

HOPE

The world is waiting
in a solemn stillness—
but Heaven is as distant
as ancient promises.
All of that is about to change...

*And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together.*

ISAIAH 40:5



THE FIRST SUNDAY OF
ADVENT

Fletcher's Chapel United Methodist Church

8330 Fletcher's Chapel Road, King George, VA 22485

Church: (540) 775-7247 Parsonage: (540) 625-2834

The First Sunday of Advent, November 30, 2014

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

The Prelude

***Chiming of the Hour**

***Call to Worship**

O that God would tear open the heavens and come down!

Of that day or hour, no one knows, only God.

Be alert! Keep awake!

The time is drawing near:

All: The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

The Welcome and Announcements

Advent Wreath Lighting

The Lauber Family (8:30)/Lynn & Pat Burroughs (11:00)

God of Salvation, break into our world with your great power and glory. Break the chains that bind us to sin. Shatter the systems of our world that promote injustice and oppression. We light the 1st Advent Candle as a sign of our hope that God's Messiah is coming. May we stay alert for his coming that we might hear with all of creation, the redemption song of our God.

[The First Candle is Lit]

Come, Lord Jesus.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Amen.

***Hymn**

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

UMH 196

Opening Prayer:

God of power unexpected, we want you to tear open the heavens and come down; to make mountains quake, water boil, and stars to fall until all nations tremble at your presence! But you, you will not perform according to our wants and whims. Instead you come like the sound of sheer silence: Thin. Quiet. Instead you are born among us as an infant. Instead you show us how love is made perfect in weakness. So we will stay alert, or at least we will try, because we are your people and there is no other God besides you. **Amen.**

Time of Sharing and Prayer

Celebrations of God's Grace and Prayer Concerns
The Pastoral Prayer/The Lord's Prayer (UMH 895)

The Children's Message

***Hymn**

"There's a Song in the Air"

UMH 249

Prayer for Illumination:

Gracious God, heaven and earth will pass away, but your words will not pass away: Your Word stands forever. May our generation be attentive so that, by the power of your Holy Spirit, we remember your ways and gladly do right, meeting you wherever and whenever you appear. In Christ's name we pray. **Amen.**

The New Testament Reading – 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

p. 1715

The Gospel Reading – Mark 13:24-37

p. 1528

This is the Word of God, written for the People of God.
Thanks be to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The Message

"Oh, You'd Better Watch Out"

The Receiving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

The Response: *"In the Lord, I'll Be Ever Thankful" (2x)*

In the Lord, I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God, do not be afraid. Lift up your voices, the Lord is near,
Lift up your voices: the Lord is near.

***The Doxology**

***The Prayer of Dedication:** Faithful God, we thank you that Christ is being revealed in every time and place until he comes again in the fullness of glory. Strengthen our testimony and spiritual gifts; increase generosity in us, we pray, as we wait for the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

***Hymn**

"Soon and Very Soon"

UMH 704

***The Blessing and Dismissal:**

Beware. Keep alert. Keep awake. God is doing awesome things we do not expect.

And Christ is coming near with great power and glory, and with tenderness.

May God strengthen us to the end; Christ draw near to our very gates; and the Holy Spirit awake in our spirits; until, with eager longing, we greet the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

***The Postlude**

"Bless the Lord" (2X)

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's Holy name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

**Please stand as you are able.*

All are Welcome to our service of worship this morning. We are glad you are here. There are welcome cards located in the pews. Please take a moment to fill one out and place it into the offering plate during the collection. Our hope is that you will feel God's blessing during this time with us.

Assisting with Worship Today:

Scripture Readers: Pam Hunter (8:30); John Radolinski (11:00)

Greeter: Kenny Newton (11:00)

Assisting with Worship December 7:

Children's Church (11:00): Pam Hunter

Can You Help? Volunteers are needed to read Scripture, deliver children's messages, serve as greeters, and teach Children's Church at the 11:00 service. Please see the sign-up sheets which are on the front center pew.

About Fletcher's Chapel Church

Contact us by email: Pastor Mike is at reaves.michael.b@gmail.com

The church address is fletcherschapel@verizon.net

Our website is at www.fletcherschapel-kinggeorge-va.org

Access the calendar of events. Listen to today's sermon or a sermon you may have missed..

PASTOR:

LAY LEADER:

MUSICIAN:

Michael B. Reaves

Marie Williams

Elizabeth Pruett

This Week – November 30 – December 7, 2014

TODAY	<u>United Methodist Student Day</u> <u>Last Sunday to Return Apple Tree Gifts</u> 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11:00am Worship
Tuesday, 12/2	10:30am Advent Bible Study (Morning Session) 7:00pm Advent Bible Study (Evening Session)
Wednesday, 12/3	9:30am Heritage Hall Nursing Home Ministry
Sunday, 12/7	<u>Communion Sunday/Canned Food Collection</u>

Upcoming:

Thursday, 12/11	7:00pm Finance Meeting 7:30pm Administrative Council Meeting
Saturday, 12/13	9:30am UMW Meeting
Sunday, 12/14	<u>Loose Change Collection</u> <u>Bring Poinsettias to Church</u>
Saturday, 12/20	11:00am Youth Christmas Baking
Sunday, 12/21	4:00pm Christmas Cantata
Wednesday, 12/24	7:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Birthdays This Week:

12/3 Debbie Rogers

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Thank You for your generous response to our Stewardship Emphasis. You can still submit your Estimate of Giving for 2015. Extra cards are available in the church office and on the table in the sanctuary entrance. Please see Pastor Mike if you have any questions.

All Apple Tree Gifts should be returned to the church today. Please see Pastor Mike if you need to make other arrangements.

The Finance Committee and Administrative Council will meet on Thursday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. respectively.

Nursing Home Ministry: Meet us at the church on Wednesday morning at 9:30. We will carpool to Heritage Hall and offer the residents a time of music and song. All are welcome to participate.

Youth Christmas Baking: All Middle and High School students are invited to help bake Christmas cookies. Please come and join us on Saturday, December 20 from 11:00am until 2:00pm. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for food, fellowship, and church. Contact Tina Lauber at Lauberhh@yahoo.com

Advent Devotionals Are Here

Advent: A Calendar of Devotions 2014 is a booklet of daily devotions for Advent that helps people step back from the bustle and stress of the season and prepare heart and mind to rejoice in God's loving gift, Jesus Christ. Each daily devotion includes a recommended Scripture reading, a Bible verse, an inspiring message, and an uplifting prayer.

Advent begins on Sunday, November 30. Pick up your copy of *Advent: A Calendar of Devotions 2014* today. You can find them on the table below the literature rack in the entrance to the sanctuary and also in the hallway near the Pastor's Office.

Prayer List

Prayers for our Community and the World: The congregation and guests of Fletcher's Chapel and our community; those having difficulties in their marriages; the residents and staff of the Thurman Brisben Center; Those working with the incarcerated; Our Bishop and his cabinet.

Prayers for Our Church Family: Colleen Bowie, Dee Campbell, Arlene Coates, Delores Coates, Faye Coates, John Coates, Audrey Davenport, Louise Henderson, Gwen Henderson, Grace Humberger, Karis Humberger, Evelyn Jackson, Lolita James, Clifton Seay, Marie Smith, Roy Stewart, Pete Sullivan

Prayers for our Families and Friends: Mikie Barker, Wesley Berry, Barbara Canaday, Darrell Critzer, Frazier Family, Alvin Gill, Barbara Hatchell, Christine Holdren, Elva Kilby, Becky Lafferty, Ceili Leahy, Ronald Marshall, Bryan McGhee, Mike Nave, Nelson Parris, Msgr John Pennington, Pat Pelletier, David Pitts, Elaine Cooley Pitts, Brad Pruett, Chuck Rabbitt, Hubert Roberson, Sam Robinson, Barbara Rowe, Joey Rowe, Keith Sager, Joseph Sirrels, Tai (re: Lori Radolinski), Mushy Schenemann, Claude Stevens, Mary Stewart, Joan Wehner, the Yee Family

Prayer Request Cards are available in the pew racks.

Please fill one out and place it in the offering plate or give it to the pastor after the service.

Advent Study: *The Lord Is Our Light*

The Lord Is Our Light invites you to explore God's hope and presence through a study of the scripture readings for Advent and Christmas. Key Bible readings call us to praise God as we actively wait for the coming of God's redemption and new creation. Through the readings, we hear the call to celebrate the light of God revealed through Jesus Christ.

The season of Advent offers opportunities to prepare for God's coming in human form in the baby Jesus and for the approach of God's kingdom with the second coming of Christ. Hope is the focus of Advent worship, study, and prayer. We will discover the light that began in the manger and that continues as we look forward with hope to Christ's return.

The Lord Is Our Light is based upon the *Revised Common Lectionary* scriptures for year B of the church year, a three-year cycle of Bible readings. The study includes commentary and reflection on readings from the Old Testament, the Gospels, and the Epistles. It offers the opportunity to explore these Bible readings in a five-session study. The goal is to help participants understand, appreciate, and engage in meaningful and joyous celebrations of Advent and Christmas and to live each day in God's light through Jesus Christ.

The first class will meet on Tuesday, December 2. The class will be offered at 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Please register for the class by filling out the form below. You will receive a book once you have registered for the class.

✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂

_____ Yes, I am interested in participating in the Advent Bible Study

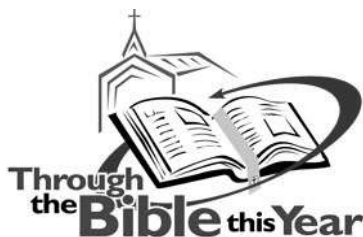
Name _____

The best time for me to participate is: _____ 10:30 a.m. _____ 7:00 p.m.

_____ I need more information before I decide

The best time to contact me is: _____ Daytime _____ Evening _____ Email

Phone Number or Email Address _____



<input type="checkbox"/> Dec 1 Ezek 27-28, Ps 119:169-176, 1 Thess 3-4 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 2 Ezek 29-31, Ps 120, 1 Thess 5 - 2 Thess 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 3 Ezek 32-33, Ps 121, 2 Thess 2-3 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 4 Ezek 34-35, Ps 122, 1 Tim 1-3 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 5 Ezek 36-37, Ps 123, 1 Tim 4-5 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 6 Ezek 38-39, Ps 124, 1 Tim 6 - 2 Tim 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 7 Ezek 40-41, Ps 125, 2 Tim 2-3 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 8 Ezek 42-44, Ps 126, 2 Tim 4-Titus 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 9 Ezek 45-46, Ps 127, Titus 3-Phm <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 10 Ezek 47-48, Ps 128, Heb 1-3 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 11 Dan 1, Ps 129, Heb 4-6 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 12 Dan 2-3, Ps 130, Heb 7-8 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 13 Dan 4-5, Ps 131, Heb 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 14 Dan 6-7, Ps 132, Heb 10 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 15 Dan 8-9, Ps 133, Heb 11 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 16 Dan 10-12, Ps 134, Heb 12-13	<input type="checkbox"/> Dec 17 Hos 1, Ps 135, Jas 1-2 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 18 Hos 2-5, Ps 136, Jas 3-5 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 19 Hos 6-9, Ps 137, 1 Pet 1-2 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 20 Hos 10-14, Ps 138, 1 Pet 3-4 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 21 Joel 1-3, Ps 139, 1 Pet 5-2 Pet 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 22 Amos 1-5, Ps 140, 2 Pet 3-1 Jn 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 23 Amos 6-9, Ps 141, 1 Jn 3-4 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 24 Obad, Jonah 1-4, Ps 142, 1 Jn 5-3 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 25 Mic 1-3, Ps 143, Jude 1-Rev 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 26 Mic 4-7, Ps 144, Rev 2-3 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 27 Nah 1-3, Ps 145:1-13, Rev 4-6 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 28 Hab 1-3, Ps 145:14-21, Rev 7-9 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 29 Zeph 1-3, Hag 1-2, Ps 146, Rev 10-12 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 30 Zech 1-5, Ps 147, Rev 13-15 <input type="checkbox"/> Dec 31 Zech 6-9, Ps 148, Rev 16-17 <input type="checkbox"/> Jan 1 Zech 10-14, Ps 149, Rev 18-20 <input type="checkbox"/> Jan 2 Mal 1-4, Ps 150, Rev 21-22 <p>You've read the entire Bible in a year!</p>
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Daily Bible reading is an important spiritual discipline for all Christians. If you stick with this plan, you will read the entire Bible in 2014. Each day you will read from the Old Testament, the Psalms, and the New Testament in chapter order. The daily reading will take about 20 – 30 minutes. When you finish, check the box. If you miss a day, it's OK to catch up.

Advent and Christmas Worship – Joy to the World



first sunday
of advent

November 30: Oh, You'd Better Watch Out
Isaiah 64:1-9; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37
(8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.)

December 7: Blue Christmas
Isaiah 40:1-11; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8
(8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.)



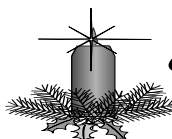
second sunday
of advent



fourth sunday
of advent

December 14: This Little Light of Mine
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11; 1 Thess 5:16-24;
John 1:6-8, 19-28
(8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.)

December 21: Mary, Did You Know?
2 Sam 7:1-11, 16; Romans 16:25-27;
Luke 1:26-38
(8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.)



*Candlelight
Service*



Christmas Cantata

Sunday, December 21, 4:00 p.m.
Combined Choir from Trinity and
Fletcher's Chapel Churches
Reception to Follow!

Wednesday, December 24,
Christmas Eve: Joy to the World
Luke 2:1-20
(7:00 p.m.)



third sunday
of advent



Bring Your Own Poinsettia

You are invited to bring your own Poinsettia to decorate our church for the Christmas season. You may start bringing them in on December 14th. If you would like your poinsettia to be listed in the bulletin in memory or in honor of someone please provide the following information:

1) Please Check One

_____ In Memory of _____ In Honor of

2) Name of Person(s) Remembered/Honored

3) Given By

Poinsettias should remain through the Christmas Eve Service and taken home as soon as possible afterwards.

**Please put completed forms
in the collection plate.**

