

Ark and Dove Presbyterian Church, USA



Photo by Jeff Swan

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION

O God, you come to us in ways we could never have expected or imagined. Do not let us become so complacent, so ready to manage the reality of our lives, that we miss the surprises of grace and redemption that you bring to us. As we gather for worship, may our hearts be open to your joy. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen

(Based on the first prayer in [A Surprising God](#), by Thomas G. Long and Donyelle C. McCray)

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Communion Sunday

November 28, 2021 10:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Laura Doughty, flute, and Rebecca Echols, piano

- Arr. Ruth Coleman

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. My God, in you I trust.

Many: **Make me to know your ways, O Holy One; teach me your paths.**

One: Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

Many: **The Paths of the Holy One are steadfast love and faithfulness. In Joy we lift our voices.**

HYMN NO. 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

(congregation may stand)

- arr. John Weaver

THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess to you O God, that we are not prepared to welcome your way of righteousness, justice and peace. You call us to faithful discipleship, but we have our own ideas. You call us to resist oppression, but we resign ourselves to the presence of evil in the world. You call us to be reconciled, but we remain divided, anxious, and afraid. Forgive us God, and pour your grace into our lives in this season of Advent. May we be made truly ready to celebrate Christmas, the coming of Christ. In solitude now, we name the things that distance us from your love.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

RESPONSE NO. 129 (verse 3)

Lo How a Rose E're Blooming

(congregation may stand)

- arr. Michael Praetorius

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

RESPONSE

We Are Waiting For You

(congregation may stand)

- Hannah Rand

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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

HYMN NO. 357

The Days Are Surely Coming

(congregation may stand)

- Llwybrau Moliant

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 33:14-16

GOSPEL READING

Luke 21:25-36

RESPONSE

Leader: The Word of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“The Coming Cataclysm”

- Tim Stern

THE OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Laura Doughty, Flute

- Hal H. Hopson, arr. Emily Lund

RESPONSE NO. 37 (verse 1)

Let All Things Now Living

(congregation may stand)

- Welsh folk melody

DEDICATION OF OUR TITHES, OFFERINGS AND EFT GIVING

HYMN

(congregation may stand)

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

RESPONSE

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts,

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

THE MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (p. 35, debts & debtors)

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE SHARING OF THE CUP

Today we will share communion in our seats, with pre-packaged grape juice and bread. Please come forward when directed to take your juice cup and bread from a server. Return to your seat and offer a silent prayer or meditate for a moment then open your cup and consume the elements. Please leave used or un-used cups and bags on your seat; ushers will collect these items after the service.

THE CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

(congregation may stand)

CLOSING

Give Thanks

- Dan Moen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Offerings are received at the sanctuary entrance. Thank you!

YOUTH GROUP No Meeting Tonight! 6th-8th grade meet outside at church every **Sunday, 4-5 pm**. 9th-12th grade meet outside at church every **Sunday, 5-6:30 pm**. See you then and bring friends! Pastor Jon (jnelson@arkanddove.org).

CELEBRATE WITH ACT ON DECEMBER 1ST: ACT has forged a partnership with "Turnaround Tuesday" in Baltimore, Maryland Reentry Resource Center and Luminis Health Anne Arundel Medical Center and has negotiated with the County for \$1.3 million to kick off "Turnaround Thursday" in Annapolis. The Turnaround Movement literally turns around the lives of returning citizens, un- and underemployed people by enabling them to get and hold living-wage jobs. In Baltimore, it has placed over 1,000 people, 80% of whom stay employed for the long term. County Executive Pittman and ACT will jointly announce the approval of this proposal on December 1 at Asbury UMC, 87 West Street in Annapolis beginning at 6:00 pm. Join ACT and its partners in celebrating this important victory -- either in person or on Zoom. Contact Cheryl Walcutt (walcutt_family@hotmail.com) or see Arkive to register.

SIX MARKS OF DISCIPLESHIP COURSE: *This Tuesday!* Pastor Tim will offer a Zoom course on Tuesday, **November 30th at 7:00 pm** called The Six Marks of Discipleship. This is about the promises we make to each other as members of Ark and Dove Church. We warmly invite and strongly encourage all members to take this course at least one time. This 75 minute course is especially helpful for people who have joined in the last four years. Please sign up by contacting admin@arkanddove.org. You will receive a Zoom invitation on November 30, 2021.

ADVENT BOOK STUDY: During this Advent season we will be reading *A Surprising God: Advent Devotions for an Uncertain Time* written by Thomas G. Long & Donyelle C. McCray. There are a variety of dates and times to choose from. If interested, contact our Christian Education Elder, Sara, at christianed@arkanddove.org to receive the link to the online signup form. **Books will be purchased for anyone who indicates interest in joining by November 24th.**

	Leader	Days/Time
Group A	Pastor Jon Nelson	Thursdays- Dec. 2nd and 16th at 8PM
Group B	Kim Champagne	Friday - Dec. 3rd and 17th at 7:30 PM
Group C	Achsah Callahan	Sundays - before or after Worship, tentatively Dec. 5 & 19 th

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY SHARING 2021: Coming Soon - Christmas Holiday Sharing. Sign-Up details coming soon!!

PARENT GROUP MEETING: Parent Group will meet in church on Friday, **December 10th** from 6:30 to 8:30 for Cookies and Cocoa! All caregivers of school-aged children and younger are welcome! Childcare provided for a small fee. Bring your favorite cookies to share! For more information contact Nicole Howe, outreach@arkanddove.org

AFTERNOON TEA: Just because it's holiday rush time doesn't mean we don't meet! So, let's get together via Zoom on **December 9th at 3 p.m.** Joan will send the link a day or two in advance. If you're not on the Friendly Seniors' list, email Joan Berry at: joanb3rry@gmail.com. *See you then!* Don't forget your eggnog or favorite drink to toast the end of a successful year! *Merry Christmas to all!*

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS: The Flower Team and Worship Ministry is accepting donations for flowers and greens for the Christmas Eve service. We will be displaying poinsettias for the Christmas Eve Service and the following Sunday. The suggested donation is \$10 to \$12 dollars. Poinsettias will be available to take home on Jan. 2 (if desired). Forms are available in the church bulletin. If you have any questions, please contact Paula Griggs at 443-510-6687 or paulagriggs32@gmail.com.

Cover photo by Jeff Swan.

Welcome! We hope you enjoyed worshipping with us! Join us again, every Sunday, 10:30 am for in-person and livestream worship service and every other Sunday, 9:15 am, for outdoor worship service. 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.

We are a Matthew 25 church and a More Light church!

Ministry Leaders

Liturgist – Betsy Baer

Ushers – Fred Barrow & Manny Effiom

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

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PASTOR BETSY BAER – PARISH ASSOCIATE

PASTORS CAROLINE PRICE-GIBSON AND STEPHEN PRICE-GIBSON – PARISH ASSOCIATES

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REV. ELIANE MENEZES, CEDEPCA, GUATEMALA – MISSION CO-WORKER

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