

Advent and Christmas at First Church

Sunday, December 3, 2017, The First Sunday of Advent

We light the Candle of HOPE

The Angel visits Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist.

* 8:00 a.m. Communion Service

* 10:00 a.m. Worship—Madison Torre will sing “Angels Among Us” as an anthem, a part of which the congregation will be singing on subsequent Advent Sundays.

If your favorite Christmas carol is “Hark the Herald Angels Sing”, this is your Sunday!

* 2:00 Ashlar Village Worship

Sunday December 10, 2017, The Second Sunday of Advent

We light the Candle of PEACE

The Angel visits Mary.

* 8:00 a.m. Communion Service

* 10:00 a.m. Worship—Katie Broun will sing “Breath of Heaven”; the featured carol is “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”.

* 2:00 Ashlar Village Worship

Sunday, December 17, 2017, The Third Sunday of Advent

We light the Candle of JOY

The Angel visits Joseph.

* 8:00 a.m. Communion Service

* 10:00 a.m. Worship—The Choral Sermon, “God with Us”, will be presented by the Chancel Choir.

* 2:00 Ashlar Village Worship

**Thursday, December 21, 2017, 7:30 p.m.
A Service of Lessons and Carols at Ashlar Village**

All are welcome to this ecumenical Service of Lessons and Carols in the Henry & Edythe Knapp Auditorium at Ashlar Village.

Madison Torre will sing “Angels Among Us”, Katie Broun will sing “Mary’s Lullaby” and both of our young artists will join together to sing “O Holy Night”.

**Friday, December 22, 2017, 7:00 p.m.
Live Nativity at Beaumont's Farm**

Experience a live nativity worship service complete with animals!

This is a simple service, very child friendly, where you can pet the animals (goats and sheep) before and after the service. We will also have a donkey and Alpacas (3, of course) who will be camel-like. They possibly may have their babies with them.

HOT CHOCOLATE WILL BE SERVED!!!!

DRESS WARMLY!!!

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED! We need people (shepherds and kings, a Mary and a Joseph) to lead in these animals who are very docile. Please give your name to Rev. Margaret Jay by Dec. 17 if you are interested.

Beaumont Farm is located at the corner of East Center Street and South Airline Road.

**Sunday, December 24—The Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve
Join us for worship on this sacred day and night!**

We light the Candle of LOVE

Angels visit the Shepherds.

* **8:00 a.m. Communion Service**

* **10:00 a.m. Family Service for Christmas Eve Day**

A short musical, "Calling All Angels" by Helen Kemp, will be the centerpiece of this family service. Our littlest singers have been rehearsing most of the fall to be part of this special Christmas Eve. It will end with the traditional pageant. There will be no Church School.

* **9:00 p.m. A Service of Lessons and Carols**

Modeled after the Christmas Eve Service at King's College Chapel, Cambridge England. You will hear a new group singing carols both familiar and new. It promises to be spiritually uplifting as you join in the singing of carols and the reading of the Lessons of Jesus's Birth.

* **11:00 p.m. Candlelight Service and The Lord's Supper**

Please join us for this meditative time of worship. The sanctuary will glow with candlelight and we will share in the Lord's Supper as midnight and Christmas Day approaches.

Sunday, December 31— New Year's Eve

We resume our usual worship schedule with our seminarian, Connor Filkins, preaching.

Sunday, January 7—Star Gift Sunday

What word did you choose for 2017? Come share in this meaningful reflection time and choose your word for 2018!