



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2021

Third Sunday of Advent

Worship Schedule: 10 AM  
In person and livestreamed

Sr. Choir Christmas Cantata  
"Gloria" by Antonio Vivaldi

## OFFICE STAFF

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS!](#)

## Pastor's Ponderings

The Rev. Nona Holy

Good Christian Friends, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice!  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!  
Joy to the World! The Lord is Come! Let Earth Receive Her King!

The Joy of Christmas draws nearer each week as we journey through Advent.

And this Sunday, we light the pink candle of Joy in worship.

Finding joy in these days is complicated. We're so aware of the injustice and suffering around us that to be joyful can feel insensitive.

And frankly, this season can be hard for it makes fresh our grief as we journey in isolation or without those we've lost.

And joy isn't a word we use with any frequency.

We're happy or we're fine.

But joyful?

This week in preparation for Gaudete/Joy Sunday, I encourage you to take a few minutes each day to consider the source of your *joy*.

How is the birth of the Christ Child a source of joy for you?

In this season, despite all the reasons not to be joyful, where do you find yourself lighter, eager, hopeful, deeply contented?

Perhaps, this description of Joy will help as you pause:

Joy is caused by elation at a moment in time.

Joy may not always be about oneself but be about others' contentment also.

Happiness is about the self's pleasure.

Happiness may dwell on materialistic, worldly pleasure while joy is derived from soul satisfying, emotional well-being.

May the Joy of Christ's Coming be yours in the week to come!

Pastor Nona



## JOYS AND CONCERNS FROM DECEMBER 5, 2021

Our pastor's contact information can be found on the front page of this newsletter. Pastor Holy is available for conversation and prayer. Also, please continue to share your joys and concerns with us so that we may continue to support each other in specific prayer requests.

*Joys and concerns may be submitted to the office via email or by phone. We check messages regularly.*

***Please let us know of answers to prayer – so that we can give thanks to God!***

We express our joy and gratitude to the representatives from the LIFT who lit the second Advent candle in yesterday's worship service. Thank you, Meredith, Cassie, Catherine, Jeff, Owen and Padraig!

We offer a prayer of thanksgiving for all who have supported the Missions Committee giving tree and who donated during the LIFT pancake breakfast. We are so grateful for your support.

We continue to pray for those in our congregation who are suffering from injury and illness.

We lift up those who are facing this holiday season after having lost friends and loved ones.

We pray for our communities and our country in the wake of continued violence, unrest, and uncertainty.



### 2021 FINANCIAL UPDATE

Year to Date Total Giving 2021:	<b>\$232,218</b>
Budgeted Giving 2021:	<b>\$244,249</b>
2022 Pledged Giving:	<b>\$102,184</b>
2022 Budgeted Giving:	<b>\$210,000</b>

### WORSHIP LINKS

**December 5, 2021**

**“Shiny and New”**

- ◇ [Audio/Video link](#)
- ◇ [Bulletin/Liturgy link](#)



# LOWER BRANDYWINE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SEASON OF ADVENT

## NOV ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING 7:00 PM

**23** SHOWING OF THE ECUMENICAL THANKSGIVING SERVICE IN THE LBPC SANCTUARY FOLLOWED BY A RECEPTION IN THE SOCIAL HALL. OFFERING BENEFICIARY IS THE ALS PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER.

## NOV 1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT 10:00 AM

**28** JOIN US FOR WORSHIP AS WE LIGHT THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE SYMBOLIZING *HOPE*.

## DEC 2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT 10:00 AM

**5** WE LIGHT THE SECOND CANDLE IN THE ADVENT WREATH SYMBOLIZING *PEACE*, AND CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER. A PANCAKE BREAKFAST BENEFITING THE YOUTH SUMMER MISSION TRIP WILL FOLLOW.

## DEC 3RD SUNDAY IN ADVENT 10:00 AM

**12** WE LIGHT THE THIRD CANDLE SYMBOLIZING *JOY*. DR. DONNA BEECH AND THE LBPC SR. CHOIR PRESENT THEIR CHRISTMAS CANTATA, 'GLORIA,' BY VIVALDI.

## DEC 4TH SUNDAY IN ADVENT 10:00 AM

**19** WE LIGHT THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE SYMBOLIZING *LOVE*. CHILDREN AND YOUTH RETELL THE CHRISTMAS STORY IN, "AN IMPROMPTU CHRISTMAS PAGEANT."

## DEC CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 5:00 PM

**24** COME CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF THE CHRIST CHILD IN THIS TRADITIONAL SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS! WE LIGHT THE *CHRIST CANDLE* AND THEN SHARE IT'S LIGHT WHILE WE SING, "SILENT NIGHT." WE KINDLY ASK THAT ALL ATTENDEES WEAR A MASK REGARDLESS OF VACCINATION STATUS. THANK YOU.

LOWER BRANDYWINE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

### THANK YOU!!!!

LIFT would like to say a big THANK YOU to LBPC for coming out yesterday and supporting their summer mission trip with your donations. They hope you all had an enjoyable time of fellowship and delicious pancakes! LIFT would like especially to thank Georgia Coats for her organization of the event. Under her leadership, the preparations ran seamlessly!!



The LIFT Christmas Celebration will be Thursday, December 16th at 6:00 PM at Station 52 in Mendenhall. Don't forget your Secret Santa! If you need a reminder of who you drew, contact Miss Candy. Also, don't forget to get back to Mr. Kennedy with your availability for shopping and wrapping for Urban Promise!



LET'S CELEBRATE! The Major family will be hosting a Christmas party for the LBPC children on Sunday, December 19th following the worship service. For more information, please contact Miss Candace at [candacesmithevents@gmail.com](mailto:candacesmithevents@gmail.com)



The Missions Committee would like to remind everyone that the deadline for turning in Walmart gift cards to support the families of the Refuge is December 15th. Need a reminder? Grab a tag off the giving tree in the social hall. Gift cards may be submitted to the office or dropped in the offering plate.



One of the most powerful things that Christians claim is that God saw the great needs of the world and offered a perfect gift in response, a gift that brought God and humanity closer together—Jesus Christ—Emmanuel—God with Us. The Christmas Joy Offering reflects that God *is* with us, through the generous gifts that support church leaders among us, retired, present and future, who have pointed us to God. We offer our gifts during this Advent Season to the Christmas Joy Offering because God shows us the power and importance of being together, of “being with.”

The Christmas Joy Offering will be collected on Sunday, December 19th.



Join us Sunday, December 12th as the Sr. Choir presents Vivaldi's 'Gloria' for this year's Christmas Cantata!



### Christmas Pageant

THEN—come back on Sunday, December 19th as the children present 'An Impromptu Christmas Pageant.' **Bring your children, grandchildren, neighbors! Anyone who wants to participate is welcome!**



# CALENDAR

## DECEMBER 6—DECEMBER 19TH

<b>Start Date</b>	<b>Start Time</b>	<b>Subject</b>
12/06/2021	10:30 AM	Staff Meeting
	7:00 PM	Al-Anon
	7:00 PM	Al-Ateen
12/07/2021	12:00 PM	Richard Rohr Small Group (ZOOM)
12/08/2021	12:00 PM	Al-Anon
	6:30 PM	Senior Choir Cantata Dress Rehearsal
12/09/2021	12:00 PM	Brown Bag Bible Study
<b>12/12/2021</b>		<b>Third Sunday in Advent</b>
		Christmas Cantata
	8:00 AM	Adult Topical Study via ZOOM
	9:00 AM	Adult Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Worship Service (In-Person and Livestreamed)
	11:00 AM	Fellowship
12/13/2021	7:00 PM	Al-Anon
	7:00 PM	Al-Ateen
	7:00 PM	Finance & Administration
12/14/2021	10:00 AM	Missions Committee
	5:00 PM	KPA Meeting in Social Hall
12/15/2021	12:00 PM	Al-Anon
	7:30 PM	Senior Choir Rehearsal
12/16/2021	12:00 PM	Brown Bag Bible Study
	6:00 PM	LIFT Christmas Party/Dinner Outing
<b>12/19/2021</b>		<b>Fourth Sunday in Advent</b>
		Instant Christmas Pageant
	8:00 AM	Adult Topical Study via ZOOM
	9:00 AM	Adult Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Worship Service (In-Person and Livestreamed)
	11:00 AM	Fellowship

## December 2021 Readings

### **Second Sunday of Advent—December 5**

Malachi 3:1–4  
 Luke 1:68–79  
 Philippians 1:3–11  
 Luke 3:1–6

### **Third Sunday of Advent—December 12**

Zephaniah 3:14–20  
 Isaiah 12:2–6  
 Philippians 4:4–7  
 Luke 3:7–18

### **Fourth Sunday of Advent—December 19**

Micah 5:2–5a  
 Luke 1:46–55 or Psalm 80:1–7  
 Hebrews 10:5–10  
 Luke 1:39–45 (46–55)

### **Nativity of the Lord / Christmas—December 24**

#### **Christmas Eve**

Isaiah 9:2–7  
 Psalm 96:1–13  
 Titus 2:11–14  
 Luke 2:1–14 (15–20)

### **First Sunday of Christmas—December 26**

1 Samuel 2:18–20, 26  
 Psalm 148  
 Colossians 3:12–17  
 Luke 2:41–52

## **BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

### **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

12/1 Jason Casper  
 12/3 Holly Middleton  
 12/4 Judy Thorpe  
 12/5 Betsy Ernst  
 12/5 Patrick Lannon  
 12/6 Hilary Faulkner  
 12/7 Jane Cantera  
 12/10 Dee Beech  
 12/12 Crystal Bennett  
 12/12 Glee Mark  
 12/12 Alan Senegeto  
 12/13 Barbara Walsh  
 12/14 Megan McGraw  
 12/16 Betty Brendle  
 12/16 Christa Kaiser  
 12/16 William Kaiser  
 12/18 Barbara Bowker  
 12/19 Fabiola Balderas-Castro  
 12/20 Ann Major  
 12/28 Patricia Dewey  
 12/31 T. Jonathan III Jackson

### **DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

12/10 David & Daphne Robertson  
 12/12 Thomas & Francine Craven  
 12/28 Denis & Heather Gomez

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