

Sunday December 8, 2024
The Second Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE Janesta Williams

PASTORAL WELCOME Rev. Carson Montgomery

ANNOUNCEMENTS Mona Baker

THE LIGHT OF ADVENT HOPE: Ryne, Nancy, Edye, & Winston Hawkins
One: In a weary and worn world, how do we begin again? Where do we start?

All: Let us begin together. Let us begin arm in arm. Let us begin by holding each other up, instead of tearing each other down. Let us begin with words of peace.

One: Yes, let us begin with peace. Today we light the Advent candles of peace and hope.

All: May these lights remind us of what could be. May these lights mark a new beginning. May peace flow like a river, and may it start with us.

One: Arm in arm, hand in hand, side by side. May we begin again.
Amen.

*HYMN NO. 123 It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

CALL TO CONFESSION Mona Baker

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Before God and one another, we confess that we have tried to make our own way. We have tried to lace our own shoes, to build our own houses, to kindle our own faiths. We have said a thousand times, “turn back,” as if we are fine on our own. But the days are long and we are forgetful. We need God’s help and the help of each other. Can you remind us?

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: I will remind you of this everlasting truth: You and I are not alone. Where we go, God goes. You and I are held in the Lord’s grace. Trust in this good news and receive God’s peace.

All: Thanks be to God! We remember. We believe. Alleluia! Amen.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE NO. 581

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. Amen.

MESSAGE FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES Linda Pelletier

ANTHEM How Will We Know Him Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Rev. Carson Montgomery

OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READINGS (p.) Ruth 1: 1-22
Ecclesiastes 4: 9-12

SERMON **We Can’t Go Alone**

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Rev. Sarah Are Speed)

We believe in a with-us God: a God who walks with us in the valley, dances with us on the mountaintop, sings with us through the night and rejoices in the morning. We believe that this with-us God wired us for relationship, saying to creation on the very first week, “Humans should not be alone.” Therefore, in an effort to be who God called us to be, we strive to live like the Trinity— connected, united, and centered. We believe in the power of community. We commit to learning each other’s names. We choose to journey with each other, like Ruth with Naomi. And we remember that no one can go through life alone. Thanks be to God, for lighting our way.

PRAISES AND PRAYER CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE 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 debts as we forgive our debtors; lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil; for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

OFFERTORY

*THE 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 DEDICATION (Luke 3:4)

All: God of Peace, you call us to prepare the way of the Lord. The truth is that we cannot prepare for your coming alone. Therefore, we give to you our hearts, time, and treasures. Bless our offerings so that your coming peace revealed in the Christ Child will be made known through us, the community, and wider world. Amen.

*HYMN NO. 118 While Shepherds watched Their Flocks

*BENEDICTION Rev. Carson Montgomery

Liturgy today is written by The Rev. Sarah Are Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

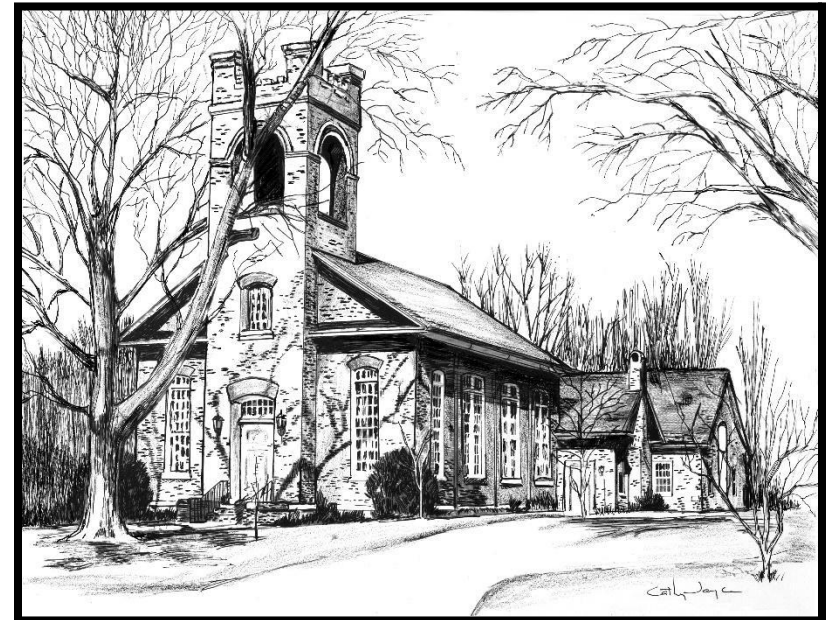
Prayer of Dedication written by Rev. Carson Montgomery

Elder of the Day

This Week: Janet Campbell Next week: Holly Massey

Van Wyck Presbyterian Church

Established 1884



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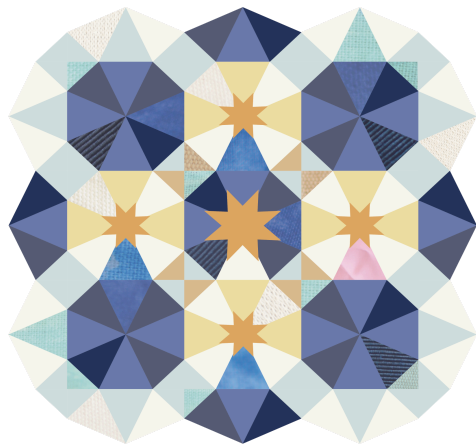
Website: www.vwpc.org

Like us on Facebook

Director of Music – Janesta Williams (alwilliams@comporium.net)

Secretary – Donna Fox (vwpcsecretary@gmail.com)

Treasurer – Stuart Graham (stugraham84@gmail.com)



WORDS FOR THE BEGINNING

Advent Sermon Series
Sundays @ 11:00am

Advent is a season of endings and beginnings.

As the calendar year comes to a close, a new church year rushes in.

Christ's birth ushers us into new ways of living and loving.

Dec 1 **You Are a Blessing** (Luke 1: 26-38; Isaiah 43: 1-7)

Dec 8 **We Can't Go Alone** (Ruth 1; Ecclesiastes 4: 9-12)

Dec 15 **Do the Good That Is Yours to Do**

(Luke 3: 7-16; Isaiah 58: 9b-12)

Dec 22 **Hope Is Worth the Risk** (Matthew 1: 18-25; Luke 1: 46-55)

Dec 24 5pm Christmas Eve Candlelight service **Love Knows Your Name**

(Luke 2: 1-20)

Church Calendar

Sunday Dec 8 Advent Week 2	10:00am Children's Sunday School 11:00am Worship *4:30pm Lighting of the Way
Monday Dec 9	7:00pm Bible 101
Tuesday Dec 10	10:00am Sisters of the Heart
Wednesday Dec 11	6:30pm Choir Practice
Saturday Dec 14	8:30am Men's Breakfast (Fellowship Hall)
Sunday Dec 15 Advent Week 3	10:00am Children's Sunday School 11:00am Worship and Welcoming of New Church Members 12:00pm Light Welcome Reception **Cookie Exchange Following The Welcome Reception
Monday Dec 16	10:30am Presbyterian Women (Fellowship Hall) 7:00pm Bible 101
Tuesday Dec 17	10:00am Sisters of the Heart
Wednesday Dec 18	6:30pm Choir
Sunday Dec 22 Advent Week 4	10:00am Children's Sunday School 11:00am Worship

***Connect to the unity in the community with The Annual Lighting of the Way at 4:30pm Sunday December 8.** All will gather at the Van Wyck Post Office to light the way along Old Hickory Road and stop for a brief celebration of Christmas music and devotion at Van Wyck Presbyterian, Van Wyck United Methodist, Trinity Presbyterian, and White Oak AME Zion Churches.

****Cookie Exchange!** The strengthening Committee is hosting a Cookie Exchange right after the New Member Welcoming Reception. If you would like to participate, bring at least 4 dozen of the same cookie! If you have any questions, please contact Laura Clark.

Christmas Card Post Office - The Presbyterian Women will sponsor the church Christmas Card Post Office again this year. Each family will have a designated file with their name. The post office will be located in the Vaughan Fellowship Hall (three large plastic tubs). Cards do not require anything but the name on the outside and filed in each file. Cost per card is \$.10 (honor system) and the proceeds will be forwarded to The Thornwell Children's Home. Individuals are responsible for picking up their cards each week. If you have questions, please contact Claudia Thompson.

Hosting Community Groups @ VWPC

Monday Dec 9	7:00pm Town Council Public Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
Tuesday Dec 10	7:00pm Integrity Group (Fellowship Hall)
Wednesday Dec 11	4:00pm Planning Commission Workshop (Fellowship Hall)
Thursday Dec 12	6:30pm Historical Preservation Society (Vaughan Room) 7:00pm Integrity Group (Fellowship Hall)
Saturday Dec 14	10:00am Integrity Group (Fellowship Hall)

Happy DECEMBER Birthday to YOU!!!

3 – Charles Moss	17 – Jeremy Sinclair
4 – Julie Singh	21 – Dennis Williford
5 – Logan Helms	27 – Carol Leedy
9 – Carson Helms	30 – Linda Pelletier
16 – Rosa Sansbury	

December Prayer Requests

Disciples: William Sims, Gail, Stogner, Carol Johns, Dianne Moore, Shirley Cauthen, Donald Baker, Claudia Thompson

Friends: Nancy Quick, Daniel Quick, Ann Hurley, Kate Steinkamp (Dianne Moore's sister), David Adams, Daniel and Robyn Adams, the Foster family, Patti Harris, John (Mary Baker's brother) Chip Oglesby, Bernard Bagley, Charlotte (Rosa Sansbury's niece)

Community: Van Wyck and Lancaster communities, our teachers and students

Providence Presbytery: Allison Creek Presbyterian Church (York, SC) (Vacant)

Wider World: Israel and Gaza, Libya, Maui, Turkey, Syria, Ukraine, Russia, our country and elected leaders

Youth: Cody Campbell, Harrison Cargill, Rachel Graham, Stuart Graham, Charlie Haynes, Alena Massey, Kate McCalmont

Vocational and College Students: Genevieve Cook, Carson Helms, Christian Moss, Ashley Overstreet, Devon Overstreet, Fritz Walker

Homebound Disciples: Vicky Lott

Session: Class of 2024: Linda Pelletier (Clerk), Laura Clark; Class of 2025: Holly Massey, Craig Denton; Class of 2026: Janet Campbell, Julie Graham

Staff: Donna Fox, Stuart Graham, Barbara McAfee, Janesta Williams, Rev. Carson Montgomery

Poinsettias

Given By:

In Honor Of:

Mary and Donald Baker

Janesta and the Choir
Rev. Carson Montgomery

Louise (Toug) Brunson

The Ferguson Family

Julie and Lance Cunnane

Daniel Cunnane
Maria Cunnane

Rob and Carol Johns

Kelly Myers

Carol Lyon

Dennis Williford

Clay, Holly, and Alena Massey

Paul and Di Kourkoubes
Donald and Mary Baker

Rev. Jason Myers

Rev. Carson Montgomery

Mika and Jeremy Sinclair

Tsuyoshi Iwatake
Judy Sinclair

Richard and Linda Vaughan

Everly and Vivian Vaughan

Janesta Williams

VWPC Choir

Dennis Williford

Carol A. Lyon
Carson Montgomery

Given By:

In Memory Of:

Louise (Toug) Brunson

The Ferguson family

Calcote/Campbell Family

Dr. Mack Calcote

Jake and Laura Clark

Cindy Young
Charles E. Young
Audrey D. Young
Joseph C. Clark Sr.
Henrietta Heriot Clark

Julie and Lance Cunnane

Don Willingham
Donna Harmon

Given By (cont.):

Scott and Teri Currie

Tony and Annette Flanagan

Susan Fullerton

John and Danielle Greene
and family

Patsy Hillen

Rob and Carol Johns

Carol Lyon

Clay, Holly and Alena Massey

Jimmy and Jane Massey

Mike and Beth Sellers

Kenneth and Terri Shuler

Doug and Linda Sobey

Paul and Roxie Tolman

Joe Waters

In Memory Of (cont.):

Tracy Currie
Doris Currie
Winifred Clayton

Dillon Denton
Kevin Chouinard

Kevin Fullerton
Clifford and Alice Fulkrod
James and Deborah Fullerton

Phyllis K. Warriner
Kathleen Greene

My brother, Sam Helms
My mother, Ruth Lemmond

Our parents

Silas A. Lyon

Janie Straight
Ned Nesbit

Crawford and Monnie Plyler Massey

Flo Weston

Mr. and Mrs. Brice Giles
Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Shuler

Helen McCrystal
Mamie Sobey

Wilda Gordy
Walter Tolman
Gertrude Tolman

Lynn Waters

Given By (cont.):

Trudy Massey Walker

Janesta Williams

Janesta Williams and
Claudia Thompson

Julia Willingham

In Memory Of (cont.):

Mildred Shaw
Janie and Dennis Straight

Al Williams

Claude and Virginia Thompson

Don Willingham
Nancy Willingham