

Welcome, friends, from far and near. Let us worship God who is surely here. Let us pray, sing, share the Word and give; then let us joyfully go into God's world to live. \*Please indicate your desires for visitation, or information about joining Celebration Church on the Ritual of

Friendship Pad. \*Prayer cards are provided for sharing your joys and concerns. Please write your prayer request on the back of a prayer card and write your name on the front and the ushers will collect the prayer cards before the Prayers of the People.

#### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Be with us, Immanuel, as we anticipate again the celebration of your birth. Make this worship holy and our intentions faithful as we give praise for your coming into the world. Be with us today even as we anticipate your return! Amen.

Sunday, December 31, 2017

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday After Christmas Day

### THE CHURCH GATHERS

Prelude Prelude

Chiming the Hour

Lighting the Advent/Christmas Wreath

Lighting ALL the Candles

Jeffrey Waltemeyer

\*Carol No. 143

Angels, from the Realm of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

Sarah Abushakra

Greeting The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.** Welcome, Ritual of Friendship, Prayer Cards, Announcements and Opening Prayer

\*Sharing the Peace of Christ The Peace of Christ be with You. And also with you! (Please exchange signs of Christ's peace with those near you.)

# TO WORSHIP THE LORD OUR GOD

#### \*Responsive Call to Worship

Alleluia! Christ is with us! **Immanuel is born!** 

Born to save us from ourselves! Born to bring God closer to us!

Born to reign in us forever! Alleluia! Christ is with us!

\*Carol No. 145

What Child is This

**GREENSLEEVES** 

Call to Affirmation of Faith

Liturgist: Nancy Torcivia

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Friends, hear the good tidings of Christmas: God has come among us; Christ the savior is born! Let us affirm our faith as we share *A Christmas Creed*.

Affirmation of Faith

A Christmas Creed

Liturgist: Nancy Torcivia

I believe in Jesus Christ and in the beauty of the gospel begun in Bethlehem.

I believe in the one whose spirit glorified a little town; and whose spirit still brings music to persons all over the world, in towns both large and small. I believe in the one for whom the crowded inn could find no room, and I confess that my heart still sometimes wants to exclude

Christ from my life today. I believe in the one who the rulers of the earth ignored and the proud could never understand; whose life was among common people, whose welcome came from persons of hungry hearts. I believe in the one who proclaimed the love of God to be invincible: I believe in the one whose cradle was a mother's arms, whose modest home in Nazareth had love for its only wealth, who looked at persons and made them see what God's love saw in them, who by love brought sinners back to purity, and lifted human weakness up to meet the strength of God. I confess my ever-lasting need of God: The need of forgiveness for our selfishness and greed, the need of new life for empty souls, the need of love for hearts grown cold. I believe in God who gives us the very best gift in Christ. I believe in Jesus, the son of the living God, born in Bethlehem, for me and for the world.

\*Carol No. 146 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

\* The children are invited to join the Pastor on the steps \*

Time With Young Disciples

Children's Church follows in Room 5

### TO WORSHIP THROUGH PRAYER AND SHARED STEWARDSHIP

Prayers of the People – Sharing Our Joys and Concerns (**Please pass your prayer cards to an usher.**)
Prayer of Intercession and The Lord's Prayer ("debts and debtors")

Giving of God's Tithe and Our Offerings

Offertory **Born the Perfect Sacrifice** 

Celebration Choir

\*Doxology Hymn No. 606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

\*Unison Prayer of Dedication You sent us the gift of Christ Jesus to teach us your nature, Lover of Souls. We return what we can, not only for the sake of this community but for the sake of spreading your love in the world. Bless this mission of love, we pray. Amen.

# TO WORSHIP THROUGH THE WORD AND SHARED WITNESS

\*Carol No. 147 The First Noel THE FIRST NOWELL

Scripture Luke 2:21-40 NRSV

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God

Sermon The Cliffhanger – This is Only the Beginning Tom Dendy

#### AND RESPOND IN FAITHFUL SERVICE IN THE WORLD

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Postlude

\*Closing Hymn No. 148 Mary and Joseph Came to the Temple

EVENING HYMN

Sarah Abushakra

(\*If able, please stand at these points in the service.)

At Bethlehem, God demonstrated that to love is to give.

Sun Dec 31	1st Sunday after Christmas	
	NO Adult Bible Study	
	Choir Rehearsal	10:00 am
	Coffee and Fellowship	10:15 am
	Worship, Nursery, Children's Church	11:00 am
Mon Jan 1	NEW YEAR'S DAY offices closed	
Tue Jan 2	Quilters	10:00 am
Wed Jan 3	Preschool Returns	
	Choir Rehearsal	7:00 pm
Thu Jan 4	LadyBug Luncheon at Ciao Restaurant	12:00 pm
Sun Jan 7	Adult Bible Study of the Gospel of Mark	9:15 am
	Choir Rehearsal	10:00 am
	Coffee and Fellowship	10:15 am
	Worship, Communion, Nursery, Children's Church	11:00 am
	Organizational Meeting for Ashes Drive Thru	12:15 pm

### **Serving December 31**

Visitor Table: Betsy Hughes Nursery: Donna Woodard Children's Church PreK-Kindergarten: Tonja Paolini Grades 1-5: Trudy Miller Preacher: Tom Dendy

**Media Shout:** Katrena White **Sound Board:** Nicklaus McIlrath **Liturgist:** Nancy Torcivia **Elder of the Week:** Priscilla Mulligan – 843-903-1960

**Ushers:** Larry Dowd, Kerry and Nanette Kelly

# **Serving January 7**

Visitor Table: Heidi Cherry Nursery: Donna Woodard Children's Church PreK-Kindergarten: Tonja Paolini Grades 1-5: Trudy Miller Preacher: Tom Dendy

**Media Shout:** Bernadine Lamar **Sound Board:** Nicklaus McIlrath **Liturgist:** Elizabeth Wills **Elder of the Week:** Terry Pettijohn – 843-796-3212

**Ushers: TBA** 

### **Celebration Presbyterian Church**

Church Office Hours Monday – Thursday 9:00 am - 2:00 pm Phone: 843-903-0308 Fax: 843-903-0345 Preschool: 843-903-3211

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Facebook: Celebration Presbyterian Myrtle-Beach Website: www.celebrationpresbyterianchurch.org

OUR MISSION is to Proclaim Jesus as Lord and Savior, Praise and Worship God, prepare our hearts to share God's Word, and Provide Love and Service to ALL!

#### JOIN US AT CELEBRATION

We are Christ followers who are open, accepting, loving and welcoming to all!