

Arch Street United Methodist Church

A Reconciling Congregation

55 North Broad Street

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

(corner of Broad & Arch Streets)

Telephone: 215.568.6250 | Fax: 215.568-2256

www.archstreetumc.org



December 4, 2016
11:00 AM Service

Senior Pastor, Reverend Robin Hynicka

Visitation Pastor, Reverend Reinhard Kruse

Deacons, Nikki Kelley Kleinberg,

David Krueger,

Deaconess, Darlene DiDomineck

US2, Rachel Ternes

Music Director, Adam Haines

Secretaries, Carla Brickhouse, Anne McCormick

Building Supervisor, Frank Jones

Sextons, John Buzby, Devon Goodwin,

Toni McIlwaine, Russell Whaley

SUNDAY WORSHIP 11:00 AM

December 4, 2016

2nd Sunday of Advent

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "O Come, Emmanuel" Wilbur Held

CHORAL INTROIT "O Magnum Mysterium" Victoria

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING HYMN # 209 "Blessed be the God of Israel"

*OPENING PRAYER

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

One: God of steadfastness and encouragement:

All: You stand with those who wait in anticipation for justice.

One: Your heart is with the Water Protectors, our siblings at Standing Rock;

All: May our hearts be with them also.

One: There are voices crying out in the wilderness;

All: Open our ears to hear them.

One: There are prophets telling of your coming;

All: Open our ears to hear them.

One: Your children are calling for justice and peace;

All: Open our ears to hear them.

One: May you find repentance in our hearts,

All: And the fruits of true repentance in our lives and actions.

One: Merciful God, break open upon us your light and love;

All: Protect us and all those who witness to your will in the face of oppression.

One: In hopeful anticipation,

All: We will wait upon the Lord.

LIGHT THE SECOND CANDLE

One: Come, Lord Jesus.

All: Come, illuminate Your Way in the world.

HYMN #211 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (Verse 2)

***THE PASSING OF THE PEACE** "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.

*There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
And I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;
There are sweet expressions on each face,
And I know they feel the presence of the Lord.*

Refrain:

*Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love;
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived;
When we shall leave this place.*

CLAIMING OUR HOPE

SCRIPTURE READING

Don Caskey

Isaiah 11:1-10
Romans 15:4-13

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Seasons of Love"

***GOSPEL** Matthew 3:1-12

SERMON "Why am I at the Table?" Rev. Robin Hynicka

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

I believe in God, Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only child, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of God, and will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN # 206 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, and we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT MEDITATION

Leader: Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
That proves God's love toward us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!**

Leader and people: **Glory to God. Amen.**

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

As forgiven and reconciled people, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

OFFERTORY "Lo How a Rose Er Blooming" arr. Haines

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #94

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical setting on pages 23-24

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, God Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image, and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, Your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is The One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your child Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed Jesus to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. Jesus healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By the baptism of his suffering, death and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

On the night in which Jesus gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Child Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God let us pray: **Our God in heaven, hallowed be your name, your Kin-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the Kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

BREAKING THE BREAD

Because there is one loaf,
We, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.
The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.
The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.
The blood of Christ, given for you. Amen.

CLOSING PRAYER

Let us all pray:
Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN # 247 “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”

*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Go forth in peace! The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Amen.

POSTLUDE “All’ Offertorio” Domenico Zipoli

* *Please stand, in body or spirit*

*Full participant with the Christian copyright license, inc. #715930.
Devices for the hearing impaired are available at the Chapel office.*



Worship Leader: Nicola Jefferson
Greeters: Alice Ming and Raymond Wilson
Nursery Attendant: Frankie Dineen

Printed on 50% recycled paper

Calendar of Events

December 4 to December 12, 2016

- SUN** 12/4 *Second Sunday of Advent*
8:30 Worship Service, Chapel
9:45 Adult Sunday School
9:45 Adult Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Children's Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service, Sanctuary
12:00 Get Acquainted Time, Chapel
12:20 to 3 Deaconess Darlene, Sanctuary
2:00 Unity Fellowship Church Service
5:30 Grace Café Devotions
6:00 Grace Café
- MON** 12/5 1:00 Tea & Talk
5:30 AA, Nichols Hall
- TUES** 12/6 12:00 Hour of Power, Sanctuary
- WED** 12/7 6:00 AA, Nichols Hall
- THUR** 12/8 5:00 Diversity Group
5:30 AA, Nichols Hall
- SAT** 12/10 2:00 Eliza Shirley Christmas Party, Nichols Hall
- SUN** 12/11 *Third Sunday of Advent*
8:30 Worship Service, Chapel
9:45 Adult Sunday School
9:45 Adult Choir Rehearsal
11:00 Children's Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service, Sanctuary
12:00 Get Acquainted Time, Chapel
12:00 United Methodist Women, 2nd fl. Conf. rm.
12:20 to 3 Deaconess Darlene, Sanctuary
1 to 4 Sacred Places Tour of Church
2:00 Unity Fellowship Church Service
5:30 Grace Café Devotions
6:00 Grace Café
- MON** 12/12 1:00 Tea & Talk
5:30 AA, Nichols Hall

Please see the events page on our web site:
www.archstreetumc.org for the full calendar of

WHAT'S HAPPENING

happenings.



Holiday Gifts for Refugees

This year the Nationalities Service Center (NSC) has welcomed a record number of refugees to the Philadelphia area. If you were lucky enough to be at the NSC Thanksgiving celebration, which took place at Arch Street Church on Saturday November 19th, you got a chance to meet some of these wonderful new members of our community. In the aftermath of an election in which immigrants and refugees were frequently blamed for every social problem by the President-elect, it is more important than ever that we welcome and support our new neighbors. One way we can do this is by buying some things they need to help them as they rebuild their lives here.

We will be collecting holiday gifts for refugees again this Advent season. **This Sunday, December 4th**, you will have the opportunity to choose a gift to buy for a newly arrived refugee. These gift items have been identified by NSC staff as things these families really need or want. We will have a collection of small cards with a description of the requested item on each card, such as "coat for Syrian girl, size 3T" and an identification number, such as # 4. Take the card for the gift you wish to purchase. After purchasing the gift, bring the gift along with the original card in a bag to the church by **Sunday, December 18th**. Do not wrap the present since we need to be able to identify the gifts. Questions? Ask Margaret Harris, 215-568-2296 or margaretharris@me.com. *Thank you.*

Robeson County Church Needs OUR Help

The Robeson County Church and Community Center in Lumberton, NC was under water due to flood waters from the Lumber River. The Center and the people that work there are well known to Arch Street UMC. For the last eight years, **ASUMC Youth** have traveled to Lumberton and Pembroke NC to work alongside local leaders on various church and community improvement projects. The Center is the heart and soul of working with the poor of Robeson County – the poorest county in NC. The United Methodist Church is the driving force behind the Center's work. In a conversation, with Pastor Kelly (local leader), he stated that funds and volunteers are desperately needed to clean up and restore the Center so they can resume and upgrade service. The **ASUMC Youth** are so close to this NC community and ask for your help. Pastor Robin has set a stretch goal of \$8,000 to be raised before Christmas. Gifts can be made to this special cause in honor or in memory of loved ones. Please use the special offering envelope inserted in the bulletin. Checks should be made out to Arch Street UMC with the words **Flood Relief** on the memo line.



Children's Christmas
Party!

Next Saturday, December 10th, from 2 to 4 PM we will celebrate Christmas with our neighbors from the Eliza Shirley shelter. Please mark your calendar to help us set up (any time from 10AM on) and/or help at the party. We also love to get homemade cookies or cash donations to buy food and decorations. It is always fun to watch the children playing games (led by Pastor Robin) and choosing toys. Please call Betsy Connor at 215-232-7186 to help.

A Look at Our Faithfulness

Combined attendance for last Sunday, November 27th was 139 and Grace Café was 188. Your tithes, gifts and offerings help ASUMC make a difference in our community. Thank you.

Center City Sacred Spaces

Free Open House Tour

Next Sunday, December 11th from 1-4 pm,

For those who walk by our neighborhood's houses of worship but have yet to view their splendid interiors, join [CCRA's self-guided tour](#)

which can be commenced at any of twelve participating congregations each of which will have a map and booklet describing tour stops. The participating congregations opening their doors to the public are:

Arch Street Presbyterian Church, 18th & Arch



Arch Street United Methodist Church, Broad & Arch

First Presbyterian Church, 21st & Walnut

First Unitarian Church, 22nd & Chestnut

Holy Trinity, Rittenhouse Square, 19th & Walnut

Liberti Church and First Baptist Church, 17th and Sansom

Lutheran Church of the Holy Communion, 21st & Chestnut

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Locust St. btwn 16th and 17th

St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, 20th & Locust

The Shambhala Meditation Center, Sansom St. btwn 19th and 20th

*Tenth Presbyterian Church (2:15-4pm), 17th & Spruce

*Trinity Memorial Church (1-3 pm) 22nd & Spruce

A Place for Javier

We welcomed Javier Flores Garcia in to safe sanctuary at Arch Street to prevent his deportation to Mexico. This is a moment in history and a precious opportunity to do something prophetic and faithful. Javier will be living at ASUMC. We will make provisions for family, friends and supporters to visit throughout his stay with us. Javier was the breadwinner in the family. If you would like to assist his family please donate to any of the three organizations indicating your donation is to go to his family.

<http://sanctuaryphiladelphia.org/get-involved>

<http://vamosjuntos.org/>

<http://archstreetumc.org/>



The Arch St. United Methodist Women invite you to join us. You do not have to be a member of Arch St. UMC.

The United Methodist Women invite everyone to join them on December 11th for two important discussions:

We will meet in the second floor conference room immediately after the 11 am Worship Service. Our meeting will focus on:

- 1) A discussion of the book, The Underground Girls of Kabul by Jenny Nordburg (a discussion that was postponed from November)
- 2) Reflections on the Advent Study: Silence and other surprising invitations of Advent by Enuma Okoro.

Here are details about both subjects:

The Underground Girls of Kabul by Jenny Nordburg.

An investigative journalist uncovers a hidden custom that will transform your understanding of what it means to grow up as a girl. In Afghanistan, a culture ruled almost entirely by men, the birth of a son is cause for celebration and the arrival of a daughter is often mourned as misfortune. A *bacha posh* (literally translated from Dari as “dressed up like a boy”) is a third kind of child – a girl temporarily raised as a boy and presented as such to the outside world.

The Underground Girls of Kabul is anchored by vivid characters who bring this remarkable story to life: Azita, a female parliamentarian who sees no other choice but to turn her fourth

daughter, Mehran, into a boy; Zahra, the tomboy teenager who struggles with puberty and refuses her parents' attempts to turn her back into a girl; Shukria, now a married mother of three after living for twenty years as a man; and Nader, who prays with Shahed, the undercover female police officer, as they both remain in male disguise as adults.

At the heart of this emotional narrative is a new perspective on the extreme sacrifices of Afghan women and girls against the violent backdrop of America's longest war. *The Underground Girls of Kabul* charts their dramatic life cycles, while examining our own history and the parallels to subversive actions of people who live under oppression everywhere.

United Methodist Women's Advent Study

Traditionally when we think of the Advent story Mary, Joseph and the angel Gabriel come to mind, but in the Gospel of Luke, Elizabeth and Zachariah are the first two people we meet. This year we will approach the Advent story a little differently by starting with their story.

Join the United Methodist Women as we read *Silence and Other Surprising Invitations of Advent*. These reflections will help center us during this busy season. We will gather on **both December 11 and January 8th** for a time of discussion of our experience.

Please join us for this time of reflection. Books will be available from Margaret Harris after the 11:00 am service.

Questions? See Margaret Harris.

margaretharris@me.com or 215-568-2206

Grace Café NOW Open

Grace Café (ASUMC's outreach to folks currently without homes) is open **every Sunday** through the end of June. After a brief period of faith, those gathered will enjoy a home-cooked meal hosted by Swarthmore UMC.

We are thankful for Tonight's meal. There are still openings for hosts to bring food and prepare a meal for about 200 people. If you know of a group that would like to assist in this important mission, please have them contact the church office at 215-568-6250 or Darlene DiDomineck at gracecafe Philly@gmail.com. Greeters, servers and clean-up crew are needed and always welcome.

Sunday School

All those interested in reading, reflecting on and discussing the Bible passages used in each week's sermon are invited to meet in the Chapel every Sunday at 9:45am. The scriptures readings for today's class are Isaiah 35:1-10, James 5:7-10, and Matthew 11:2-11. The readings for NEXT week are Isaiah 7:10-16, Romans 1:1-7, and Matthew 1:18-25.



2016 Christmas Flower Orders

Christmas Flowers will beautify the Sanctuary and Chapel on **Christmas Eve and January 1st**. To order, complete all information below and return to the church office, with your payment, (make checks payable to *Arch Street UMC* -memo for "poinsettias") by the deadline, Sunday, December 18th.

.....
CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

\$10 per 6+ blooms \$15 per 12+ blooms
 instead of flowers, please accept my donation of
\$ _____

Presented by:

Your name: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

Please print clearly

___ **I will take my flowers after January 1st service.**

___ **No, Please give them to a home-bound person.**



PRAYER CONCERNS

Prayers of Healing for: *Luca, Max Northouse, Russ Alexander, Pat Taylor, Alma Dopson, Cynthia Dupree, Marion Ambrose, Mrs. Mastrando, Chris Whaley, Sarah Rowe, Mat Hearn, James Hearn, Zeke Sanders, Geraldine Bradley, Bill Gatewood, Michael Bowman, Jazzy, Helena & Jackie Yorker, Mrs. Bowman, Ann Bishton, Rev. James Pittman, Evelyn Tinsley, Constance James, Deanna Cottom, D. Nicholas Tyrone Christy, Virgil Watson, Jim Griscol, Gloria Young, Russell Whaley, Tanya Graves, Dorothy Hurley, Dolores Farinre-Carey, J. J., Mr. Franco, Skylar, John Johnson, Len Metzler, Loretta Wootten, Emily Jenson, Marsha Wittman, Jenny Jakacki, Laura Massey, Steve Whaley, Tim Brazelton, Diann Rollins, Joan Wood, James Williams, Anthony Mastrando, Inez Barrett-Otey, Diana Amey, Casey Edwards, Ann Gennaro, Mark Fischer, Ida Bristoe, Maureen Norman, Jeanne Kostenbader, Donald Lathrop, Pamela Thomas, Sandra Parker, Marion Dabney, Patricia Pape, Yazid Jones, Ernie, John Tucker, Lou Brooks, Rob Koob, Jada Bascom, Minerva Clark, Vanessa & Yaddy Sellers, Nakia Rimmer, Don Allen, Anna Cole, Christopher Browne, Betty Flowerree, Troy McColley, Barton Burke, Thomas Onorato, Roy Samuel Layden, Dorothy Eady, Molly Villafane, Pamela Maupin, Mary Reece, Celestine Justin, Louis Harrigan, Mayra Malonada, Sheldon Nixon, Althea Sea, Dumis Randolph, Joanne Ferreri, Rosemary Schier, Carla Kelley.*

Prayers of Encouragement: *Prince Chinedu Onyeneke, Pat Taylor, Steven Whaley, Qing-Song Chen, and David, Rev. Brett Charsky, Anthony Eugene Smith and his mother, Christina, Rashida Bryant, Shelly Folks, the Thompson/Norman family, Calvin Smith, Jr., Deborah Seely, Caroline Lopopolo, Alexander Grant, Anana Tinnhé, Laura Harrigan, Rick Taylor, the Robertson family, Dorothy Watson and family, for Rich, and Elaine Jenson and family.*

Prayers of Protection *for our service people and those living in parts of the world under conflict. Please pray for those who are hungry, ill, displaced, or living in poverty because of natural and human-made disasters, and for the workers who minister to them.*

ARCH STREET UMC VISION

Arch Street United Methodist Church will be a welcoming Christian community that inspires openness, understanding, healing and reconciliation both within the congregation and in the community-at-large.

ARCH STREET MISSION STATEMENT

Arch Street United Methodist Church's mission is to love God and neighbor by nurturing individuals on their spiritual journeys, encouraging creativity in faithful service, strengthening relationships and promoting justice.

GOD'S TABLE IS OPEN TO ALL.

THERE'S ROOM AT THE TABLE FOR YOU.

Arch Street United Methodist Church is a community of faith-keeping and faith-seeking people who embrace diversity in our congregation and community, and affirm the dignity and worth of every person as created in the image of God. We celebrate and give thanks for all of the gifts of God among us. Our welcome knows no boundaries, whether of age, racial or ethnic background, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity, economic or marital status, or physical or mental ability. We welcome all to share in the ministry, fellowship, and blessings of full participation as members of Christ's body.



**Please scan this QR code
to make a secure donation to Arch Street UMC
on your smart phone.**

Parking

*Garage parking coupons are available from the Chapel office **only** for the Convention Center self-park next door. You must show the number on your ticket and give your name at our office to receive your coupon.*