

THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING will be received during 10:00 AM worship as well as the 6:00 and 8:00 PM Christmas Eve services on Sunday, December 24. This offering helps provide opportunities for deserving students and assistance to former and current church workers and families.

END OF YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS must be postmarked by Saturday, December 30, or received in the offering on Sunday, December 31 to be credited towards 2017 giving.

DINING FOR WOMEN will today, December 17 at 11:30 AM in the Fireside Room. This month, DFW learns about a program called Creating Healthy Approaches to Success (CHATS) in Malawi. This non-profit organization helps to advance girls' education in Africa, and their mission is to provide life-changing opportunities for young women in Malawi through targeted initiatives. Bring a potluck dish to contribute to the lunch, learn about this worthy non-profit program and make a donation to their grant request.

CHRISTMAS MODEL TRAIN OPEN HOUSE: December 27, 5:00-8:00 PM at Shannon Pratt's home, 6677 SW Bancroft Way. Treats and drinks provided. Bring family and friends, all are welcome!



CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24

☞ **10:00 AM** Worship will include carols and hymns. The Christmas Joy Offering will be taken.

☞ **6:00 PM** Worship with the Children's Nativity Tableau and Story.

☞ **8:00 PM** Carols and Lessons by Candlelight with the Sanctuary Choir



CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE COMING WEEK

December 17-24, 2017

SUNDAY, December 17

Third Sunday of Advent

- 9:00 AM Adult Education Class
- 9:15 AM New Spirit Ringers
- 9:15 AM Sanctuary Choir
- 9:30 AM Early Coffee
- 9:45 AM Nursery
- 10:00 AM Worship
- 10:20 AM Sunday Funday
- 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship
- 11:30 AM Dining for Women Meeting
- 11:30 AM Youth Choir

MONDAY, December 18

- 8:00 AM Women's Exercise Group
- 10:00 AM Meals on Wheels
- 6:00 PM Girl Scout Troop
- 7:00 PM Girl Scout Troop
- 7:30 PM Girl Scout Troop

TUESDAY, December 19

- 10:00 AM Staff Meeting
- 10:15 AM Tai Chi Class
- 2:00 PM Deacons' Red Cross Blood Drive
- 7:00 PM Deacons Meeting

WEDNESDAY, December 20
'The Messenger' Newsletter Deadline

- 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study
- 8:00 AM Women's Exercise Group
- 5:00 PM Nativity Tableau Rehearsal
- 7:00 PM Foundation Comm.

THURSDAY, December 21

- 8:00 AM Soup Kitchen
- 7:15 PM Sanctuary Choir

FRIDAY, December 22

- 8:00 AM Women's Exercise Group

SUNDAY, December 24
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Christmas Eve

- 9:15 AM Sanctuary Choir
- 9:30 AM Early Coffee
- 10:00 AM Worship
- 11:00 AM Coffee Fellowship
- 6:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship
- 8:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship

Ministers: All members of the congregation

Valley Staff:

- Jeff Binder Pastor, ext. 133
- Misty Bonham..... Director of Children's Ministries, ext. 135
- Connor Campbell Building Superintendent, ext. 143
- Chuck Falconer and Jenny Pratt..... Pastoral Associates
- Angela Graham Publication & Office Administrator, ext. 126
- AmyAnn Green Business Manager, ext. 128
- Bob Hinson..... Organist/Pianist, ext. 139
- David Jimerson..... Minister of Music, ext. 139
- Frank Powers Treasurer, ext. 129
- Preston Russell..... Director of Youth Ministries, ext. 131
- Amy Rheingans Director of Youth & Children's Music, ext. 145
- Anne Scarce Preschool Director, ext. 146

SERVICE OF WORSHIP



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 17, 2017 ☩ 10:00 AM

❖ *Please stand as you are able*
Bold Text is spoken by everyone

GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
Please pass and sign the friendship folders.

PRELUDE *What Is This Lovely Fragrance* Austin Lovelace

ACOLYTES Faith Bridges and Elise Jenkins



8060 SW Brentwood Street, Portland, Oregon 97225
503.292.3537 www.valleycommunity.org

ADVENT SONG

Advent Song

**Light the Advent candle, three. Think of heav'nly harmony.
Angels singing "Peace on earth" at the blessed Savior's birth.
Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;
Candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light.**



LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

David, Misty, Jacob, Emmett, Jenna, and Caitlin Bonham

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 61:10-11

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown
in it to spring up,
**so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up
before all the nations.**
Let us worship our God!

❖ PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Once in Royal David's City No 140
First verse sung by Lars Hoffbeck.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Debbie Purcell, Liturgist

**Lord of Christmas Peace, we have done wrong. We have buried you so
deeply in our hearts, the world doesn't see your light. Forgive us, we pray.
Free us from our sin, free us from our captivity, free us to a life lived in joy
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

☪ *Silence is kept* ☪

❖ GLORIA PATRI

"Glory Be to the Father" No. 581

❖ ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

❖ THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you!

❖ *Please greet those around you with the peace of Christ.* ❖

❖ RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Glory to God No 583

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

TIME WITH THE YOUNG CHURCH

Misty Bonham

CENTS-ABILITY OFFERING

ANTHEM

Run Ye Shepherds to the Light Michael Haydn
Catherine Olsen, soprano; Alberta Barnes, violin;
Jing Kappes, violin; Zach Banks, cello

MESSAGE SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 61:1-4 Old Testament, p. 691

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.
Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Sharing Good News Rev. Jeff Binder

RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Bev Hubbard, Deacon

THE LORD'S PRAYER (p.35)

OFFERTORY

Sarabande from Suite No 1 in G major J. S. Bach

❖ *Congregation rising, row by row, as ushers pass* ❖

❖ DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

❖ PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

SHARE THE GOOD NEWS

❖ CLOSING HYMN

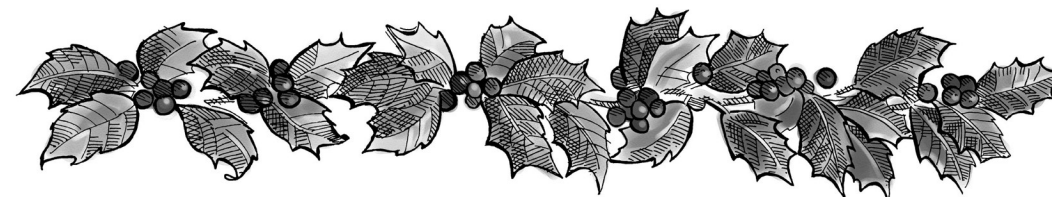
O Come, All Ye Faithful No 133

❖ CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo J. S. Bach

You are invited to remain seated to conclude worship with the postlude.



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO ALL NEWCOMERS: we greet you in the name of Jesus Christ! Please fill out a Visitor Card, located in the pew back, and drop it in the Offering Plate when it is passed.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP will be hosted by the Clippers Mariners Ship upstairs in Davis Hall/Gym after worship. Coffee, tea, juice, conversation!

NO ADULT EDUCATION CLASS next Sunday, December 24 and Sunday, December 31. Join us again on Sundays in January, 9:00 AM in Armitage Hall, for interesting and informative discussions.

NEED SOME CHRISTMAS GIFTS? Come with cash or check this Sunday to purchase Equal Exchange items - fairly traded coffee, tea, chocolate, and olive oil - during coffee fellowship today.

OUR RECIPE COLLECTION for the 75th Anniversary Cookbook continues to grow! We would love to add your tasty dishes to our collection. You may do this by submitting recipes to Claudia Askew, clade9@gmail.com, the church office during the week or at coffee fellowship today.

POINSETTIAS will enhance the sanctuary chancel on the 3rd Sunday of Advent and Christmas in memory and honor of our loved ones. If you wish to participate, please provide the name of the honoree and a donation of \$15 noted to "VCPC Flower Fund" in an envelope, and place it in the offering plate, or deliver it to the church office by Monday, December 18. Honorees names will be published in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

THE NEXT RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE is Tuesday, December 19, 2:00-7:00 PM. Up to three people may be helped with each pint of blood collected. Please contact Karen Miller, plmkmm@comcast.net or Jim Sandberg, jim.sandberg@comcast.net, for more information. A sign up table will also be available during coffee fellowship.

IT IS NOT TOO LATE to contribute to reverse Advent box items. These items help support Good Roots Food Pantry & Clothing Closet in SE Portland. Place one or two items into a box or bag each day through Epiphany (January 6, 2018) and return them to the Christmas tree in the church entryway between Christmas Eve and January 7, 2018. See the weekly e-blast for more information and a list of items needed.

THE CHURCH BUILDING will be closed Monday, December 25 as well as Monday, January 1, 2018. The church office will be closed Monday, December 25 through Monday, January 1, 2018. Even though the office will be closed, the East Door will unlock for previously scheduled events. Please notify the church office if your group will not meet that week. Thank you and happy holidays!