

OUR MISSION

In response to the profound love of God through Jesus Christ toward all, we welcome everyone to join us as we study and proclaim the gospel, seek the will of God, grow in spiritual maturity, share our resources, and respond in service to the needs of our members and our neighbors.

ORDER FOR DIVINE WORSHIP

Sunday, December 17, 2017 10:00 A.M.

3rd Sunday of Advent

WE GATHER IN THE LORD’S NAME

PRELUDE “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” *arr. Mark Hayes* Matthew J. Russell

WELCOME AND SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER IN MINISTRY
WE GREET ONE ANOTHER IN CHRIST

INTROIT “When God Is a Child ” *by Brian Wren and John Carter* Praise Choir

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

CALL TO WORSHIP (In Unison)

As the light of the of the candles grow, let us hold fast to our hope, let us pray fervently for peace, let our joy exceed words, and let love spread through our homes, our families, our churches and our own lives; that we might come at last to kneel before the manger and allow the child of Christmas to be born a new within our hearts.

*HYMN “O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?” No. 11

WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES *Youth from God’s Disciples*

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. On this third Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of Joy.

Response: Let us walk in the light of the Lord.

WORDS FOR ILUMINATION

“The gospel is good news! Between each line, we see ourselves, and how our Living God interacts with and loves humanity. The gospel reveals the heart of God, and the Eternal Spirits relentless efforts to reason with us. When we seek God, we will find God. The Bible is our waymark.

OLD TESTAMENT Nehemiah 8:10-12 Pew Bible OT, p. 437

ANTHEM “Messiah” *by Francesca Battistelli, Molly Reed and Jeff Pardo* Praise Choir

NEW TESTAMENT Luke 2:8-10 Pew Bible NT, p. 58

DANCE MINISTRY God’s Disciples

Open My Eyes

Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth Thou has for me.

Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.

Silently now I wait for Thee ready my God Thy will to see, open my eyes illumine me Spirit divine.

Open my ears that I may hear voices of truth Thou sendest clear, and while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for Thee ready my God Thy will to see, open my ears illumine me Spirit divine.

SERMON

“Fearless Joy!”

Rev. Stephany D. Graham

STATEMENT OF BELIEF

We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells. That God’s lifegiving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God’s lifegiving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.

~Confession of Belhar, September 1986 (section 3)

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

HYMN “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” No. 464

OFFERING

*THE DOXOLOGY No. 592

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Almighty God, to You all knees are bent and all voices declare Your sovereignty. All that we bring, You have allowed us to have. Whatever good we do, is a reflection of Your grace. Accept these glad offerings as an expression of our praise and gratitude. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of abounding forgiveness, we have wounded Your love. Through Your mercy heal us. We continue to stumble in darkness. Light Of The World, transfigure us. We have forgotten that our hearts are Your home. Spirit Of God, dwell within us. Amazing Grace, align us with Your plan and purpose for our lives. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Pastor: Ours is a God who does not make empty promises for the hereafter, nor trivialize the present darkness, futility or meaninglessness, but who Himself in-the-midst of darkness, futility and meaninglessness, invites us to the venture of everlasting joy.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

WE GO INTO THE WORLD TO SERVE

*HYMN “Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers” No. 15

*BENEDICTION (Please remain standing for the choral response)

*CHORAL RESPONSE “Jesus, Name Above All Names/Emmanuel” *by Naidi Hearn and Bob McGee* Praise Choir

POSTLUDE “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” *arr. by Mark Hayes* Matthew J. Russell

*Please stand if you are able.

SERVICE TO OUR LORD AND HIS CHURCH

CLERK OF SESSION: Elder Charlene Woods; GREETER: Deacon Tina Wileikis; USHERS: Linda Buckiewicz and Phyllis Froebrich; LITURGIST: Elder Philena Bolden; DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY: Matthew J. Russell; COFFEE HOUR: Women of HOPE; PRAYER CHAIN: Philena Bolden; FLOWERS: The flowers in the Memorial Vase are provided through the Church Flower Fund.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Website: peekskillpresby.org E-Mail: Office@peekskillpresby.org
Church Office: 737-3322, 737-7822 (fax), 737-6549 (kitchen), 845-538-2669 (Thrift Shop) Find us on Facebook

Rev. Stephany Graham (410) 493-6748, stephanygraham@aol.com

Office Hours: Wed: 10AM-3PM, Thurs: 4-7PM,

On Call Friday and Saturday

Sunday	9:15 AM	Praise Choir Rehearsal
December 17, 2017	10:00 AM	Worship (with Communion)
<i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i>	11:30 AM	Children's Choir Rehearsal
	11:30 AM	Coffee Hour (<i>Social Hall</i>)
	11:45 AM	Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal
	12:00 PM-2:00 PM	Gates of Heaven Worship Service & Coffee Hour
	3:00 PM	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
Monday	7:00 PM-9:00 PM	N.A. Meeting (<i>Social Hall</i>)
Tuesday	6:45 PM	Fit Club (<i>Social Hall</i>)
	7:30 PM	Gates of Heaven (<i>Sanctuary</i>)
Wednesday	7:30 AM	Morning Prayer call 1.641.715.3277, 703366#
	11:30 AM	Adult Bible Study (<i>Library</i>)
	6:30 PM	A.A. Meeting (<i>Social Hall</i>)
	7:00 PM	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
	8:00 PM	Praise Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	5:00 PM-6:30 PM	Head Start Parents Meeting (<i>Social Hall</i>)
Friday	12:00 PM	Knitting (<i>Library</i>)
	4:30 PM-8:30 PM	Youth Ministry
	7:30 PM-9:30 PM	Gates of Heaven
Saturday	10:00 AM	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
Next Sunday	9:15 AM	Pageant/Choir Rehearsal
December 24, 2017	10:00 AM	Christmas Pageant
<i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	12:00 PM-1:00 PM	Gates of Heaven Worship Service
<i>Christmas Eve</i>	6:15 PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 PM	Worship (with Communion)
	10:45 PM	Christmas Meditation
December 25, 2017	10:30 AM	Christmas Celebration Meal (<i>volunteers report</i>)
<i>Christmas Day</i>	11:00 AM	Christmas Celebration Meal (<i>Social Hall</i>)

Flowers are needed for upcoming Sundays. Call Fay Meneses, 737-4675

Can we pray for you? Join us each Wednesday for prayer by phone.

Pastor Stephany can be contacted for appointments or emergencies at: 410.493.6748

VISION STATEMENT

The Peekskill Presbyterian Church is a faithful and diverse community of Christians with varied backgrounds, ethnicities, talents, and ages. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we are committed to nurturing individual and corporate faith through *Vibrant Worship; Committed Stewardship; Relationship Building Fellowship; Mission Focused Discipleship; and Servant Leadership.*

ORDER FOR DIVINE WORSHIP

December 17, 2017 10:00 AM

3rd Sunday of Advent

FILL US ALL WITH

Joy



Welcome to the

Peekskill Presbyterian Church

Praying, Serving and Sharing Together

Rev. Stephany D. Graham, Pastor

705 South Street, Peekskill, NY 10566

914-737-3322