


# *Providence United Methodist Church*

*Belong. Be Transformed.  Make a Difference.*

First Sunday of Advent

**CONNECTIONS 9:00 a.m.**

**Singing:** You are Holy (Prince of Peace)

**Making Connections**

**Children's Time**

**Lighting of the Advent Candle**

**Scripture:** Luke 21:24-36 and James 5:7

**Sermon Series:** The Adventures of Advent

Sermon One: "The Art of Impatient Living"

**Confirmation:** Ashley Burton

**Holy Communion**

**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 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, forever. Amen.

**Singing:** Hymn of Joy

*Everyone is welcome at the Lord's Table. Open your hands to receive the bread and dip it in the cup of juice. You are invited to put your offerings in the basket as you come forward for communion. The altar rail is always available as a place of prayer. Special offerings left on the altar rail will go toward families with emergency needs. Gluten-free wafers and juice are available.*

**Singing and Offertory:** Rejoice!

**Benediction**

# First Sunday of Advent

11:00 a.m.

## THE CHURCH GATHERS

Prelude	Listen for His Coming	Mark Hayes
+ Call to Worship*	My Tribute Solo, Derrick Parson	Andraé Crouch
+ Hymn UMH 98	To God Be the Glory	TO GOD BE THE GLORY

## TO HEAR THE WORD

### Opening Words for Advent

Where the winter finds its feet  
the rush of frost and chill  
competes with the old hope of incarnation

Darker nights unfold  
and the fading of the light  
the sun weakens

held by this frozen earth  
wrapped winters frost  
the mystery of the ancient hope is alight once more

for from the stump of Jesse  
the dry old tree of David's line  
comes a new branch

### The Mystery Begins

a new shoot  
cracking through the season  
with promise yet unfulfilled

this is the hoping  
the waiting  
the advent

Let us gather round the words  
the prophets spoke long ago  
and believe:

Emmanuel is on the way.

by Roddy Hamilton

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Nan, Ed and Eddie Blackwell

Making Connections  
A Time With the Children

Joy Wagner

First Reading\*

Luke 21:24-36

**Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading\*

James 5:7

Thanks be to God.

Sermon Series:

The Adventures of Advent  
Sermon One: "The Art of Impatient Living"

Derrick Parson

## TO RESPOND IN FAITH

Invitation

Prayer of Confession

UMH 12

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Holy Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving\*

UMH 17

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 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, forever. Amen.**

Breaking the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

*Everyone who is present today is welcome at the Lord's Table. The ushers will invite you to come to the front of the sanctuary to receive the bread and juice, kneeling or standing as you are able. Gluten-free wafers and juice are available. Monetary gifts left at the rail go to emergency needs in our church and community.*

Prayer after Communion

Offertory

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Gilbert Martin

+ Response\*

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

+ Hymn UMH 202

People, Look East

BESANÇON

+ Benediction

+ Postlude

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

Dick Torrans

**Thank you for silencing all electronic devices.**

**UMH** = United Methodist Hymnal (Red)

\* = Words Projected

**FWS** = The Faith We Sing (Black)

+ = Please stand as you are able

## Welcome Guests! We're glad you're here!

- Pick up a welcome gift in the foyer.
- **Children's age-appropriate activity bulletins, bags and boxes** are available in the foyer.
- **Restrooms** are located down the main hall turning to the left. A baby changing table is available in the handicap accessible restroom.
- **Assisted listening devices**, large-print hymnals and large-print bulletins are available. Ask an usher for assistance.
- A **nursery** with professional care is offered as an option for our children newborn through age four (located downstairs).

The **flowers on the altar** today are given to the glory of God by Bill Mannering and Peg Martin, in honor of Bill's birthday and their 39th anniversary.

The **flowers in the narthex** today are given to the glory of God by Ron and Beverly Brooks in memory of Mary Lee Clarke Giebel's birthday on November 28. She would have been 66.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome **Ashley Anna Burton** into membership at Providence today. Ashley was confirmed at the early service.

Today is the **first Sunday in Advent** and is **Communion Sunday** since December 6 will be the **Hanging of the Greens** at both the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services. Next Sunday, there will be a luncheon in the Social Hall after the 11:00 a.m. service.

Sometimes when we walk out of the sanctuary after worship, it's easy to get caught up in the busy-ness and consumer culture the rest of the world tells us is important. This is never more true than in the weeks leading up to Christmas! This Advent, take time to focus on what really matters—on the birth of Jesus, on our great God coming to us in frail human flesh, as a tiny baby in Bethlehem. If you haven't done so yet, pick up your copy of the devotional booklet, "My Soul Magnifies the Lord" this morning. Use the daily readings, reflections, and prayers to prepare your heart for the coming of the Christ-child, and commit to set aside a small gift each day during Advent that will be used by Society of St. Andrew to provide healthy food for hungry people in this country.

The **Society of St. Andrew** works with farmers, volunteers, hunger relief agencies, congregations and individual supporters to get fresh fruits and vegetables to those who need them most, by simply salvaging and sharing fresh food that would otherwise go to waste. In 2014, the Society of St. Andrew distributed more than 85 million servings of nourishing food to hungry people in the United States. There are Advent devotional booklets and coin banks available in the narthex today. Please take home a booklet and bank. You can return your coin bank on Sunday, January 3, Epiphany Sunday.

The **Advent Fellowship** is tonight at 5:30 p.m. in the Social Hall. Everyone is invited along with your friends for games, Christmas songs, an Advent lesson, cookies and cider.

Today is **United Methodist Student Day**. Your gift will help support United Methodist Student Day scholarships and the United Methodist Student Loan Fund, administered by the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. Your decision to give will empower passionate students to have a future of world-changing service and faithful service for Christ.

**Bells of Christmas, Carols and Cookies!** Come to a holiday celebration hosted by our three-octave handbell choir, The Bells of Providence. This one hour concert will be family-friendly, casual and “Christmassy.” There will be carols sung, Christmas jokes told, and bells galore!!! I encourage you to wear your tackiest holiday sweater and/or outfits. Join us in the Sanctuary, Saturday afternoon, December 12 at 4:00 p.m. for an hour of handbells, carols, and laughter.

The United Methodist Women Leadership Team invites all women of Providence to a potluck luncheon and **Christmas Celebration** on Sunday, December 13, at 12:15 p.m., in the Social Hall. Margaret Taylor and Jane Elbert will present a program on Christmas Carols. Please sign up on the sign-in sheets today or call Jane Elbert (675-0534) if you would plan to attend.

On Sunday, December 20, there will be a **Birthday Party for Jesus** in the Social Hall during the Sunday School hour. No birthday party would be complete without a cake, so there will be birthday cake for Jesus. Children will have time to do crafts and learn about Jesus, the Greatest Gift!

### Holiday Services and Events

<b>December 6</b>	Hanging of the Greens, 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., luncheon at noon
<b>December 12</b>	Bells of Christmas, Carols and Cookies, 4:00 p.m.
<b>December 20</b>	<i>Sing Glory!</i> Chancel Choir Musical Program, presenting Antonio Vivaldi's <i>Gloria</i>
<b>December 20</b>	Happy Birthday Jesus Party, during the Sunday School hour
<b>December 23</b>	Miracle of Christmas at the Metro Zoo
<b>December 24</b>	<b><u>Christmas Eve Services:</u></b>
5:00 p.m.	Family Service and Children's Musical
7:30 p.m.	Candlelight and Communion Service
11:00 p.m.	Candlelight and Communion Service
<b>December 27</b>	One Service at 10:00 a.m. No Sunday School.



Thank you Providence members for the great support of the pansy sale. The UMUMR Auxiliary was able to support Shalom Farms with \$2,000 for next year's planting.

Thank you and God bless,  
Shirley Collins

The **2016 Flower Calendar** is in the hallway. If you would like to provide flower arrangements for the altar or narthex for a particular Sunday,

1. Reserve date on Flower Calendar
2. Complete Blue Flower Order Form
3. Submit form **with** payment to the office or put in offering plate.

If you have any questions, please contact Linda Collins at 276-4289 or by email: [Linda.Collins@providenceumc.net](mailto:Linda.Collins@providenceumc.net).

Do you know someone in our congregation who is unable to attend church, who might like to have a visit and receive communion? If so, please call Jane Elbert (675-0534) or email her at: [janeelbertquilts@gmail.com](mailto:janeelbertquilts@gmail.com).

Are you thinking about being baptized or becoming a member of Providence? Speak with Pastor Derrick who will guide you in the next steps, (804)-276-4289.

## **PRAYER MINISTRY**

Hand-knitted **prayer squares are available** in the foyer to take or mail to someone for whom you are praying.

To connect with our email prayer ministry, you may send a prayer request to Tom and Nancy Coffman

at [tlcnlc@verizon.net](mailto:tlcnlc@verizon.net). If you would like to be added to the list to receive prayer requests, contact the Coffmans.

**Our service men and women, wherever they serve, and their families:** Hunter Blankenship, Jennifer Collins, Matt Latimer, Wayne Lee, Bob Muchow, Megan Thomas.

### **Our gathered prayer concerns:**

Judy (heart surgery on 11/6, sister of Jane Elbert), Katie (surgery on 10/28 for broken hip, mom of Cathy Patterson), Linwood, (brother of Flora Scott), family of Clare Bevins (died 11/6, sister of Billy & Dee Marshall), Brian Bilski, **Ed Blackwell** (knee surgery on 12/4), **Nan Blackwell**, Shirley Collins (knee surgery 11/19), Mary Carolyn Gwinn (battling cancer, friend of Judy Miles), Lori Hudson, Mildred Isbell, Tristen Kellam, the family of Norma Kidd (who died on 11/15), Diane King, Brian Krane (nephew of Amy & Ethan Palmer, has cancer), Noah Lamb (an Upward player, recently diagnosed with cancer), Patricia Logan-Reilly (needs a new heart, friend of Linda Collins), Cindy Lowe (battling cancer, niece of Eula Phillips), Megan Roberson (surgery 11/17), Nancy Segal (friend of the Collins family), Stuart Watkins, Rita & Leroy Williams (friends of Nickie Price), James Yeatts.

**Metro Richmond at Prayer for November 29, 2015:** We pray for persons in financial need in Metropolitan Richmond: for the inclusion of all, regardless of race, age, or jurisdiction of residence, in the economic health of Metropolitan Richmond; for effective, affordable, regional public transportation.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Sunday, November 29

- 9:00 Connections
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Traditional Worship
- 2:00 Disciple 3 (205)
- 4:00 Girl Scouts (309)
- 4:00 Youth Handbells
- 4:45 Youth Choir
- 5:30 Youth and Inukshuks
- 5:30 Bells of Providence
- 5:30 Advent Fellowship (SH)

### Monday, November 30

- 10:00 Line Dancers (309)
- 3:00 Alpha Theatre (SH)
- 7:00 Staff Parish (L)
- 7:00 Vivaldi Gloria Rehearsal

### Tuesday, December 1

- 11:00 Bible Study
- 2:00 Women's Study (205)
- 6:30 Christian Believer Class (205)
- 6:30 Cub/Boy Scouts (SH/309)
- 7:00 Newton Circle

### Wednesday, December 2

- 7:00 Men's Breakfast (Shoney's)
- 6:30 Chancel Choir

### Thursday, December 3

- 5:30 Ministry in Motion
- 6:30 Men's Bible Study (L)
- 6:30 AA Group (205)

### Friday, December 4

- 8:00 AA Group (309)

### Saturday, December 5

- 8:00-2:00 Christmas Angel (Youth)

## Prayer Requests

Pray for:

Place in Bulletin: Yes / No

Specific Request:

Meal Needs: Yes / No

Transportation Needs: Yes / No

Desire Card: Yes / No

Comments:

Your Contact Information:

Name:

Telephone Number:

Email Address:

Drop this sheet in the offering plate or at the church office.

To direct an urgent concern for yourself or a family member to our email prayer group, please contact the church office by phone or email.

## Those Serving Today

### Acolyte:

11:00 Hailey Davis

### Greeters:

9:00 Anna Knight (Library)  
Mike Patterson (Narthex)  
11:00 Pam Groome (Library)  
Jean Riekers (Narthex)

### Nursery:

9:00 Barbara Oliver  
SS Wendy Collins  
11:00 Wendy Collins & Carol Urso

### Counters:

Ron Wootten (captain)  
Gracie Martin, Janice Bergeron

### Ushers:

9:00 Bill Blankenship  
Neal Fleenor, Ron White  
11:00 Bobby Burton, Meredith Kyser,  
Tom Koertge, Ed Harper,  
Ralph Vernon, Lori Justice

**Reader:** 11:00 Mary Lou Branson

### Audio/Media Shout Team:

9:00 Tyler Griggs (A)  
Jimmy Sculthorpe (MS)  
11:00 Tyler Griggs (A)  
Jimmy Sculthorpe (MS)

### Communion Servers

9:00 Barbara Blankenship  
11:00 Laura DeLap

### Sanctuary Organizers:

Flora Scott, Jean Winfree

CCLI License #1495687  
CCVLI License #502817990

Providence United Methodist Church  
901 S. Providence Road  
N. Chesterfield, VA 23236-2649

### Office Hours:

Monday—Thursday 10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.  
Friday Office Closed

### Contact us at:

Church Telephone: (804) 276-4289  
Fax Number: (804) 745-2501  
Website: [www.providenceumc.net](http://www.providenceumc.net)  
E-mail: [providenceumc@providenceumc.net](mailto:providenceumc@providenceumc.net)  
Wi-Fi Connection Password [praisegod1](#)

### Church Staff:

**Pastor** Derrick Parson  
[derrickparson@vaumc.org](mailto:derrickparson@vaumc.org)  
**Young Adult Ministries** Daniel Burch  
[Daniel.Burch@upsem.edu](mailto:Daniel.Burch@upsem.edu)  
**Youth Ministries** Susan Clark  
[Susan.Clark@providenceumc.net](mailto:Susan.Clark@providenceumc.net)  
**Children's Ministries** Joy Wagner  
[joyinthepottershands@gmail.com](mailto:joyinthepottershands@gmail.com)  
**Music Ministries** Margaret Taylor  
[M.E.Taylor003@gmail.com](mailto:M.E.Taylor003@gmail.com)  
**Secretary** Linda Collins  
[Linda.Collins@providenceumc.net](mailto:Linda.Collins@providenceumc.net)  
**Audio Visual** Tyler Griggs  
[Tgriggs87@gmail.com](mailto:Tgriggs87@gmail.com)  
**Custodial Service** Bill Duganne  
**Nursery Attendant** Cynthia Liverpool  
**Our Covenant Missionary** Kim King Torres