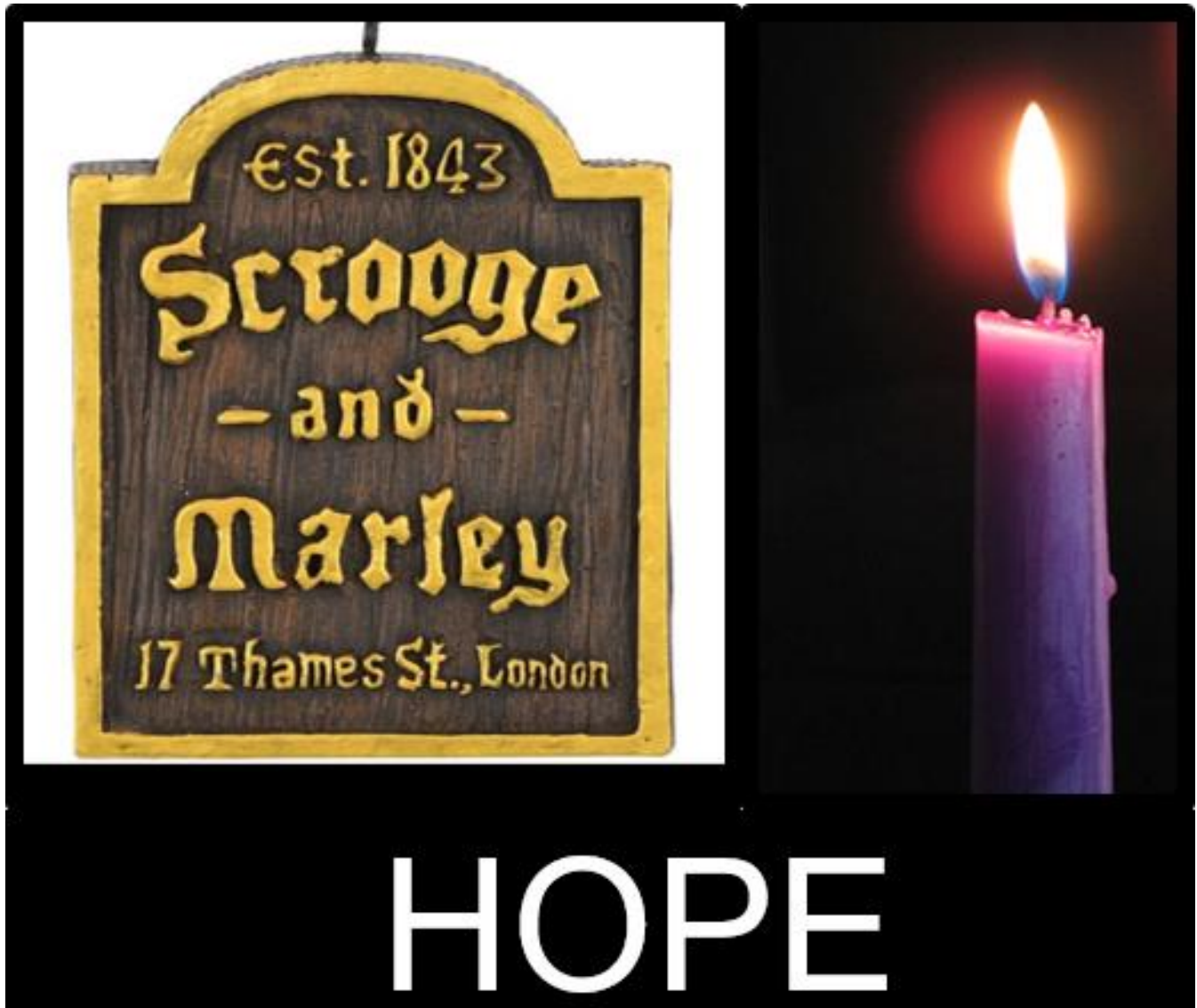


Ark and Dove Presbyterian Church, USA

10:30am



MEDITATION

I have always thought of Christmas time, when it has come round... as a good time: a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time: the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely, and to think of people below them as if they really were fellow-passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys."

-Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol, Stave One

1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

WITH COMMUNION

November 27th, 2022 10:30 a.m.

PREPARATORY MUSIC

Winter Snow

- Audrey Assad

THE PRESENTATION OF SCRIPTURE BY THE BEADLE

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Isaiah 2:5; Matthew 24:42; Romans 13:11-12)

One: Now is the time to wake from sleep.

All: **The night is far gone; the day is near.**

One: Keep awake; be ready. Christ is coming!

All: **Let us walk in the light of the Lord.**

HYMN NO. 88

(congregation may stand)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

- Plainsong; adapt. Thomas Helmore

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy Lord, we confess that we are not ready
for your kingdom of love and peace to be established among us.
We still turn away from other's suffering,
not wanting to hear their cries or see their pain.
We still postpone caring for your gift of creation;
We still tolerate war and take too lightly the burdens of making peace.
Forgive us, O God, for our un-readiness.
Awaken us once more to your presence among us.
Make us signs of your grace and heralds
of the coming victory of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Be present to us as we lift to you our prayers in this time of silence.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

RESPONSE No. 132 (Verse 3)

(congregation may stand)

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice – German folk melody; harm. Hugh Jones

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

-The Cosio-Futch family

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 9:2

ADVENT PRAYER (*Pray together*)

**God of hope, out of death you bring life. Renew us
and make us alert to the dawning of Christ's advent among us.
Surround us with your grace and banish the darkness of our lives
so that we can praise your name forever. Amen.**

RESPONSE NO. 100 (*Refrain*) (Congregation remains seated, but sings together)

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

- Irish Melody; arr. Rory Cooney

**My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (*Children may leave for Sunday School following this*)

WELCOME, FRIENDSHIP REGISTERS, LIVE-STREAM CHECK-IN, AND JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

(We invite you to say hello in the Live Chat.)

HYMN NO. 97

(congregation may stand)

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

- Joseph Parry

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 2:1-5

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 24:36-44

RESPONSE

Leader: The Word of God, for the People of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"A Christmas Carol
PART 1: The House of Jacob"

- Stephen Price-Gibson

SHARING OUR GIFTS WITH THE CHURCH AND THE WORLD

THE OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

A Christmas Communion

- Heather Sorenson

Laura Doughty, flute; Paula Sparks, piano

RESPONSE NO. 144 (*Verse 4*)
In the Bleak Midwinter

(congregation may stand)
- Gustav Holst

DEDICATION OF OUR TITHES, OFFERINGS, ELECTRONIC AND ONLINE GIVING

HYMN NO. 362 (*Verse 1-2*)
Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

(congregation may stand)
- Welsh folk melody

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Great Thanksgiving:

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give God thanks and praise...**

The Lord's Prayer

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE SHARING OF THE CUP

CLOSING PRAYER

HYMN NO. 362 (*Verse 3*)
Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

(congregation may stand)
- Welsh folk melody

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING MUSIC

Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

- Welsh folk melody

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS: SPIRITUAL GIFT INVENTORY Please set aside some time this week to take our Spiritual Gifts Inventory, the link is in the *Arkive*. Then join us for a Spiritual Gifts class in person in the Ark and Dove Room or via Zoom on **November 30th at 6:30pm**. Dinner and childcare will be provided at the church. RSVP in the latest *Arkive*.

MINISTRY & MEMBERSHIP INTEREST MEETING We will be having a ministry and membership interest session on **December 3rd from 9am until roughly 11:30am**. Breakfast will be provided and childcare will be provided if needed. Please RSVP at bit.ly/Dec2022MinistryMembership or see the latest *Arkive*. Questions? Email Outreach@Arkanddove.org.

CHRISTMAS JOY This Sunday begins our five Sunday Christmas Joy Special Offering. The Christmas Joy offering supports the following endeavors:

25% to refugee assistance

25% to the Light House Homeless Prevention Center

25% to support current and retired PCUSA church workers in their time of need

25% to developing future leaders at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges

Go to Ark and Dove website at Giving > [Donate Online](#). TEXT your donations to 410-983-3481. Text GIVE to get started. Text COMMANDS for more options.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS Donations are being accepted for Christmas Poinsettias, in honor or memory of loved ones. We will be displaying poinsettias for the Christmas Eve Service. The suggested donation is \$15 dollars. Forms are available in the church bulletin or online. If you have any questions, please contact Paula Griggs: paulagriggs32@gmail.com or 443-510-6687.

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS During this Advent season we will be reading *Rise Up, Shepherd! Advent Reflections on the Spirituals* by Luke A. Powery. There are a variety of dates and times to choose from (*see below*). Please indicate your interest in joining a group by filling out the form on the *Arkive*.

	Leader:	When:	Dates
Group A	Stephen Price-Gibson	Wednesdays 10 - 11am	11/30, 12/7, 12/14, 12/21
Group B	Kim Champagne	Fridays 7:30 – 8:30pm	12/2, 12/9, 12/16, 12/23
Group C	Caroline Price-Gibson	Thursdays 7 – 8pm	12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22
Group D	Achsah Callahan	Sunday 2 – 3pm	11/27, 12/4, 12/11, 12/18

DISABILITY JUSTICE IN THE CHURCH Join a conversation on the relationship between disability and the church on **Tuesday, November 29th at 7:30pm**. Please email outreach@arkanddove.org for the zoom link.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SHARING Holiday Sharing coming soon. As part of our mission ministry, Ark & Dove is participating again in the Christmas Holiday Sharing Program organized by the Anne Arundel County Department of Social Services. Signup information will be available soon.

CAP FOOD PANTRY The Christian Assistance Program (CAP) food pantry in Odenton is grateful for our ongoing support. The items most needed right now at the pantry are **shelf milk (like Parmalat®), jelly/jam, ramen, and macaroni & cheese**. We have bins marked for CAP food in the cabinet across from the lobby coat rack. Food can also be taken directly to the pantry at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Odenton, on Tuesdays 10:30am-1:30pm and Thursdays 1:30-5:30pm.

FROM THE TECH BOOTH Each week, we would like to have seven people participating on the tech team, so to have everyone volunteer once a month, 28 people would be needed. This means we're looking for 17 additional people! If you're interested in being one of the 17, please stop me (Ryan Stavely) on a Sunday morning or email me at ryan.stavely@arkanddove.org. No prior experience is needed.

LET'S TALK - DECEMBER 6TH The anti-racism team will host a monthly White Affinity Group starting on **December 6th, 7-8pm** on zoom. Contact Paula Sparks, trebleclef48@gmail.com to sign up for the group and receive the monthly zoom link.

If you are not signed up for the weekly Arkive, please email admin@arkanddove.org to be added to the email list.

Welcome! We hope you enjoyed worshipping with us and that you will come again. In person worship is at 9:00 and 10:30 AM. Our 10:30 service is also livestreamed on YouTube and Facebook. Would you like a pastor to contact you? Would you like to learn more about Ark and Dove? Please send a note to admin@arkanddove.org.

Sunday Mornings for Children and Youth

9:00 AM

Childcare

Middle School Chimes and Percussion Ensembles (9:00 to 9:45)

After the Children's Sermon: Godly Play Sunday School Pre-K through grade 5

10:00 AM

Children's Choir

10:30 AM

Childcare

After the Children's Sermon: Godly Play Sunday School Pre-K through grade 4

Middle School Sunday School grade 5 through 8

*We are a Matthew 25 church, a More Light church, and Earth Care Congregation
See the Arkive E-newsletter for more information*

Ministry Leaders

Liturgist – Betsy Baer

Usher – Scofield Family

Beadle – Ryan Devers

DONATE ONLINE!

Or TEXT your donations! 410-983-3481

Text **give** to get started. Text **commands** for more options.

8424 Piney Orchard Parkway, Odenton, Maryland 21113, www.arkanddove.org, 410-674-6400

TIMOTHY STERN – PASTOR

PASTORS CAROLINE PRICE-GIBSON AND STEPHEN PRICE-GIBSON – INTERIM ASSOCIATE PASTORS

REBECCA BELL ECHOLS – DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

WHITNEY GRIMM – INTERIM DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY

RAE'TTA BOND – DIRECTOR OF MUSIC FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

CHERESE SCARBOR – CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

PASTOR BETSY BAER – PARISH ASSOCIATE

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