

ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 18, 2016

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Good morning! We wish God's grace and peace to you as we worship this morning. During the welcome, please sign the registration pads. If you are a first time visitor, we welcome you this morning and pray you have a meaningful worship time with us. (CCLI 1765953)

WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS

Ministers – The Congregation
Pastor – Mark Chow

GATHERING FOR CELEBRATION

WORSHIP CHIMES Tony Merry
WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS / INVOCATION Todd Sands
PRELUDE "The Snow Lay on the Ground" R. Speed
LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CELEBRATION THROUGH PRAISE

*OPENING HYMN 240 "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"
ADVENT HYMN 211 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" [vs. 7]
LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES Steve & Halle Randles
SCRIPTURE Matthew 1:18-25
"...Come, Lord Jesus. Amen."
ADVENT HYMN 211 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" [refrain only]
CHILDREN'S MOMENT Tom Swan
As the children come forward, you are invited to sing –
Bless the Lord, O my soul; Worship His holy Name
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your Holy Name. [Redman]

CELEBRATION THROUGH GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE Matthew 1:18-25 Todd Sands
L: The Word of God for the People of God.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE Pastor Mark Chow

DREAM

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION FOR ADVENT/CHRISTMAS [by Rev. Nathan Decker]

Lord of Christmas Peace, we have done wrong. We have tarnished the gift you gave freely. We have buried you so deeply in our hearts, the world doesn't see you. We have not followed Christ, we have ignored your teachings, we have lived lives of apathy against your

love, we have built fences and fortresses to push people away, and we have silenced the screams of those in need.

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. Amen.

CELEBRATION THROUGH OUR GIFTS

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY "In the Bleak Midwinter" G. Holst
Grace Chancel Choir

*DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"
[tune - "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" with refrain]
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*BLESSING OF THE OFFERING Todd Sands

GOING FORTH TO CELEBRATE

*CLOSING HYMN 230 "O Little Town of Bethlehem"
*BENEDICTION
*POSTLUDE "Noël Provençal" L. Roques

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY -- Sunday School – 16 Worship – , 117

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

December 18 Allison Arter, Macaire Fellers
December 19 Kallen Haddox, Vincent McLean, Tammy Porter, Judi Tucker, Sarah Tippie
December 20 Phyllis Cerney, Steve Herron, Ryan Smith
December 21 Jared Hubbard, Jordan Hubbard, Peyton Kenily, Sue Thorne
December 23 Martha Lentz, Amy Thompson
December 24 Jeff Mock, William J. Taylor

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Sunday, December 18	11:00 a.m.	SHORT Admin. Board meeting – Parlor
Monday, December 19		
Tuesday, December 20		
Wednesday, December 21	6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir
Thursday, December 22		
Friday, December 23		
Saturday, December 24	7:15 p.m.	Musical Sounds of the Season – Sanctuary
	8:00 p.m.	Candlelight Service with Communion – Sanctuary
Sunday, December 25		MERRY CHRISTMAS!
	NO	Early Service – Fellowship Hall
	NO	Fellowship Time – Fellowship Hall
	9:15-10:15	Sunday School – all ages
	10:00 a.m.	Worship Service

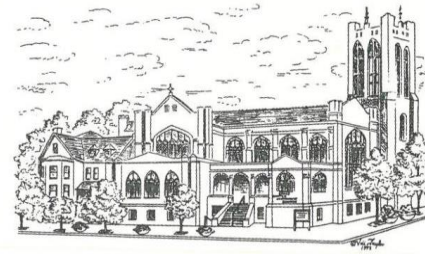
VISION STATEMENT for Grace Church

GRACE WILL Gather to worship God — Grow spiritually — Go serve and make disciples

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2016 must be received in the church office before noon on December 29. Any money received after that date will be credited to 2017.

Thanks to our worship leaders this morning:

Hospitality Team –	<u>Staff</u>
Usher Coordinators – Dana Swope	Admin. Asst. – Judy Cranz
Elevator Attendants –	Christian Educ. – Sarah Burris
Ushers – Julie McAllister, Tracy Miller, Ed Middaugh, Dana Swope	Custodian – Tracie Moss
Liturgist –	Handbell Director – Ann Briggs
Lay Leader – Todd Sands	Organist – Tony Merry
Children's Moment – Tom Swan	Parish Visitor – Judy McAllister
	Pastor – Mark Chow
	Pianist – Joyce Cooper
Nursery Care Provider – Julie McAllister	Volunteer Lay Visitor – Todd Sands
Sound – Craig Hill, Dan Vincent, Bill Woods	



GRACE UNITED

METHODIST

CHURCH

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December 18, 2016

CHRISTMAS EVE – SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

7:15 p.m. - *Musical Sounds of the Season* – Sanctuary. Enjoy beautiful and uplifting music presented by various individuals and groups, including the Handbell and Chancel Choirs.

8:00 p.m. - *Candlelight Service with Communion* – Sanctuary. Be part of this meaningful and moving celebration of the Birth of Christ, who brings Hope, Peace, Joy, Love, and Light to all

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2017 are located on a table at the rear of the sanctuary.

Please pick yours up – they are in alphabetical order. If you want envelopes but have not had them in the past, or if you have had envelopes but don't find them, see Judy.

Saturday, December 24 — Christmas Eve

Music of the Season begins at 7:15 p.m.

Communion with Candlelight begins at 8:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Sunday, December 25 — ONE worship celebration at **10:00 a.m.** in the Sanctuary

Sunday, January 1 — ONE worship celebration at **10:00 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall

Jazz Trumpet player David Wells will be a part of this service.