Children's bulletins** & crayons are available in the front pew. You are welcome to take a bulletin to work on during worship. Return crayons after worship.

**Administrative Council Meeting** – Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm

**Bell Choir** - Practice will be at 8:45 on December 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> and December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:30. The Bell Choir will perform on December 23<sup>rd</sup> during worship.

**Gift Cards** –Pick up your cards on the back table today and place your next order! Today will be the last order before Christmas. Order forms are next to the bulletins. Place your orders for Christmas gift giving and donating to people in need. All proceeds benefit Grace UMC mission & outreach. **Going forward Grace will place one order a month for gift cards. This order will be placed the 2nd Sunday of the month and delivered on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. Order dates: 1/13, 2/10, 3/10, 4/14, 5/12, 6/9, 7/14, 8/11, 9/8, 10/13, 11/10 and 12/8. Plan ahead to purchased gift cards on these dates.**

**The Finance Committee** is looking to draw up the weekly Counter Schedule for 2019. We would greatly appreciate volunteers to work with a partner to count the offerings. The schedule will likely be once every 5 or 6 weeks. Please contact Linda Schaefer (724.295.9652 or linda1950@hotmail.com) with your willingness to serve in this capacity.

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## THE WORD

### Malachi 3:1-4 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

The Coming Messenger

**3** See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. **2** But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; **3** he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. **4** Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Leader: This is the Word of God

**Thanks be to God**

## Advent Candle reading

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ the Way. May the Word sent from God through the prophets Lead us to the way of salvation. O come, O come, Emmanuel.