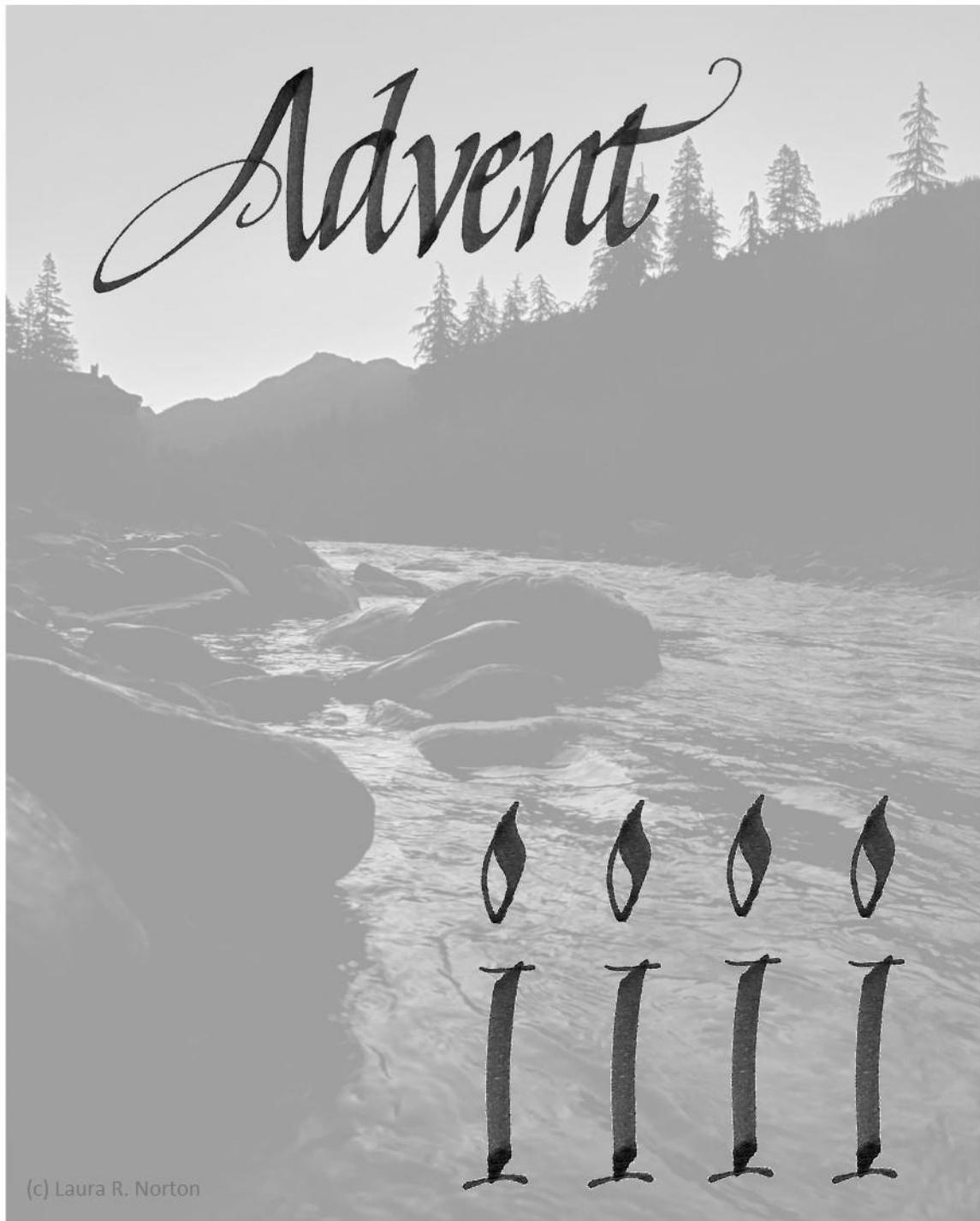


The Fourth Sunday of Advent



December 20, 2020 + 11:00 am

Welcome to Christ Church ☩ Washington Parish

We are glad that you are worshipping online with us this morning and pray that your experience here is a blessing to you. If you are a visitor and want to know more about the church, please visit our website for more information and to contact us: www.washingtonparish.org. To contact us, see the last page of this bulletin or go to our website for more information. On the website, hover over ABOUT US and select Contact Us. The office email is linked (or [click here](#) to send an email). Also, visit us on Facebook ([Christ Church on Capitol Hill](#)).

*Let this bulletin be your guide through the service;
it includes everything you need.*

Opening Hymn O come, O come Emmanuel **Second String Orchestra on the Hill**

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,
who ordered all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show
and teach us in its ways to go.

Refrain

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

All **Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

When the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
 People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 15: The Song of Mary*Magnificat***BCP 91**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
 my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; *
 for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
 the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him *
 in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm, *
 he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, *
 and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, *
 and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, *
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
The promise he made to our fathers, *
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. *Amen.*

Second Reading

Romans 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

Luke 1:26-38

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant God of the watching, God of the waiting: Be present with us.

Leader God of the watching, thank you for the symbol of the Advent wreath, whose circle reminds us that your mercy is endless, with no beginning or end. Help us to set our minds on things eternal.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God of the waiting, we pray for all in authority. We look forward to the day when the nations of the world walk in the light and your peace is experienced by all.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God of the watching, we pray for this city that we may be a community of hope and light in this world.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God of the waiting, we pray for all the people of your church that you may strengthen them for the ministry that you have set before them.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God of the watching, we pray for the sick, the friendless, and the needy, that they may experience your healing presence.

(Please add your own prayers for those in need)

God of the watching, God of the waiting.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God of the watching, we pray for all who have died, especially those we name before you now:

(Please add your own prayers for those who have died)

God of the watching, God of the waiting.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God of the waiting, we are challenged in our worship to set our hearts and minds on the here and now, and to remember and be thankful for what matters.
(Please add your own prayers of thanksgiving)
God of the watching, God of the waiting,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader God of the waiting, we pray for all those who are watching and waiting for a dream to be born that you may give them patience of heart and mind and the wisdom to see your presence.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Celebrant Hasten, O God, the coming of your kingdom, and grant that we, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your Son at his advent in glorious majesty. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
All **Merciful God,
always with us, always coming:
We confess having done so little with so much.
Forgive us Lord,
For not bending the knee,
For not reading your Word,
For not searching our hearts,
For not facing our sins.
Forgive us according to your tender mercies, O God
Grant that when Christmas morning breaks for us this year,
We may have a fresh sense of your presence
And a renewed resolve to live to the praise of Christ's glory. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Offertory

Celebrant Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

Solo

John Flink, *baritone*

All are invited to support Christ Church's ministry of sharing God's love with the world by contributing using one of the many options available.



(Christ Church Giving QR Code.)

Please see the back of the bulletin for links and more information.

At the presentation:

Celebrant All things come of thee O Lord,
People **And of thine own have we given thee.**

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

BCP 364

All **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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

Go in love, for love alone endures.

Go in peace, for that is God's gift to those whose hearts and minds are in God's son Jesus. And the blessing of God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, rest upon you this day, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Liturgist Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
All **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Matt Dannan, *trombone*

✂ PLEASE JOIN US FOR A VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR ✂

Via Zoom Meeting (teleconference or telephone)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/265300284?pwd=T1N1UUg1ZkM1anBRZINETGMwY3NzUT09>

Via telephone only: 646-558-8656 (Meeting ID 265 300 284) Password: **WayofLove**

Use of Zoom: you can copy and paste the link above into your browser. You can use any device that can access the internet: smartphone, tablet, laptop/computer with a camera. You do not need to download an app to gain access to the meeting.

Prayers of the People were written by Lynne Mallonee Schlimm

Confession edited from The Worship Book, p. 433

The Blessing comes from The Book of Occasional Services

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Praise God for Those Who Serve Today

Officiant and Preacher: The Rev. John Kellogg
Sacristan: Gary Abrecht & Cynthia Thomas
Liturgist: Katherine Patterson
Readers: Stephen Bellum; The Zink/Jordan Family; Beth Mullin
Video Operations: Sherwyn Santos
Musicians: Second String Orchestra on the Hill, featuring Christ Church members
 Linda Kotis, Ruth Kroeger, and Katharine Kaiser Moy; John Flink,
 baritone; and Matt Dannan, *trombone*

CONTACTS

The Rev. John A. Kellogg, *Rector*
The Rev. Mary Miller Flowers, *Interim Asst. Rector*
Richard Thibadeau, *Music Ministries*
Jennifer Baker Howard, *Parish Life & Office Manager*

rector@washingtonparish.org
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music@washingtonparish.org
office@washingtonparish.org

Visit our web site at WashingtonParish.org or find us on Facebook.
620 G Street SE, WDC 20003 | 202.547.9300

The Church Office and Building are currently closed for the COVID-19 shutdown.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcing a new way to watch Christ Church virtual services: We are pleased to offer a new way to watch virtual services on the Christ Church website under washingtonparish.org/watch. You may find a button – Watch Online – on our home page and on the menu on top. You will also find a copy of the service bulletin on this page. If you do not have a Facebook account or miss a live service, you can watch the services live or view a recording from the most recent service. Currently you may view the Advent Contemplative Service (held on Tues. Dec. 15th) on the Watch page as well as find the bulletin for the Dec. 20, 11am service.

Christmas Eve Services at 11am and 5pm: Rev. Mary Miller Flowers will lead an interactive Zoom at 11am with the children that will be fun and participatory, including a Zoom pageant. At 5pm, we will host our Christmas Eve service which will be live-streamed from the sanctuary, and will include music from some of our talented parishioners and the lighting of candles during Silent Night. The National Cathedral will offer a noon service for children and families and a Holy Eucharist service at 8:00pm via their website and YouTube channel. *Please note: Thursday Evening Compline will be canceled on Christmas Eve and will resume on December 31 at 8:30pm.*

Children and Families 11am Christmas Eve Service Zoom Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83464375868?pwd=YXBhNnljejdCcEwxUXprTXRKNmRCOT09>

Meeting ID: 834 6437 5868 (Password if prompted to enter: **CCWPKids**)

Watch the 5pm Virtual Christmas Eve Service via [our watch page on our website](#) (*new option if you do not have a Facebook account*) or to comment and interact with your fellow parishioners via the [Christ Church Facebook page](#).

Candles for Silent Night on Christmas Eve – Pick up this Weekend: During the 5pm service on Christmas Eve, we will have the traditional part where we light a candle during Silent Night. We invite everyone to join us at home, lighting your own candles. The candles that we traditionally use at church will be available if you want to come by and pick them up for you and your family members. The box will be out, along with paper drip catchers, under the awning by the door to the parish hall in the courtyard. The box is sitting outside now and will remain through Christmas Eve for people to pick up their candles.

Christmas Day Holy Eucharist Service, 10am, via St. Mark's Facebook Live Stream: Join our Capitol Hill and Episcopal neighbor on Christmas Day for a worship service, including communion, via their Facebook page. Search for "St. Mark's on Capitol Hill" or @wearestmarks on Facebook.

Join us for the 37th Annual Quilt Raffle Drawing TODAY! The drawing for the Quilt Raffle will be held during the Virtual Coffee Hour as soon as the rector, Rev. John Kellogg, is able to join the Zoom meeting (at about 11:45am or so). Please join us via the Zoom link below to see who will win this year's spectacular quilt. Proceeds from the raffle and donations will be split equally between two non-profit organizations – Buenos Vecinos and Capitol Hill Good Neighbors. There is still time to make a donation via our [website](#) (select "Quilt Donation" from the dropdown menu) or by mailing a check to Linda Mellgren, 245 11th St SE, Washington DC 20003.

Virtual Coffee Hour Zoom Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/265300284?pwd=T1N1UUg1ZkM1anBRZlNETGMwY3NzUT09>
Meeting ID 265 300 284 (Password: **WayofLove**)

Church Staff will be taking time off between Christmas and New Year's Day. Wednesday Morning Service on Dec. 30, 7:30am and Thursday Evening Compline on Dec. 31, 8:30pm will continue as usual.

Charitable Giving and Tax Bill/End of Year Giving: For 2020 tax purposes, financial gifts must be made online via our [website](#) by December 31st or postmarked by December 31st if mailed. If you have not fulfilled your 2020 pledge and you are in a position to uphold your financial commitment to Christ Church, we would greatly appreciate receiving your gift by December 31st.

Stewardship Season - Moving Forward: We are pleased to announce that we have hit and exceeded our goal! We have raised \$413,901 toward our goal of \$400,000, including 52 increased pledges and 8 new pledges. Thank you to the 95 households who have responded and made pledges for 2021. If submitting your pledge is on your To Do list, please submit it before the end of the calendar year as to assist the Finance Committee and Vestry prepare a responsible and informed budget for next year. You may pledge online at <https://washingtonparish.org/ministries/stewardship/> or mail in the pledge card you received in the mail.

Recruiting New Vestry Members: At the Annual Meeting (to be held on Sun. Feb. 7, 2021), we will elect five new Vestry members, four for a three-year term and one replacement member for a one-year term. Vestry members serve as the discerning body of the church for major decisions. A good candidate for Vestry is someone who has an active spiritual life, cares for the work of the church, and has around 5 hours a month to serve. We like to have a representative sample of the congregation on Vestry; as our current class departs, we see a particular need for women and younger people. Typically, the Vestry meets the first Sunday of the month at 12:00pm.

Please give it thought and if you are interested, have a name to suggest, or would like to discuss it further, please contact Senior Warden Ed Warren at ewarren@comcast.net by December 20.

Nativities from around the world: While we are not able to gather together during Advent and Christmas, we are sharing the church's collection of creches from around the world via Facebook postings, including photos, donor information, country of origin and a prayer. Please follow along via our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchDC>).

2021 Liturgical Calendar Available for Pick Up: The 2021 liturgical calendars have arrived and are available for pick up in the storage tote in the courtyard (behind the church). We have a limited supply this year so please only take 1 per household. First come, first claimed.

Please sign & return *Covenant for Regathering in Worship* letter. If you have not signed the Covenant for Regathering in Worship letter, please sign and return it to the Church Office as soon as possible. This letter is a REQUIREMENT from the Episcopal Diocese of Washington. All parishioners must agree with the *Covenant* and the Christ Church Office must have a copy of the signed letter on file before we begin in-person worship. You can find a copy of the letter [here](#) (and on our website under "Re-opening Resources & Information.")

Formation and Fellowship

Friday Film Series On Hiatus Until February 12: Thank you to the faith organizers and participants of the Friday Film Series during the pandemic. The last movie of 2020 was on Friday and the group will be taking time off between Dec. 25 – Feb. 5 and will resume on Fri. Feb. 12 with the Valentine's Day movie selection, followed by the launch of Lenten Film Festival on Fri. Feb. 19. Stay tuned for more information in late Jan./early Feb.

Adult Forum will return on Sun. Jan. 3. Thank you to Rev. Rob Banse for leading the Advent Adult Forum series which concluded today. The Adult Forum series will take a break on Sunday, Dec. 27 and will resume on Epiphany, Sunday, January 3 led by the rector, Rev. John Kellogg, with a new topic to be announced.

Adult Forum Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/377727989?pwd=RmtHamFoYW5FcEZjN3pTMWNWTGVjZz09>

Meeting ID: 377 727 989 (Password: WayofLove)

Saturday Morning Men's Spirituality Group, 9am: A long-standing Christ Church tradition, the Saturday Morning Men's Spirituality Group meets every Saturday at 9am for conversation and reflection. The group has returned to hosting this meeting on Zoom due to the colder weather and spike in COVID infection rates in the area. If you are interested in receiving the Zoom link, please email Paul Laymon at pa.laymon@gmail.com.

Children and Family Ministries

Christmas Eve Children's Service and Zoom Nativity: Join us at 11am on Christmas Eve for a fun, festive, and participatory virtual service featuring a Zoom Nativity. You won't want to miss this fun service to tell the story of Jesus' birth as we anticipate the miracle of Christmas.

Zoom Link for Children & Families 11am Christmas Eve Service

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83464375868?pwd=YXBhNnljejdCcEwxUXprTXRKNmRCQT09>

Meeting ID: 83464375868 (Password **CCWPKids**)

Children's Chapel, 9am, via Zoom: Please join Rev. Mary Miller Flowers for stories and music appropriate for children ages 3 – 2nd grade (all children are welcome to participate).

Zoom Link for Children's Chapel for ages 3 – 2nd grade is [here](#):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/141023266?pwd=US9SUnG2SnMzYTFjWitWSEt2Qklqdz09>

Meeting ID: 141 023 266 (Password **CCWPKids**)

Sunday School for grades 3rd – 5th (and older children welcome) will meet at 10am via Zoom for 40 minutes to focus on the stories of Jesus.

Zoom Link for Sunday School for 3rd – 5th grade is [here](#):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88222800831?pwd=clhzNGVnVTh5eGo3OEpVejNjV1hzZz09>

Meeting ID: 882 2280 0831 (Password **CCWPKids**)

Outreach, Serving the Community

Thank you to our Volunteers: Thank you to Joe Thompson, Deborah Schmid, Stephanie Schmid, Barb Crandall, Linda Mellgren and John Payne for purchasing and delivering a bounty of food to our Outreach Community Partner, Progress for Christ Food Pantry in time to make our neighbors in need Christmas dinner festive and fulfilling. Thank you to Joe Thompson for also shopping and delivering cleaning supplies and toiletries for a newly arrived Afghan family as part of our refugee resettlement partnership with Capitol Hill Good Neighbors.

Remembering the Refugee Community. Good Neighbors Capitol Hill Refugee Program is grateful for the donations Christ Church and other Capitol Hill friends and congregations have provided in the past. Now during this season of **Gifting**, GNCH has pledged \$10,000 to the Lutheran Social Service resettlement agency for purchasing **gift cards for the most vulnerable refugee families** as well as **gently used comforters or blankets for new arrivals**. We hope you can help meet our goal as we continue to be a resource of welcome support for refugees. For further info, to make a donation or to deliver blankets or comforters, please contact **Lisa Nickerson** at 202-546-4668 or email lnnicker@gmail.com. Your gifts will bring real cheer and critical help to refugee families during this holiday season.

PRAYERS AND BIRTHDAYS

For prayer requests for parishioners: Russell and Annelise Atkinson; Linda Norton

For prayer requests from parish members and friends of the larger community: Emily Lewis (aunt of Marian Connolly); Cindy Hambleton (mother of Carole Anne Hawkins); Jurate Butkute (friend of Bill James); Kathie Crandall (aunt of Del Crandall); Noah Piper (friend of Lauren Welch); Jane Penn (sister of Charles Free); Linda Hine (friend of Katherine Patterson); Tom Howard (son-in-law of Sandra Hanbury); Fran Laskofski (family friend of Jennifer Baker Howard); Mitzi Schroeder (sister-in-law of Alison Brooks); Lolita Brown (friend of Andrew Lyons); Emily and Robin (friends of Jack Jacobs); Becky Bowen (niece of Jack Jacobs); Ellen Finn and Buenos Vecinos families (outreach community partners); Al (friend of Keith Lopes); Bart Bedsole (nephew of John Payne); Mandy Brown (friend of Nancy Broers); Jennifer Norton (daughter-in-law of Linda & Randy Norton); Marilyn Wheaton (niece of Linda Norton); Rachel Oelslager (friend of Rachel Abrecht-Litchfield)

For the repose of the soul: B. Michael Parrish (friend of Richard Thibadeau)

For those expecting a child: Allison Spaid Atherton and Garrett Atherton (January); Jamie and Rob Schafer (pending adoption)

For those celebrating their birthdays this month: Socorra De Castro; Don Denton; Sarah Evans; Emma Gambis; Etienne Gambis; Andrea Harles; Dorothy Hughes; Jennifer Jameson; Christopher Koppel; Lydia Lyons; Sean McAlister; Tom Mitchell; Raine Montgomery-Vielmo; Ellen Psychas; Doris Robinson; Colin Román; Jamie Schafer; Juliette Schafer; Jon Schans; Kirsten Sloan; Helena Spangenberg; Jeremy Spangenberg; Joel Spangenberg; JW Verret; Renate Weber; Luca Zappala

(If you would like to add someone to the Prayer list or your birthday, [email](#) the Church Office.)

Additional Worship Opportunities During the Week

All additional worship opportunities and formation events are held as Zoom meetings via video and/or telephone conference call via (646) 558-8656 and enter the Meeting ID number.

Wednesday Morning Prayer, 7:30am: The text for the service will be broadcast on the screen or follow along in The Book of Common Prayer online. Volunteers needed to lead Morning Prayer; guidance in advance provided.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/960678710?pwd=OG40M25pNHNhZIN2QUO4M3lXMXN5UT09>

Meeting ID: 960 678 710 (Password: **WayofLove**)

Thursday Compline, 8:30pm: The text for the service will be broadcast on the screen or follow along in The Book of Common Prayer online. Volunteers needed to lead the service; guidance in advance provided.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/376730107?pwd=UETpb1V3MDNpM0Y0elZ1eWU1Wkwwdz09>

Financial Support to Christ Church + Washington Parish:

As you are financially able, please support Christ Church during the shutdown by continuing your pledges and financial gifts. We are all still here with and for each other, and we continue to have expenses for salary, insurance, benefits, bills, etc.

You may give to Christ Church in one of four ways:

- (1) Using the QR code below, make a one-time gift or set up recurring, automatic gifts from your bank account or via credit card to the Christ Church's Annual Fund via our secure database. You will use your email address to log in and create a password.



- (2) one-time donations via our website: <https://washingtonparish.org/donate-to-christ-church/>
- (3) by phone – Text 73256, in the message field type CCWP (Christ Church's keyword) and the gift amount (e.g. \$20, \$100, etc.). You will receive a text with a link to a secure site to complete your gift via bank account, credit card, or debit card. Click the link to complete your donation. You will receive a receipt by email. Standard text message rates apply if applicable.
- (4) by sending a check to Christ Church - Washington Parish, 620 G Street SE, Washington, DC 20003