

THE ORDER OF SERVICE

December 17, 2017 **8:30 a.m.**

Gathering to Worship God

Prelude: "Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming" Nick Capone
Johannes Brahms

Welcome and Announcements
[Please sign the folder at the end of the pew and pass it down the pew and back again. Note who is sitting near you and greet one another.]

Choir Introit: "Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming" Chancel Choir
Michael Praetorius

***Call to Worship** from Philippians 4
Leader: Rejoice in the Lord always!
People: **We will rejoice!**
Leader: Let your patience be known to all.
People: **The Lord is near**
All: **Hallelujah! We rejoice in Emmanuel, God with us!**

Lighting of the Advent Candle John, Sarah, and Lauren Watkins
Video Testimony Hope Mae Tosten

***Hymn:** "Angels We Have Heard on High" Hymn 184

***Prayer of Confession**
Mighty and powerful God, your word says, "Rejoice always." But we would rather sulk about the things that don't go right. Your word says, "Pray without ceasing." But we go for days without even thinking about You. Your word says, "Give thanks in all circumstances." But our thankfulness is fleeting, because we think we *deserve* blessings. Your word says "Hold fast to what is good," while we hold fast to sinful ways of thinking and acting.

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Response of Praise:** "Gloria Patri"

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, Amen.*

Sharing Our Life Together

***Passing of the Peace**
Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings
Offertory: "I Wonder As I Wander" Chancel Choir
John Jacob Niles

***Doxology:** "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

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.

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

***Hymn of Preparation:** "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" Hymn 176

Hearing God's Word

Scripture: Isaiah 55:1-13

Message: "Come and See: Joy" Rev. Rick Hurley
"You will go out in joy..." Isaiah 55:12

We Leave to Serve the Lord

***Hymn of Response:** "Joy to the World" Hymn 181

Benediction

Postlude: "Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying"
Franklin Ritter

***Indicates that the congregation will stand**

NOTES:

Prayer List as of Thursday, December 14

Please remember to mention during the hospital admission process that you are a member of Graystone. Also, if you know of a member who has been hospitalized please notify the church office.

Prayer Concerns

Gloria Shepler M	Montie Miller M	Floyd Lewis M
Lori Jo Bell M	Beverly Stuck M	Shirley Shearer M
Darlene Snyder	Shirley Shick M	Deana Kirkland
(Crystal Simpson's sister-in-law)	Bob Box	(Ron & Deb Port's Daughter)
Don & Gladys Rodgers M	(Friend of Jane Terebus)	Doris Cochran
Deloris Bishop	Marguerite Thorton	(Friend of Sarah Watkins)
(Kathy Beatty's Mother)	(Michelle Elgin's 2nd	Frank Eret
Judy Cessna	Son's Mother-in-Law)	(Sonja McCune's father)
(Lois Miller's daughter)	Andrew Manzek	Annah Hill
Rosemary Veltz	(Friend of Karen Brown)	(Niece of Craig & Dottie Neal)
(granddaughter of Dave and Jan Irvin)	James Sharrer	

M= Graystone Member

Serving in the Military/First Responders

Payton Smith (Naval education/training)
Dylan Wells - Fort Benning, Georgia
Dylan Toy - State Police
Brandon McGinnis - Capital Police

Mission Focus

As we prepare our hearts to appreciate anew the wonders of the incarnation, let us pray particularly for our global mission partners. May they find many and new opportunities to speak of a God Who loves us enough to send His Son into our world to bring us salvation and teach us His way to live. (We have 14 global partners. How many have you become acquainted with through the prayer cards?)

Ministry Focus

This week we are praying for what God is doing and will be doing beneath our feet in the construction site for our new Graystone Kids space. Today as we open up the space to see the progress in the construction, we are mindful of the generosity that brought us here, and that without God's hand this space will just be another set of rooms. Our prayer is that God will use this space to welcome children and their families into our church and that through the relationships they build here that they will experience the good news about Jesus in way that transforms their lives and leads them to follow Jesus into adulthood. We also pray that God will raise up the right people to welcome and love these kids and demonstrate God's love for them each week in our ministry programs to help children learn about Jesus and about what it means to follow Him.

Ushers: Jim Brown, Greg Holsinger, Ron McLean, Dave Moore, Gaylene Robinson, James Wagner

The Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the marriage of our son **Ben**, to **Becca Shaffer** by **Tony and Tammie Brunetta**.

The Rose on the Pulpit is in honor of the birth of a baby boy, **Mitchell Roy**, to **Aaron and Megan (Lambing) Morris** on **December 12**. Howard and Denise Lambing and John and Sandy Morris are the baby's grandparents.

A PRAYER TEAM is available under the right balcony after the service. A box for prayer requests is in the rear of the sanctuary as well as the office.

THE 2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES are available in the back of the sanctuary. We will not be mailing envelopes that are not picked up so if you see a family member or neighbor's envelopes please feel free to deliver the envelopes to them. If you do not have envelopes on the table but would like to contribute by using envelopes, contact the church office and we will get you a number assigned. Note that we have assigned new numbers for 2018.

Join us for refreshments downstairs in the Gathering Place following the service.

What's YOUR next step?

GATHER

This Advent our desire is to make Jesus known.
Who is this Jesus?

Come and See!

Each Sunday in Advent bring your friends and introduce them to the Living Savior.
Once you meet Him you will never forget Him.

December 24: Come and See; Love

CONNECT



Sunday Morning

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
No Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Informal Worship

Sunday Evening

7:00 p.m. Family-Friendly Service
10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service

Christmas Eve morning between the services there will be **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES**, but we would love to invite you for a special Coffee Hour and time to connect over this Christmas season in the Gathering Place, so please plan to stick around a little later or to come a little early to catch up and enjoy time together this Christmas.

OPEN HOUSE - Today, after the worship services, you are invited for a sneak peek in to the Kid's Space we've been working on downstairs. Come and see what work has been done (we've still got some more to do) and see how you can partner to help us finish strong and create a welcoming and exciting space for kids to call home here at Graystone.

GRAYSTONE LOVES COLLEGE STUDENTS - Let's lift them in prayer as they travel to gather with family and friends over this Christmas break.

SERVE

ARCADIA CHURCH DONATIONS - The church in Arcadia would like to bless the families at Christmas with the following items: chicken broth, spaghetti sauce, and canned corn. If anyone wishes to donate any of these items or any other food items please bring them to the Christian Education lobby and deposit them in the box by the elevator.

CHRISTMAS EVE PARKING - Christmas Eve is a time when we have a lot of visitors. In order to make room for our guests; if at all possible, please consider parking away from the building to free up spaces for visitors. Thanks for being part of living into our mission of Welcoming People as we "Follow Jesus".

YEAR-END GIVING - Did you know that the average church receives 16 to 18 % of their annual income in December? Graystone also relies on year-end giving to meet our financial goals. Like other churches and non-profits, and as in previous years, we need a strong December to meet our expenses. Please prayerfully consider a generous year-end gift to help us meet our financial obligations. We will be receiving gifts through December 31. Thank you for your faithful generosity!

STEWARDSHIP CARDS - Remember to turn in your 2018 pledge card before December 31. There are pledge cards available in the back of the sanctuary if you still need one.

CALENDAR

Happening today

8:00 a.m. Prayer for Worship - Library
8:30 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
9:45 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages
9:45 a.m. Come & See Next Generation Tour
11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
11:30 a.m. Celebration Choir
5:00 p.m. STONE PM - STONE Lounge

Happening this week

Monday, December 18

11:00 a.m. PEP Planning Team - Library
6:30 p.m. Nominating Committee - Center Gathering Place (L3)

Tuesday, December 19

6:30 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal - Center Gathering Place (L3)
6:30 p.m. Deacons - Library
8:30 p.m. CCO Core Leaders - Graystone Chapel

Wednesday, December 20

8:00 a.m. Prayer Group - Library

Thursday, December 21

6:30 a.m. Promise Keepers Bible Study - Eat N Park
9:00 a.m. Ladies Bible Study - Library
1:00 p.m. Library Team - Library
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir - Room 211
7:00 p.m. Worship Team - Sanctuary

Friday, December 22

Saturday, December 23

7:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study - Perkin's Restaurant

Sunday, December 24

8:00 a.m. Prayer for Worship - Library
8:30 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
11:00 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
7:00 p.m. Family Service
10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service

Welcoming People, Following Jesus.

December 17, 2017

8:30 a.m.

"Come & See: Joy"

"You will go out in joy"
Isaiah 55:12

Continue to Pray for our Elders

Class of 2018

Andy Arblaster - Adult Ed and Discipleship
Rob Brown - Worship Chair
Mark Elgin - Facilities
Sherman Good - Worship
Sue North - Next Generation Ministry
Dave Strong - Facilities Chair

Class of 2019

Dave Jackson - PEP
Brook McGinnis - Finance
Sean Moran - Next Generation Ministry
Eric Neal - Next Generation Ministry
Ron McLean - Personnel
Gaylene Robinson - Memorial

Class of 2020

Beth Ann Fanning - Next Generation Ministry
Larry McCune - Mission
Bill Miller - Next Generation Ministry
David Nehrig - Facilities
Bob Pollock - Finance
Jody Shepler - Personnel Chair