

The Church Mouse

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER
GRACE COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NOVEMBER 14, 2021 – VOLUME 2

Worship Opportunity for Sunday November 14th

25th Sunday after Pentecost
10:30 AM

Pastor Kathryn Leech is preaching:

Sermon title: Stop Trying and Start Trusting

We know Jesus' parable of "The Prodigal Son"-- the bad boy who squandered his father's estate on wild living, but what about the eldest son--the one who never strayed; the good one? As it turns out, he's just as lost as his younger brother! Most of us can relate to one or both of these sons in some way. This sermon is about the older lost son and what Jesus teaches us about accepting God's grace. You and I are not enough to save ourselves, but Jesus is. It's not self-righteousness that pleases God, but Christ's righteousness imputed on you.



Church Events

- **Nov 15th Bible Study for Ladies at 6pm, Ladies AA meets at 7 pm.**
- **Nov 17th Men's Breakfast at 7:00 am, Taking Pounds Off Sensibly at 9 am, AA meeting in the Fellowship Hall at noon, Hurried Family Dinner followed by the First in our Advent Bible Study, "The Journey Walking the Road to Bethlehem"**
- **Nov 18th Bell choir practice at 4:30pm**
- **Nov 19th AA at noon**

Sunday Servants:

1 ST SUNDAY	2 ND SUNDAY	3 RD SUNDAY	4 TH SUNDAY
Dick Foard Chris Doyel William Crockett Brent Heath	Jim Rodarmel Louise Theberge John Kupiec Melissa Johnson	Jim Wesson John Ogburn Todd Coons John O'Briant Peder Wennberg	Doug Price Jane Price Bob McCreary Carter Richardson 5th Sunday- Usher Captains
Liturgists for November:			
Skip Driggs	Barbara Fleming	Lori Goings	Hanging of the Greens

John 8:12

Again, Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

In honor of Veterans Day, Thursday and as a tribute to all those who have served. I am sharing this poem written by our own **Gail Healy Kerns**

Wall of Memories

I walked along the granite wall
 From A to Z, I read them all
 So many untold prices paid
 The young, the old, the in between
 Voices silenced throughout history
 I wondered if you'd died alone
 Or was someone there to see you home
 Did you fill a sense of victory
 For giving your life to keep us free
 No matter what the war you fought
 Your valiant effort was not for naught
 With thankful hearts you're remembered here
 As people come year after year
 May we never forget each name is a life
 Who left someone behind in grief and strife
 God bless you all in life and death
 For the sacrifice of your last breath



Christmas Cantata

"The Road to Bethlehem"

A Journey to the Newborn King

By Lloyd Larson

Sunday, December 12 at 4:00 PM

Bethlehem seemed an unlikely destination for the fulfillment of God's promise to send a Messiah. Bethlehem. Why would anyone--especially the Creator of the universe--choose a little remote village? But as Scripture records, the road to Bethlehem was the road that ultimately led to God! Lloyd Larson's "The Road to Bethlehem" uses narrative and music to help the listener meditate on the coming of the Messiah and the remarkable possibilities that can occur in seemingly unremarkable places.

“The Journey” Advent Study

This year marks the tenth anniversary of Pastor Adam Hamilton’s *The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem*. Adam Hamilton, pastor of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas, explores the story of Jesus’ birth with fresh eyes and ears to discover the real meaning of Christmas. Hamilton brings insights gained from historians, archeologists, biblical scholars, and theologians. We see Hamilton in the videos we will use walking the places where the story occurred.

This will be an exciting study because it pairs nicely with the Chancel Choir’s presentation of *The Road to Bethlehem Christmas Cantata* composed by Lloyd Larson on Sunday, December 12, 2021, at 4:00 PM in the sanctuary.

Join us for dinner and an Advent study on Wednesday nights. We will begin the study before the official beginning of Advent to accommodate a break on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving and the Wednesday before Christmas

PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND SO THAT THOSE WHO PREPARE MEALS ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS HAVE A HEAD COUNT THAT WILL ALLOW US TO PURCHASE AND PROVIDE ENOUGH FOOD (804- 693-2071)

Wednesday, November 17, 2021, 5:30 PM
THE JOURNEY: Walking the Road to Bethlehem

“Mary of Nazareth”

Wednesday, December 1, 2021, 5:30 PM
THE JOURNEY: Walking the Road to Bethlehem

“Joseph of Bethlehem”

Wednesday, December 8, 2021, 5:30 PM
THE JOURNEY: Walking the Road to Bethlehem

“Mary’s Visit to Elizabeth”

Wednesday, December 15, 2021, 5:30 PM
THE JOURNEY: Walking the Road to Bethlehem

“From Nazareth to Bethlehem”



Celebrate!

Birthdays:

Stephen Crowder	11/01
Jane Price	11/05
Joshua Julian*	11/06
Tom Taylor	11/06
Melva Burnett	11/07
Betty Ford Lipps	11/10
Steven Snyder	11/10
Sue Mayhue	11/13
Joe Miller	11/13
Dick Crowder	11/15
Becky Deal	11/17
Linda Pennington	11/19
Dick Hellier	11/19
Will Tomer	11/20
Anna Robins	11/20
Gilbert Paradies	11/21
Dottie Dea	11/23
Nancy Haley	11/25
Elowyn Eichenlaub*	11/25
Ivar Golden*	11/26
Julie Rodarmel	11/26
Lynn Phillips	11/27
Sally Wooldridge	11/29
Doug Price	11/30

*Denotes a child

Anniversaries:

Doug & Jane Price	11/07/1981
Dick & Jean Crowder	11/12/1977
Jackie & Gregg Schmitz	11/13/1982
Harvey & Mary Helen Morgan	11/29/1997



Dear friends,

In my daily flurry of activity recently, I had the pleasure of running into a wonderful member of Grace at the local grocery store! As we were catching up, discussing the recent (and not so recent) events in our lives, it occurred to me that it has been a year almost to the date since I made the decision to resign my position at Grace! During our conversation, I was recounting the day I made the decision and why I made it when I found myself dispelling any doubt in my sweet friend about the circumstances surrounding my departure.

Now I realize that, like her, many have likely wondered about the events that led up to my leaving and the nature of the separation. I am sorry I have been remiss in addressing this earlier and must confess that the busyness of the last months led to this neglect.

After Steve's accident in August, our Grace family surrounded us with much support. During his long recovery, our lives were drastically changed. Many of you know, we began building a house just prior to this and also started a renovation in North Carolina just days before his accident. I was facing upcoming kidney surgery, undergoing frequent testing for another health issue, COVID was looming, but we were all managing. That is until November 23rd. On this day, my daughter called me, and her first words were, "Mom. Don't freak out." Well, everyone knows an immediate "freak out" ensued. So, during the height of the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, I relocated to Hanover for several weeks to stay with her and care for my three-year-old granddaughter – which was the silver lining. Thankfully, my daughter is well, I am recovered from surgery, Steve's recovery is almost complete, but the house projects continue! Sadly, additional family illnesses have required much of my attention in the last few months.

Back to that day in November. I knew then as I had known before that I would choose once again to care for a family member and to just try to juggle my duties at Grace. Furthermore, I knew I would do this with the full, unwavering support of Doug, Jim Wesson, Session, and the rest of my church family. But I also knew I would carry my own feelings of just not being able to be everything I had committed to be, and I would continue to doubt my ability to be fully effective in the role as DCE.

I cannot emphasize enough how generous and supportive everyone was to me throughout the transition. I received many well wishes during this time. I was happy to have met and greeted Kathryn and was glad to have had several more meetings with her after she arrived. Also, I was greatly encouraged by the fact that the Children's Ministry remained in the hands of Holly Smith. Praise God! Throughout the following months, I collaborated as much as was needed with these two very gifted women. Also, in the months that followed, Steve and I took advantage of the opportunity to join our son and daughter-in-law in worship, a true blessing for sure!

In closing, I want you all to know how grateful I am for the opportunities and friendships that were offered to me at Grace. I am sorry it took a "chance" encounter at the grocery store for me to realize I have left this unspoken for far too long. Thank you for extending grace in light of my now glaring oversight.

May God continue to bless you all and may our paths cross again soon.

Cindy Lanning

Daily Lectionary:

Saturday, November 13

Morning: Pss. 56; 149
Evening: Pss. 118; 111
Neh. 13:4–22
Rev. 20:1–6
Matt. 16:21–28

Sunday, November 14

Morning: Pss. 67; 150
Evening: Pss. 46; 93
Ezra 7:(1–10) 11–26
Acts 28:14b–23
Luke 16:1–13

Monday, November 15

Morning: Pss. 57; 145
Evening: Pss. 85; 47
Ezra 7:27–28; 8:21–36
Rev. 20:7–15
Matt. 17:1–13

Tuesday, November 16

Morning: Pss. 54; 146
Evening: Pss. 28; 99
Ezra 9:1–15
Rev. 21:1–8
Matt. 17:14–21

Wednesday, November 17

Morning: Pss. 65; 147:1–11
Evening: Pss. 125; 91
Ezra 10:1–17
Rev. 21:9–21
Matt. 17:22–27

Thursday, November 18

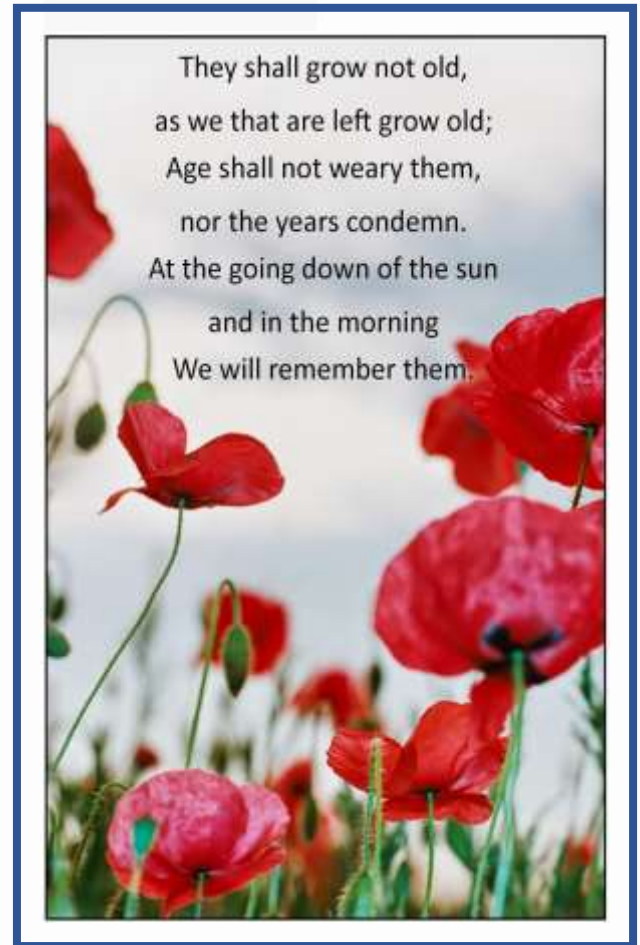
Morning: Pss. 143.
147:12–20
Evening: Pss. 81; 116
Neh. 9:1–15 (16–25)
Rev. 21:22–22:5
Matt. 18:1–9

Friday, November 19

Morning: Pss. 88; 148
Evening: Pss. 6; 20
Neh. 9:26–38
Rev. 22:6–13
Matt. 18:10–20

Saturday, November 20

Morning: Pss. 122; 149
Evening: Pss. 100; 63
Neh. 7:73b–8:3, 5–18
Rev. 22:14–21
Matt. 18:21–35



Prayer Concerns:

Pray for Wesley and Betty Wilson, Dana Gilmour, David Guthrie, Virginia Wilkinson, Eva Towell, Matt Shackelford, Bob & Susan McCreary, Roberta Wiatt, Tami Nunn, Bert & Pat Perkins.

If you have a prayer request, even if it is unspoken, you may call the church office and your prayer request will be placed here.

Brookdale, Williamsburg:
Virginia Powers
York Convalescent & Rehab:
Virginia Wilkinson
Gloucester House:
Oscar Northen



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