



# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

## WORDS OF WELCOME

### PRELUDE

*Silent Night*  
Chamber Choir ♦ Elizabeth Feins, soprano

Michael Trotta

### CALL TO WORSHIP

#### \*PROCESSIONAL CAROL #182

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTES FIDELES

### THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: CANDLE OF JOY

One: Today is the third Sunday in Advent. We light the second candle to celebrate and embrace God's joy, which was revealed to the world in the gift of Jesus.

**All: (sung) "How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given! So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven. No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in."**

One: The Gospel of Matthew tells us that when Jesus was born, a star shone over the place where Mary and Joseph and the baby were. It was so bright it gave light and direction to the sages who had come from the East to worship him. And just as the night didn't seem to be so dark anymore, so Jesus' birth itself brought light of new meaning into the world. That new beginning is the joy that we celebrate this Advent season.

### TIME FOR COMMUNITY

*Please sign and pass the register book to your neighbor.*

### PASTORAL PRAYER AND RESPONSE

*Come Emmanuel*  
Glenn Basham, violin

Arr. Doug Denisen

### PRESENTATION AND DEDICATION OF OUR OFFERINGS

*Love Came Down at Christmas*  
Javier Abreu, tenor

John Rutter

## A FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS IN WORD AND MUSIC

Introduction

Rev. Dr. Dawson B. Taylor

*Sussex Carol*

Arr. Elaine Hagenberg

Reflection on Carol

Rev. Dr. David Kaiser-Cross

Carol

*The Hills Are Bare at Bethlehem*  
Pamela Jimenez, soloist

Arr. Ralph Johnson

Reflection on Carol

Rev. Dr. Deb Kaiser-Cross

Carol

*Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow*

Arr. Gordon Thornett

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

Reflection on Carol Rev. Dr. David Kaiser-Cross

Carol *IV Gloria in Excelsis from Lux: The Dawn From On High* *Dan Forrest*

Meditation Great Expectations of Joy Rev. Dr. Dawson B. Taylor

Carol *Jesus Child* *John Rutter*  
Given in honor of Helen Roth in December 2016 by the Sanctuary Choir

Reflection on Carol Rev. Dr. Deb Kaiser-Cross

Carol *Ding Dong! Merrily on High* *Arr. Stephen Mager*

\*CAROL #188 *Angels We Have Heard on High* GLORIA

\*WORDS OF BLESSING

\*POSTLUDE *God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen* *Arr. Chip Davis*  
Chamber Orchestra

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If you have a concern and would like a word of prayer or quiet conversation, stop by the parlor after the service for a visit with today's Stephen Minister. The parlor is to the right as you are leaving the sanctuary.

Today's instrumentalists are generously underwritten by the Music Gift Fund.

## PARTICIPANTS IN THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP SERVICES:

Rev. Dr. Dawson B. Taylor, Senior Minister  
Rev. Dr. David Kaiser-Cross, Executive Minister  
Rev. Dr. Deborah Kaiser-Cross, Minister for  
Congregational Care  
Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, Director of Music  
Sanctuary Choir  
Megan Black, Audiovisual  
Advent Candle Lighters:  
9:00 a.m.: Gordon Zickefoose and Keith Johnson  
11:00 a.m.: Tim and Carol McArthy

## GUEST MUSICIANS

Leelo Basham, flute  
Andrew Snedeker, oboe  
Ellen Tomasiewicz, horn  
Glenn Basham, violin  
Daniela Shtereva, violin  
Glenn Loontjens, viola  
Antonio Innaimo, cello  
Matt Medlock, bass  
Brian Jordan, percussion  
John Evans, percussion and timpani  
Alexandra Carlson, piano

### USHERS:

9 a.m.: Richard Ryder, head usher; Meb and Barbara Bergwall, Beverly Duncan, Carolyn Keller, Katie and John Ogden, Katy Serr

11 a.m.: Bill Rumpf, head usher; John Ballew, Christine Buol, Nancy Bruce, Richard Ryder, Ron Sanson, Janet Tosca



STEPHEN MINISTERS: 9 a.m.: Karin Balsbaugh 11 a.m.: Linda Chatterton

Chancel flowers are given by Elizabeth Ann Zoch in memory of her parents, Emma and Charles Jones.

### Today in the Gathering Place

- Social Activities Sign ups
- Class Sign ups and book sales
- Concert Tickets
- Luci Lights

## THIS WEEK AT NUCC (DECEMBER 16-23)

- Sunday** Third Sunday of Advent - Music Sunday
- 12/16** 9 a.m. . . . . Worship Service (S)  
10 a.m. . . . Stephen Ministry Pastoral Care (P)  
11 a.m. . . . . Worship Service (S)  
12 p.m. . . . Stephen Ministry Pastoral Care (P)  
12 p.m. . . . . Choir Luncheon (MH)  
4 p.m. . . . . Longest Night Service (GC)
- Monday**
- 12/17** 9:30 a.m. . . Monday Morning Ladies (N104)  
9:30 a.m. . . Gentle Yoga with Shannon (MH)  
3 p.m. . . . . PCA Committee Meeting (ACR)  
5 p.m. . . . . Youth Choir Party (Off site)  
6 p.m. . . . . Trustee Meeting (N104)
- Wednesday**
- 12/19** 9 a.m. . . . . Palette Pals Open Studio (N202)  
10 a.m. . . . Chair Yoga (BH)  
12 p.m. . . . Mid-Week Advent Meditation (S)  
3 p.m. . . . . Junior Disciples (N207)  
4 p.m. . . . . Alleluia Singers (Grades 3 - 5) (BH)  
4:45 p.m. . . Joyful Noise (4yr - 2nd Grade) (BH)  
7 p.m. . . . . Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (BH/S)
- Thursday**
- 12/20** 9:30 a.m. . . Gentle Yoga with Shannon (MH)  
10 a.m. . . . Women Engage! (N104)  
12:30 p.m. . Mah Jongg (N207)  
2 p.m. . . . . Bargain Box Committee Meeting (ACR)  
7 p.m. . . . . PFLAG Meeting (N104)
- Friday**
- 12/21** 12 p.m. . . . Al Anon Meeting (N207)
- Sunday** Fourth Sunday of Advent
- 12/23** 9 a.m. . . . . Worship Service (S)  
10 a.m. . . . Stephen Ministry Pastoral Care (P)  
11 a.m. . . . . Worship Service (S)  
12 p.m. . . . Stephen Ministry Pastoral Care (P)

## STAFF

### Ministers

Rev. Dr. Dawson B. Taylor,  
Senior Minister  
dawson@naplesucc.org

Rev. Dr. David Kaiser-Cross,  
Executive Minister  
david@naplesucc.org

Rev. Dr. Deborah Kaiser-Cross,  
Minister for Congregational Care  
deb@naplesucc.org

Rev. Beverly Latif Duncan,  
Minister for Visitation  
beverly@naplesucc.org

### Music Ministry

Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf,  
Director of Music  
becky@naplesucc.org

### Administration

Sharon Magiera, C.P.A.,  
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sharon@naplesucc.org

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megan@naplesucc.org

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julia@naplesucc.org

Tony Falco,  
Technology Director,  
tony@naplesucc.org

Susan Melick,  
Events Coordinator

Pat McGee,  
Volunteer Coordinator

Georgia Lundy,  
Sunday Fellowship/Kitchen Coordinator

Daniel Brower,  
Director of Campus Operations

Rich Mancini,  
Facilities

### Precious Cargo Academy

Leanne Badham,  
Director  
leanne.badham@outlook.com

### Bargain Box Thrift Store

Sandy Goldstein,  
Manager

Anthony Bandy,  
Assistant Manager

S = Sanctuary | P = Parlor | N = Nelson Hall  
MH = McSpadden Hall | GC = Gates Chapel  
GP = The Gathering Place  
MG = Memorial Garden  
ACR = Administrative Conference Room

YOUTH CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHURCH SCHOOL (Age 4 to 5th Grade) meets during 9 a.m. service in Nelson Hall Room 207.

JUNIOR DISCIPLES will meet on Wednesday, December 19, from 3 - 5:15 p.m. in Nelson Hall Room 207.

YOUTH CHOIR resumes January 7, at 5 p.m. in Beverly Hall.

## PRAYER LIST

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Nicholas Vincent Adamo  
Alan and Susan  
Joel Basham  
Joe Bejcek  
Roberta and Ben  
Jared Billips  
Carolyn Briggs  
Al Cahen  
Jay Cahill  
Dr. Richard and Barbara Carter  
Steve Chalfant  
Carol Chidister  
Christopher and Family  
Robert Clement  
Ann Culshaw  
Cynthia and Family  
Ken Davis  
Diego  
Jamie DePalo  
Daniel and Marta DeVito  
Eric Downs  
Gill Doyle  
Ben Dyals  
Beth Endres  
Erin and Leslie  
Angela Fout  
Betty Freimann  
Gayle  
Calvin Grayson  
Henry  
Shelly and Katie Hull  
Eddie Horney  
Karen Howick  
Alley Hoza  
Jill  
Mario Jimenez

Sheila Jung  
Tom Jung  
Cecil Jones  
Jennifer Jolls  
George Kessel  
Keith  
Kathy Kircher  
Irv Koehler  
Anne Kruse  
Paul Leutert  
Jon Lindblom  
Lynn and Marilyn  
Susi Martinsen  
Mervyn Maxwell  
Ali McKee  
Ron Medek  
Helene Melnick  
John McGowan  
Dinny Nemachek  
Sara Nonken  
Jean Partridge  
Tracie Pustizzi  
Sharon Rainey  
Ray  
Dave Remley  
Tara Reynolds  
Rose and Jim  
Roger Rhodes  
Bob Robida  
Carol Rudolph  
Carol Saul-Smith  
Sean, Jo and Kevin  
Deb Scott  
Carol Sellman  
David and Andrew Silver  
Mary Simeone

Dean Smith  
Derek Smith  
Sue Smith  
Donna Stevens  
Damon Surgener  
Dawn Teston  
Brenda Taylor  
Tor and Sunny  
Bill Uhlemann  
Vera L  
Monika Vincent  
Debbie White  
Joshua Wills  
Nancy Wyckoff  
Darlene Zoretich

### Our Children

Maggie Bella  
Maxwell Bost  
Clayton  
Ella  
Emmanuel  
Gracie Faith  
Michael Jerrold  
Garrett Kaulbars  
John Kennedy  
Laila Grace  
Baby Miles  
Olin  
Phoebe  
Rosie  
Finn Sears  
Vanessa  
Jackson Varty  
Violet

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In Service to our Nation: CPT Keagan Callanan, SSG Corey Cunningham, CPT Robert Cook, TSgt Donovan Fredericksen, MSgt Matthew Fredericksen, LCDR Timothy Minor, SPC Austin Payne, LCDR Erik Sand and MG Matthew Wright.



# SUNDAY STEEPLIGHTS

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## THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

Our Longest Night service will be held tonight at 4 p.m. in Gates Chapel. This service acknowledges those who are lonely, in mourning, or feeling separate from holiday season celebrations and helps us to find light in the darkness.

## MID-WEEK ADVENT MEDITATIONS

Our last mid-week Advent Meditation will be this Wednesday, December 19, at 12 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The meditation will be given by Rev. Beverly L. Duncan, and Glenn Basham will be our guest artist with Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf.

## WOMEN ENGAGE!

This Thursday, December 20, at 10 a.m. in Nelson Hall Room 104. Christmas Engagement with One Another. Come for food, informal conversation, and some fun "activities." Please bring a finger food; beverages provided. No reading required!

**OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2019** are available in the narthex after Sunday services today. They will remain in the narthex until December 21. We will remove them for the holiday season and put them back out for the month of January. If you do not see your name on a box of envelopes and would like to receive them, please contact Sharon in the office.

**PICTURE DIRECTORY MEMBER PHOTO DAY**  
Calling all new NUCC members: it's time to get your photo taken for the NUCC Member Photo Directory! Date: January 7, 2019 in McSpadden Hall, and appointments are required. It's easy to sign up - you can call Wendy at the church office during the week, or sign up online. Online signups begin Wednesday (naplesucc.org - "Photo Day Appointments"). There's no cost to be in the directory, but you can purchase prints from Lifetouch if you like them. You must have your photo in the directory in order to receive a copy. Appointments are open to all members, no matter when you joined!

## STEPHEN MINISTRY TRAINING

Stephen Ministry is having their bi-annual training starting Jan. 8 for 12 weeks and three Saturdays (Jan, Feb and March). If you are interested in applying to our Stephen Ministry training program, please contact Ronnie Bellone (238-216-2300) or Louise Brown (617-640-3003).

## BARGAIN BOX VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Bargain Box is in need of volunteers. Call Sandy at 239-262-3802 for more information.

## MIDLERS PLUS SUNDAY BRUNCH

Country Club of Naples on January 13 at 1 p.m. \$30 per person. Hosted by Chuck & Jan Feeny. Registration forms are available in the Middlers Plus mailbox or on Sunday mornings in the Gathering Place. Deadline for sign-up and payment is January 6, 2019. For questions: call Bobbi Richardson at 239-207-6615 or Hilde Higuchi at 239-331-8358.

## BABY BOOMER POTLUCK

Monday, January 14, 6 p.m., location to be determined. Join us for another evening of fun conversation, good food (potluck), and Dennis's trivia game. Information: Carolyn and Dennis Kois, johnsonkois@icloud.com

## DINNER AND A MOVIE

Thursday, January 17, 5:30 p.m. in McSpadden Hall. In continuation of our summer dinner and a movie series, we will be screening the film *All Saints*, starring John Corbett. This will be followed by a catered dinner. Cost is \$20. The deadline to sign up is January 13.

## SAVE THE DATE

Rev. Martie McMane will be here Saturday, January 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in McSpadden Hall to lead us in a women's winter retreat with the theme "Fully Alive! Deepening Spirituality for Life's Changes and Challenges." Sign up in early January.

## BOOK CLUB

The next book club meeting will be Monday, January 28, at 2 p.m. in N104: *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi.

## BOCA GRANDE AND THE GASPARILLA INN AND CLUB TOUR

Wednesday, February 6, 2019. Bus leaves Crossroads Shopping Center at Vineyards at 7:30 a.m. and returns at 6 p.m. Cost: \$119. Information: Susan Melick at 239-293-8446 or susanmelick@gmail.com.

**NEW CHAPTERS MEN'S STUDY GROUP** is a weekly men's spirituality forum with David Kaiser-Cross every Wednesday, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m., N104. We are taking a break for the holidays and will resume the study group on January 9.

## PALETTE PALS AND GALLERY NEWS

Palette pals holds their Wednesday morning workshops from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. All are welcome. This month in the NUCC library/gallery, members of the Seibert family are displaying their art.

## GREAT EXPECTATIONS!

How do you re-tell a 2,000-year-old story?

Sometimes the Christmas story can be magical and sometimes it can be mundane. Just like our expectations of Christmas. Each year we hope that this Christmas will be different. That our families will act differently or that the story will somehow jump off the pages of the Bible differently. No matter your expectations – great or not – we hope you'll make plans to join us at Naples UCC for the Advent and Christmas season as we make room in our hearts for the Christ Child and the difference that Jesus can make.

## HOLIDAY GIFT-GIVING OPPORTUNITY: LUCI LIGHTS

Naples United Church of Christ is offering you an opportunity during this Advent season to purchase Luci Lights that will be sent to our global mission partners who will then distribute them to those in need.

What are Luci Lights?

In 2012, a company named MPOWERD, created Luci Lights, the first inflatable solar lights. Their goal was making an affordable clean-energy product. Luci taps into a source of light that is limitless and readily available to everyone on our planet — the sun. Advancements in renewable technology have given us the means to literally put the power of the sun into a device that fits in the palm of your hand. MPOWERED wants to empower people around the world who still live without reliable access to electricity.

We have already sent over two hundred Luci Lights to mission partners in Guatemala and in Haiti. It is the perfect gift-giving option for those on your list who would be excited to hear that you have donated Luci Lights in their honor this Christmas. Luci Lights cost \$10 each. With your donation, you will receive a card that can be given to a loved one indicating that a donation was made in their name. Today is the last day to donate Luci Lights.

# CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS PROGRAM

You are invited to donate in memory (M), honor (H), or celebration (C) of a loved one for our poinsettia memorial program. A portion of the money will be used to decorate the chancel, but most of the funds will be donated to the The Shelter for Abused Women and Children.

All donors will be listed in the bulletin on December 23.

Amount of check to help the shelter \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Include offering with your form and make checks payable to NUCC)

Your name(s) as you wish it to appear in the bulletin:

\_\_\_\_\_

Gifts may be given:

In Memory of, in Honor of, or in Celebration of  
(Please circle one.)

Name of person you are recognizing: (Please print clearly)

M H C \_\_\_\_\_

M H C \_\_\_\_\_

M H C \_\_\_\_\_

**All orders must be received in the church office no later than tomorrow (Monday), December 17, 2018.**

## WELCOME, FIRST-TIME WORSHIPERS

First-time guest information cards are located in the pew racks, and can be brought to the first-time-guest welcome kiosk in the narthex, or placed in the offering plate. We invite you to journey with us as a visitor or unite with us as a Full or Associate Member.

Our sanctuary is equipped with the T-Loop (Telecoil Loop) Hearing System. Additional hearing devices are available in the narthex. Please ask an usher for assistance.

Though children of all ages are welcome in our worship services, there is nursery care for infants and toddlers available. There is also a "cry room" near the nursery if you wish to stay with your child and observe the service. Please ask an usher for assistance.

## NEW MEMBER SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 13: Visitor Information Brunch | After 9 and 11 a.m. worship in Nelson Hall room 104.

Thursday, January 17: An Evening With Your Pastors at the Kaiser-Cross home.

Sunday, January 20: New Member Sunday

### Mid-Week Advent Meditation

December 19 at 12 p.m. in the Sanctuary  
Meditation by Rev. Beverly L. Duncan  
Glenn Basham, violin  
Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, organ/piano

### Next Sunday

December 23 at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.  
Rebecca Richardson, soprano ♦ Javier Abreu, tenor  
Leelo and Glenn Basham, guest instrumentalists  
Reflections by the Clergy Team

The 2018 and 2019 flower calendar is available on the reception desk. Please enter the date (or call the office) to reserve your Sunday for donating chancel flowers.

Our Services are livestreamed and recorded. DVDs from today's service are available for a suggested donation of \$5. Please fill out the order envelope located in the church office on the reception desk and place it either in the offering plate or leave it on the reception desk. A recording of today's service may be found at [www.naplesucc.org](http://www.naplesucc.org).

Cans for Communion - We welcome your donations of nonperishable food items on the first Sunday of each month as we celebrate Communion together. These donations will be delivered to the Grace Place food pantry.

Weekly Steeplelights arrives via email each Friday. If you are not receiving it, please contact Wendy in the church office, or at [wendy@naplesucc.org](mailto:wendy@naplesucc.org) to sign up.

Come visit our Bargain Box Thrift Store at 3906 Tamiami Trail E, Naples, FL 34112 to find great items for any occasion or to volunteer! We also accept lightly-used donations. We can also assist in the pickup of larger donated items. If you have questions, please contact the store at (239)262-3802.

### 4 WAYS TO GIVE

Envelopes are available in worship



Online via our website



Text to Give  
Text NAPLESUCC to 73256 and click on the link in the reply text to complete your gift.



Stocks & IRA's

Please call Sharon in the church office.



As a **mission-driven congregation**, Naples United Church of Christ strives to show that actions speak louder than words. We are not only active in community outreach, but passionate about social causes. As an **intergenerational congregation**, we engage with people of all ages and stages of life to be a place where people not only believe, but also belong. As a **growing church**, we do not ask people to "check their brains at the door," rather to ask deep questions of faith of each other and of God.

We are an Open and Affirming congregation that not only welcomes, but celebrates all people. We are proud to be one of more than 5,000+ congregations in the United Church of Christ and of our identity as a "Traditional Church for Progressive People."

5200 Crayton Road, Naples, Florida 34103  
(239) 261-5469 | Pastoral Emergency: (239) 595-2141

[info@naplesucc.org](mailto:info@naplesucc.org)

WiFi username: Nucc\_guest WiFi Password: nuccguest