


Providence United Methodist Church

Belong. Be Transformed.  Make a Difference.

Second Sunday of Advent

CONNECTIONS 9:00 a.m.

Hanging of the Greens

Prelude

The Meaning of the Service

Singing: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

The Sanctuary Evergreens

The Christmas and Chrismon Tree

Singing: In the Bleak Midwinter

The Christmas Poinsettia

Singing: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Paraments and Advent Colors

The Advent Candles—Peace

Singing: Advent Candle Response

Children's Time: The Nativity

The Christ of Christmas

Singing: O Little Town of Bethlehem

Benediction

Second Sunday of Advent
Hanging of the Greens
11:00 a.m.

THE CHURCH GATHERS

Prelude

Carol of the Bells
Bells of Providence

arr. Kevin McChesney

+ Call to Worship*

Leader: In the days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hill; all the nations shall stream to it. Many people shall come and say:

All: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that God may teach us God's ways and that we may walk in God's paths."

Child: With what shall we come to God's house?

Leader: Bring branches of cedar and holly, bring evergreens and a pine tree, hang wreaths and garlands.

All: Make the church fragrant with the smell of living things. In acts of hanging greens and listening to the words of prophets and seers let us make our hearts and this space a place of inward and outward preparation for the One who comes to give us second birth.

Opening Prayer

+ Hymn UMH 213

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

The Meaning of the Service

Don Kyser and Amy Palmer, Readers

+ Hymn UMH 196

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

The Sanctuary Evergreens

The Christmas Tree

The Chrismon Tree

Musical Offering	In the Bleak Midwinter Chancel Choir	Gustav Holst
Prayer		
The Christmas Poinsettia		
+ Hymn UMH 216	Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming	ES IST EIN ROS
The Paraments and Advent Colors		
Lighting of the Advent Candle	<i>Peace</i>	Judy Jacobs
A Time With the Children	The Nativity	Joy Wagner
+ Hymn UMH 230	O Little Town of Bethlehem	ST. LOUIS
Offertory	Come, Thou Almighty King Piano and Organ Duet	arr. James and Stan Pethel
+ Response*	Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow	UMH 94
The Christ of Christmas		Margaret Taylor
Musical Offering	Star-Child Providence Youth Choir	FWS 2095
	<i>The congregation is invited to sing vs. 5 and the final refrain with the youth choir.</i>	
+ Blessing and Charge		
+ Postlude	English Carol Medley (Here We Come A-Wassailing, Holly and the Ivy, I Saw Three Ships)	arr. Mark Hayes

Thank you for silencing all electronic devices.

UMH = United Methodist Hymnal (Red)
FWS = The Faith We Sing (Black)

* = Words Projected
+ = 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 and in loving memory of Lane and Gilda Jordan.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today is the **second Sunday in Advent and Hanging of the Greens**. There is a luncheon in the Social Hall after the 11:00 a.m. service. All are invited.

Thank you to everyone that came to help decorate and prepare the sanctuary for Advent and Christmas!

How are you doing with your Advent spiritual discipline? Are you using the daily readings, reflections, and prayers in "My Soul Magnifies the Lord"? This week, focus on making Jesus known through your words and actions — in your school, neighborhood, or community.

Look in the faces of those you encounter this week, knowing that so many of our brothers and sisters face difficult circumstances and troubles beyond our understanding. As people of faith, we cannot solve every problem, but we can always act with compassion. Please remember to give, as you are able, using the Society of St. Andrew coin box you received with your Advent devotion booklet. We will receive those gifts on Epiphany Sunday, January 3. There are Advent devotional booklets and coin banks available in the narthex today.

The forms for the **Christmas poinsettia and Bible dedications** are available today and next Sunday, December 12. The cost is \$10 for the poinsettia and \$10 for two Bibles. The florist cannot accept orders after Sunday, December 12 so please let us have your order no later than next Sunday.

The **Christmas Card mail box** has been set up near the chapel. Cards may be "sent" to church folks. Direct the money you would have spent on postage to the Advent offering or another mission. Be sure and check the mailbox each week for your own mail.

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, next 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 plan to attend.

Join us as we **spread Christmas cheer** to our shut-ins and neighbors on Sunday, December 20, 3:30-5:00 p.m. We will travel in groups and visit people who helped make Providence such a special church but who can no longer get here every week. They love our visits and we love honoring them with carols. New this year, we want to bring bags of Christmas cookies to give away so if you can package 6 cookies in a sandwich bag, please sign up on the bulletin board in the narthex. Contact Susan Clark at providencyouth@yahoo.com for more information.

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!

It's almost that time when we need to be thinking about **snow removal** here at church.

If you are able and willing to assist, please sign up on the sign-in sheet today or contact Billy Walton (334-6777). He can answer any questions and let you know what is involved. As a general guideline, if Chesterfield County schools are closed, then the church office is closed and all activities planned are cancelled.

Holiday Services and Events

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

The Salvation Army Christmas Stockings are available for you to stuff with items that children will enjoy for Christmas. The stockings are on the bench in the hallway outside the Library. Filled stockings should be returned to the church no later than Wednesday, December 9.

Your **Financial Commitment Cards for 2016** are still being received. You may place yours in the offering plate or mail to/drop by the church office. Extra cards are available in the foyer.

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.

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.

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. 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, **Ronnie Justice**, 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), **Buddy Lindsey** (surgery on 12/1, son of Hilda Lindsey), 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 December 6, 2015: We pray for the families in Metropolitan Richmond: for single-parent families, adoptive families, foster families, and for households that are communities of friends; for elderly persons living in their own homes, in retirement communities, and in nursing institutions.

Asbury Memorial UMC has invited the members of PUMC to a concert of **The ANCHORMEN** today, December 6 at 6:00 p.m. Asbury Memorial is located at 7151 Belmont Road, Chesterfield, VA 23832.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 6-Hanging of the Greens

- 9:00 Connections
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Traditional Worship
- 12:00 Luncheon (SH)
- 2:00 Disciple 3 (205)
- 4:00 Girl Scouts (309)
- 4:00 Youth Choir meeting at Sweet Frog!
- 6:00 Bells of Providence (Sanctuary)

Monday, December 7

- 10:00 Line Dancers (309)
- 3:00 Alpha Theatre (SH)

Tuesday, December 8

- 11:00 Bible Study (L)
- 11:00 Jubilation Christmas Concert (Salisbury Presbyterian)
- 12:30 Laughon Circle
- 6:00 Providence Court (Chapel)
- 6:30 Christian Believer Class (205)
- 6:30 Cub/Boy Scouts (SH/309)
- 6:30 Newton Circle

Wednesday, December 9

- 6:30 Chancel Choir (Choir room)

Thursday, December 10

- 11:00 Knitters & Crocheters (205)
- 5:30 Ministry in Motion
- 6:15 Men's Bible Study (L)
- 6:30 Starlighters (SH)
- 6:30 AA Group (205)
- 7:00 Vivaldi Choral Workshop (Choir room)

Friday, December 11

- 8:00 AA Group (309)

Saturday, December 12

- 8:00-2:00 Christmas Angel Tree (Youth)
- 4:00 Bells of Christmas, Carols and Cookies (Sanctuary)

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 Meredith Kyser

Greeters:

9:00 Diane King (Library)
Mike Patterson (Narthex)
11:00 Nickie Price (Library)
Tracey Kellam (Narthex)

Nursery:

9:00 Sarah Stubblefield
SS Wendy Collins
11:00 Jennifer Ostrum

Counters:

Gary Wright (captain)
Anne Baird, Wayne Smith

Ushers:

9:00 Bill Blankenship
Chris Healy, Carolyn Bilski
11:00 George Winstead
Linwood Hudson, Jack Waters
T L Jenkins, Stuart Watkins
Pam Asbury, Melvin Watkins

Reader: 11:00 Carolyn Bowman

Audio/Media Shout Team:

9:00 Tyler Griggs (A)
Steve Oliver (MS)
11:00 Tyler Griggs (A)
Steve Oliver (MS)

Sanctuary Organizers:

Flora Scott, Jean Winfree

Advent Wreath Lighters:

9:00 Barbara & Bill Blankenship
11:00 Judy Jacobs

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
E-mail: providenceumc@providenceumc.net
Wi-Fi Connection Password praisegod1

Church Staff:

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derrickparson@vaumc.org
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Youth Ministries Susan Clark
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Custodial Service Bill Duganne
Nursery Attendant Cynthia Liverpool
Our Covenant Missionary Kim King Torres

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