



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

WORDS OF WELCOME

PRELUDE

Still, Still, Still

Rupert Lang

Pamela Jimenez, soprano ♦ Glenn Basham, violin

CALL TO WORSHIP

*PROCESSIONAL CAROL #189

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: CANDLE OF PEACE

One: Today is the second Sunday in Advent. We light the second candle to celebrate and embrace God's peace, 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 peace that we celebrate this Advent season.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

There's a Song in the Air

Arr. Ken Berg

Alleluia Singers ♦ Youth Choir ♦ Tiffany Liu, soloist ♦ Glenn Basham, violin

TIME FOR COMMUNITY

Please sign and pass the register book to your neighbor.

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Angels We Have heard On High

Arr. Trevor Manor

Alleluia Singers ♦ Youth Choir ♦ Bella Romney, soloist ♦ Glenn Basham, violin

PASTORAL PRAYER AND RESPONSE

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Arr. Jack Schrader

Glenn Basham, violin

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3:1-6

NT pg. 61 (NRSV)

SERMON

Great Expectations of Peace

Rev. Dr. Dawson B. Taylor

OFFERTORY

Prepare the Way, O Zion

Kenneth Dake

Sanctuary Choir ♦ Glenn Basham, violin

*MUSICAL RESPONSE AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CRANHAM

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

*Please rise in body or spirit.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (11 A.M.)

***All: We rejoice in recognizing you as members of Naples United Church of Christ. We celebrate the diversity of needs, ideas, and visions that God has created. As our faith journeys are united, we give thanks for our past and ask God's blessing on our church and its future. We promise to support one another in the common task of building here on earth the realm of God.**

*CAROL #155

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

GENEVAN

*WORDS OF BLESSING

*POSTLUDE

Partita in E Major, Preludio
Glenn Basham, violin

J.S. Bach



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 we welcome our guest instrumentalist, Glenn Basham, Concertmaster of the Naples Philharmonic. His presence is generously underwritten by the Music Gift Fund.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:

Thomas Coates

Naples, FL

Robert and Annie Jenkins

Naples, FL

Gordon Zickefoose and Keith Johnson

Estero, FL

Patrick Gable and Janet Smargie

Pittsfield, MA & Naples, FL

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 Advent Wreath Lighters:

Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, Director of Music and Organist

9 a.m.: Judy Posados and Yerelin Lopez

Sanctuary Choir

11 a.m.: Gloria Beissinger and Joe Rickard

Megan Black, Audiovisual

GREETERS: 9 a.m.: Provided by the ushers

11 a.m.: Dave Adams

USHERS:

9 a.m.: Richard Ryder, head usher; Joyce Agnew, Meb and Barbara Bergwall, Bob and Louise Brown, Dick and Jean Ann Lynch, Joseph Rickard, Cynthia Taft

11 a.m.: Jen Rainey, head usher; Ronnie Bellone, Joyce Cameron, Susan Melick, Dan Morris, Bill Rumpf, Richard Ryder, Ren Smith

STEPHEN MINISTERS: 9 a.m.: Katie Ogden 11 a.m.: Joan Van Degriff

Chancel Flowers are given by Carol Sellman and family, in loving memory of Charlie Sellman.

Today in the Gathering Place

- Social Activities Sign ups
- Concert Tickets
- Class Sign ups and book sales
- Green Justice Team
- Equal Exchange Table
- Luci Lights

THIS WEEK AT NUCC (DECEMBER 9-16)

- Sunday 12/9** Second Sunday of Advent
9 a.m. Worship Service (S)
9 a.m. Angel Tree Packing Event (MH)
10 a.m. . . . Stephen Ministry Pastoral Care (P)
10 a.m. . . . Family Brunch (MH)
11 a.m. . . . Worship Service (S)
12 p.m. . . . Stephen Ministry Pastoral Care (P)
3 p.m. Holiday Cheer with Dr. Becky and Friends Concert (S)
- Monday 12/10**
9:30 a.m. . . Monday Morning Ladies (N104)
9:30 a.m. . . Gentle Yoga with Shannon (MH)
2 p.m. Book Club: *The Child In Time* (N104)
3 p.m. Angel Tree Christmas Party (MH)
4 p.m. Baby Basics Diaper Pickup (MH)
5 p.m. Youth Choir (BH)
5 p.m. GLSEN Meeting (N104)
- Tuesday 12/11**
9 a.m. NUCC Cares Meeting (N101)
1 p.m. Social Committee Meeting (N101)
4 p.m. Music Committee Meeting (ACR)
5 p.m. Long Range Planning Committee Meeting (N101)
5:30 p.m. . . Membership and Growth Meeting (ACR)
6 p.m. Church Council (Full) Meeting (N104)
- Wednesday 12/12**
9 a.m. Palette Pals Open Studio (N202)
10 a.m. . . . Chair Yoga (BH)
11 a.m. . . . New Chapters Men's Study Group (N104)
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 12/13**
9:30 a.m. . . Gentle Yoga with Shannon (MH)
10 a.m. . . . Green Justice Team (N101)
12 p.m. . . . Lunch and Learn (MH)
12:30 p.m. . Mah Jongg (N207)
6 p.m. Newcomer's Dinner (Off site)
- Friday 12/14**
9 a.m. Board of Mission and Outreach Meeting (Grace Place)
12 p.m. . . . Al Anon Meeting (N207)
2 p.m. Caregivers Support Group (N104)
- Saturday 12/15**
9 a.m. Sanctuary Choir/Orchestra Rehearsal (S)
- Sunday 12/16** Third Sunday of Advent - Music Sunday
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)

STAFF

Ministers

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

JUNIOR DISCIPLES will meet on Wednesday, December 12, from 3 - 5:15 p.m. in Nelson Hall Room 207.

YOUTH CHOIR meets on Mondays, 5 p.m., in Beverly Hall.

PRAYER LIST

Condolences: To Bill Henning and family, on the passing of his wife, Carolyn.

To Mark Riley and family, on the passing of his stepfather, Rob Isler.

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
Tom and Kate Frantz
Betty Freimann
Gayle
Debbie Graham
Calvin Grayson
Henry
Shelly and Katie Hull
Eddie Horney
Karen Howick
Alley Hoza
Jill
Mario Jimenez
Sheila Jung

Tom Jung
Sandra Johnston
Cecil Jones
Jennifer Jolls
George Kessel
Keith
Kathy Kircher
Irv Koehler
Anne Kruse
Walter Lathe
Mary Ellen LeMasters
Paul Leutert
Jon Lindblom
Lynn and Marilyn
Susi Martinsen
Mervyn Maxwell
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
Rose Schmigle
Bud Schroeder
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
Helen Weese
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

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

HOLIDAY CHEER CONCERT WITH DR. BECKY AND FRIENDS!

Today at 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Please join us for this fun concert of carols, Christmas music, and Santa. The concert is free, and a freewill offering will be accepted to support the Christmas Fund.

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.

EQUAL EXCHANGE PRODUCTS AVAILABLE

We will have the Equal Exchange products on sale this Sunday, plus three gift baskets designed with the help of Sandy Goldstein from the Bargain Box. The gift baskets include coffee, tea, chocolate bars, and baking cocoa.

BOOK CLUB

The next book club meeting will be tomorrow (Monday), December 10, at 2 p.m. in Nelson Hall 104: *The Child in Time* by Ian McEwan.

MID-WEEK ADVENT MEDITATIONS

Our second mid-week Advent Meditation will be this Wednesday, December 12, at 12 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The meditation will be given by Rev. Dr. Deborah Kaiser-Cross, and Adam Satinsky will be our guest artist with Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf.

LUNCH AND LEARN

Our next Lunch and Learn will be this Thursday, December 13, from 12 to 1 p.m. in McSpadden Hall. The Topic: *How Is Global Warming Affecting Life in Paradise?* Join Rob Moher, CEO of the Conservancy of Southwest Florida. Bring lunch.

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

Friday, December 14, from 2 - 3:30 p.m. in Nelson Hall Room 104.

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. January 13. 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.

BOOKS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY CLASSES

Books for December and January classes are available in the Gathering Place today.

"LIGHTS IN THE GARDEN" BOTANICAL GARDEN TOUR
Friday, December 14, 2018, 6:30 p.m. Cost: \$18. Maximum: 30 people. Optional happy hour as a group at 5 p.m. at Bistro La Baguette restaurant. Prior registration for happy hour as well as the tour is essential. Limited seating left. Sign up today.

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. Please sign up in the Gathering Place. We are currently exploring the book *Speaking of Faith*.

PALETTE PALS AND GALLERY NEWS

Palette pals will resume 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.

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).

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.

PICTURE DIRECTORY MEMBER PHOTO DAY

Calling all new NUCC members: it's time to get your photo taken for the NUCC Member Photo Directory! Photo Day is 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!

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.

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. These alternative gifts will be available in the Gathering Place today and December 16.

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 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 12 at 12 p.m. in the Sanctuary
Meditation by Rev. Dr. Deborah Kaiser-Cross
Adam Satinsky, cello
Dr. Becky Weese-Rumpf, organ/piano

Next Sunday

December 16 at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.
Music Sunday featuring the Sanctuary Choir and
Chamber Orchestra with reflection by
Rev. Dr. Dawson B. Taylor

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.

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 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

WiFi username: Nucc_guest WiFi Password: nuccguest



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