

FOR ALL TO SEE THERE WAS A STAR

*shining in the east, beyond*

THEM FAR, AND TO THE EARTH IT

*gave great light, And so it*

CONTINUED BOTH DAY AND NIGHT



PEACE

# Fletcher's Chapel United Methodist Church

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

Church: (540) 775-7247

Parsonage: (540) 625-2834

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**December 6, 2015**

**The Prelude**

**\*Chiming of the Hour**

**Advent Wreath Meditation & Lighting** (see insert)

**The Welcome and Announcements**

**\*The Call to Worship**

John came out of the wilderness to preach repentance; he preaches to us still.

**Make straight the paths we now walk and prepare the way for God's reign of justice and love.**

**\*Hymn** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (vs. 1-4) UMH 211

**The Opening Prayer**

Covenant God, you send us messengers to cleanse and refine us for your coming. Help us endure the mirror of the prophets' message, that we may see you when you suddenly appear among us; through Jesus Christ.  
**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** "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" UMH 216

**Prayer for Illumination:**

Holy One, through your Holy Spirit, instruct us by the light of your prophets. Illumine our hearts, that we may hear your call to become your

path into the world. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

**The Old Testament Reading** – Malachi 3:1-4 p. 1444

**The Gospel Reading** – Luke 3:1-6 p. 1543

This is the Word of God, written for the People of God.

**Thanks be to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

**The Message** “Socks and Underwear – Gift Return”

**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** (UMH 95)

**\*The Prayer of Dedication:** God of all righteousness, receive these gifts of gratitude, the offerings of our lives. Purify them with your refining fire so that they may serve your purposes and shine with your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.4**

**Invitation, Confession, Silent Meditation, and Pardon**

God does not want anyone to perish, but rather for all to come to repentance. Therefore, let us confess our sins, for God’s salvation is at hand.

**Faithful God, we confess that we have not led lives of holiness. We suffer from impatience, apathy, and greed; we have not been at peace. We repent of these offenses and turn to you in love. Forgive our iniquity and pardon our sins, that we may walk in righteousness to the glory of your name. [All pray in silence] Amen.**

Brothers and sisters, by the mercy of Christ, your sins are forgiven, for salvation is at hand for all who turn to God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Service of Holy Communion**

**The Great Thanksgiving** (UMH 13)

**Giving the Bread and the Cup**

**\*Hymn** “Angels from the Realms of Glory” UMH 220

**\*The Charge and the Blessing:**

I am confident of this: that the one who began a good work in you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. Prepare the way of the Lord! The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. **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. Please take a moment to fill out a welcome card and place it into the offering plate during the collection.

**Our Thanks to Those Assisting with Worship Today:**

**Scripture Readers:** Pam Hunter (8:30)  
**Greeters:** Kenny Newton (11:00)  
**Children’s Church (11:00)** Pam Hunter  
**Advent Wreath:** The Lauber Family (8:30)  
Pat & Lynn Burroughs(11:00)

**Assisting with Worship December 13:**

**Scripture Readers:** Linda Newton (8:30)  
**Greeters:** Stephenie Newton (11:00)  
**Advent Wreath:** Volunteers Needed for Both Service

<b>Minsters:</b>	All Members
<b>Pastor:</b>	Michael B. Reaves
<b>Lay Leader:</b>	Marie Williams
<b>Musician:</b>	Kay Roy

**Peace**

**December 6 - 13, 2015**

<b>TODAY</b>	<b><u>Communion Sunday/Canned Food Collection</u></b>
	8:30amWorship
	9:45amSunday School Opening (Sanctuary)
	10:00am Sunday School
	11:00am Worship
<b>Tues</b>	11:00am Advent Study Week 3, Daytime Class
	7:00pm Advent Study Week 3, Nighttime Class
<b>Thurs</b>	7:00pm Finance Meeting
	7:30pm Administrative Council Meeting
<b>Sun</b>	<b><u>Loose Change Collection</u></b>
	<b><u>Bring Poinsettias to Church</u></b>
	8:30amWorship
	9:30 Coffee Fellowship
	10:00am Sunday School
	11:00am Worship

**Upcoming:**

<b>Wed, 12/16</b>	<b>9:30am</b> Heritage Hall Nursing Home Ministry
<b>Sat, 12/19</b>	<b>9:30am</b> UMW Meeting
<b>Thurs, 12/24</b>	<b>7:00pm</b> Christmas Eve Service
<b>Wed, 12/30</b>	<b>4:00pm</b> Serving Dinner at Thurman Brisben

**Birthdays This Week**

12/8 John Stevens II 12/10 Elizabeth Pruet 12/12 Elizabeth Rand



**Thank You for your support of Apple Tree!** The people at Kingsway Prison and Outreach are very appreciative of your help this Christmas.

**Thank You** for your generous response to our Stewardship Emphasis. You can still submit your Estimate of Giving for 2016. Extra cards are available in the church office. Please see Pastor Mike if you have any questions.

**The Finance Committee and Administrative Council** will meet on Thursday, December 10 at 7:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. respectively.

### Advent & Christmas Series

Socks and Underwear: Not What You Want, But What You Need

**Sunday, November 29:** Unexpected Gift

**Sunday, December 6:** Gift Return

**Sunday, December 13:** Gift Received

**Sunday, December 20:** The Best Gift Ever

**Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve:**

A Service of Carols, Communion, and Candlelight (7:00 p.m.)

**Sunday, December 27:** The Day After

### Prayer Concerns

**Prayers for our Community and the World:** The congregation and guests of Fletcher's Chapel and our community; the residents and staff of the Thurman Brisben Center; Our Bishop and his cabinet.

**Prayers for Our Church Family:** Colleen Bowie, Jeanne Bullock, Arlene Coates, Delores Coates, Faye Coates, Audrey Davenport, Louise Henderson, Gwen Henderson, Grace Humberger, Karis Humberger, Evelyn Jackson, Lolita James, McKennah Lauber, Sherri Minx, Audrey Schindel, Clifton Seay, Annette Stahler, Pete Sullivan

**Prayers for our Families and Friends:** Krystalene Balao, Mikie Barker, Wesley Berry, Thomas Bowen, The Cameron Family, Barbara Canaday, Felecia Cook, Darrell Critzer, Warren Fletcher, The Frazier Family, Gage Ford and Family, Wayne Gallahan, Jake Gallelo, Jeff Gilley, Theresa Guarracino, Barbara Hatchell, Adalynn Hawkins, Sylvia Kennedy, Elva Kilby, Becky Lafferty, Ceili Leahy, David Lee, Ronald Marshall, Bryan McGhee, Mike Nave, Adolfo Pangilinan, Lina Perry, David Pitts, Elaine Cooley Pitts, Brad Pruett, Robert Pruitt, Hubert Roberson, Patrick Robinson, Sam Robinson, Brent Rowand, Barbara Rowe, Joey Rowe, Joseph Sirrels, Ron Seward, Claude Stevens, Mary Stewart, Joan Wehner

*Prayer Request Cards are available in the pew racks.*

## THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: PEACE

Last Sunday we lit the first candle in our Advent Wreath, the candle of hope. We light it again as we remember that Christ, who was born in Bethlehem, will come again to fulfill all of God's promises to us.

### *(The candle of hope is lit)*

The second candle of Advent is the Candle of Peace. Peace is a word that we hear a lot. It is one of the things that we hope for. Christ brought peace when he first came to us and he will bring everlasting peace when he comes again.

The prophet Isaiah called Christ "the Prince of Peace". When Jesus came he taught people the importance of being peace makers. He said that those who make peace shall be called the children of God.

We light the candle of peace to remind us that Jesus is the Prince of Peace and that through him peace is found.

### *(The candle of peace is lit)*

Peace is like a light shining in a dark place. As we look at this candle we celebrate the peace we find in Jesus Christ.

Let us pray: Thank you God for the peace you give us. We ask that as we wait for all your promises to come true, and for Christ to come again, that you would remain present with us. Help us today, and everyday to worship you, to hear your word, and to do your will by sharing your peace with each other. We ask it in the name of the one who was born in Bethlehem. Amen.

### *Sung Response:*

A Candle is burning, a candle of peace,  
a candle to signal that conflict must cease:  
for Jesus is coming to show us the way;  
a message of peace humbly laid in the hay.

*(Sung to the tune of "Away in a Manger")*