

St. ANDREW'S CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2014



**5802 Roland Avenue
Baltimore, Maryland 21210-1398
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**THE REV. ERNEST R. D. SMART, *Pastor*
Patricia McKewen Amato, *Music Director***

Sunday, December 14, 2014

9:00 a.m.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

PRELUDE: O Thou That Tellist Good Tidings, Messiah, G.F. Handel
Soloists today: Claire Galloway Weber (mezzo soprano) and
Thea Tullman Moore (soprano)

THE WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

People: This is the house of the Lord, a place to which we have come to confess our sins, receive forgiveness, accept God's blessing and return to the world as effective ambassadors of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: Let us joyfully praise the Lord.

*HYMN 150 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing Mendelssohn

CALL TO PRAYER, PRAYER, AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Lord God of our forebears, we confess how often we have made You a relic of the past. We have acted as if You were remote or irrelevant. By our inattention, we have rejected You and the One You sent to teach us and save us. We are ruled more by fear than faith, by hostility than peace, by a sense of failure than by feelings of dominion and spiritual victory.

Forgive us for our misuse of the precious time with which You have entrusted us. Let us smell the distant scent of victory in the air, as we continue repositioning our lives to fit Your intentions for us. In the Name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

All: God of the past, present and future, we praise You for the new life You have made possible through our faith in Your Son, Jesus Christ. Hallelujah!

CEREMONY OF LIGHTING THE CANDLES OF HOPE AND PEACE AND JOY

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Psalm 19:7-14

SPECIAL MUSIC: Laudamus Te, Gloria, Antonio Vivaldi
Claire Galloway Weber (mezzo soprano) and
Thea Tullman Moore (soprano)

GOSPEL LESSON

St. John 1: 1-14

*HYMN 160

Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming

Is Ist Ein Ros

SERMON: "IGNITING FRESH PASSION" David Moyer, Maryland Bible Society

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

*HYMN 144

O Little Town of Bethlehem

St. Louis

THE PRESENTATION OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

THE OFFERTORY

He Shall Feed His Flock
Thea Tullman Moore (soprano)

THE DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CAL TO PRAYER AND THE PASTORAL PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you

People: And also with you

Leader: Let us pray . . .

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal 307

Tune: Malotte

* HYMN 143

Joy to the World

Antioch

THE BENECTION

POSTLUDE:

In Dulci Jubilo

14 C German

Arr. Dale Wood

WELCOME NOTES TO YOU ON THIS THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ADVENT IS A GOD-GIVEN OPPORTUNITY TO ARRANGE AND RE-ARRANGE PRIORITIES IN OUR DAILY LIFE by focusing on God's gift of Jesus Christ. May this experience of worship become an encouragement to us all as we journey on our spiritual pilgrimage to Bethlehem.

OUR GUEST PREACHER THIS MORNING IS DAVID MOYER, Executive Director of the Maryland Bible Society. The Bible Society has been committed to sharing the power of Holy Scripture, both at home and abroad for over 200 years. It is also one of our major mission recipients.

WE GIVE A SPECIAL WELCOME TO CLAIRE GALLOWAY WEBER AND THEA TULLMAN MOORE, mezzo soprano and soprano, respectively.

WE HOPE EVERYONE will remain after worship today to enjoy a light reception and good company. Many thanks to those who make this happen.

ADVENT TOUR AT THE WALTERS will take place next Sunday, December 21. Barbara Pour will be our tour leader. Everyone is invited. Please come early at 12:15 p.m. for some lunch at the Café. The tour will begin at 1:00 p.m. The tour is free.

OUR NEXT P&R MEETING (Planning and Review) will be held on Monday, December 15, 2014 at 7:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall. This is an open business meeting to which everyone is invited.

MUSICAL INVITATIONS:

- a) Come and participate in Patti Amato's Christmas Choir. Please meet at the organ at 10:10 a.m. No better way to put you in the Christmas spirit.
- b) Baltimore Musicale will hold a Christmas concert on Sunday, December 21 at 6:30 P.M. here in the sanctuary. Bring all your friends.
- c) Next Sunday morning, special music will be led by the Borowsky Trio: Ceylia, Elizabeth and Emmanuel.

PASTORAL NEEDS? Please do not hesitate to contact our pastor, Ernest Smart, either for yourself or someone you know. Best contact number is 410-893-9470.

Thought for the Week Ahead:

“The Christian should resemble a fruit tree! For the gaudy decorations are only tied on, whereas fruit grows on a fruit tree.”

–John Stott