

FORT WASHINGTON COLLEGIATE CHURCH

Creating Community | Connecting to God | Committed to the City

Fort Washington Collegiate Church | 729 West 181st Street | NYC 10033 | 212.568.4014

Make Your Annual Pledge

As our new year begins, **we want to invite you to partner with us** in the good work that God has called us to in Upper Manhattan. Your financial commitment ensures that FWCC can continue to offer a variety of dynamic programs for children, youth, and adults as a source of hope and healing for our community.

Please prayerfully consider what you and your family can pledge to give in the upcoming calendar year (Jan. 1 through Dec. 31 2017) and commit to our Capital Campaign (active through Dec. 2018). Your pledge plays an important role helping to guide our church's planning and budgeting in the new year.

Why pledge?

While FWCC is blessed with a generous endowment as our foundation, our ministry programming and outreach is completely dependent on your tithes and offerings. No matter what the amount of your weekly or monthly commitment, your response helps us to plan and budget for 2017 – our children and youth programs, our music ministry, small-groups, outreach, and more! We encourage you to pledge today! We understand financial circumstances sometimes change, and if at any time you need to make an adjustment to increase or decrease your pledge, simply let us know. Thank you for making a commitment to the Fort Washington Collegiate Church family.

How to pledge

Online: www.fortwashingtonchurch.org/pledge

At church: Fill out a pledge card found at the front entrance (vestibule) and place it in the offering plate.

Fort Washington Collegiate Church

December 4th, 2016 | 11:00 AM | Second Sunday of Advent

Holy Communion

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

May these be the days
when conservatives will share
a garden with liberals;
**when people of all faiths and none
will offer safety to each other.**

May these be the days
when bullies and the tormented
will serve side by side at the shelter;
**when little ones will show grownups
the paths we have forgotten to follow.**

May these be the days
when justice will put on the tool belt
filled with faithfulness, peace, and healing;
**when the most vulnerable around us
will shower us with a harvest of hope.**

HYMN: Come, Lord Jesus

**1 Come, Lord Jesus,
come, Lord Jesus,
come, Lord Jesus:
come, and be born in our hearts.**

**2 Come, O Prince of Peace,
come, O Prince of Peace,
come, O Prince of Peace:
come, and be born in our hearts.**

**3 Come, Immanuel,
come, Immanuel,
come, Immanuel:
come, and be born in our hearts.**

Landry

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Peace is the flame
given by God to be a light in the
darkness.

**The flame of peace is the promise of
God.**

Peace is the flame
given by God to bring justice to the
world.

**The flame of peace is righteousness
and equity.**

Peace is the flame
given by God to bring order
to our lives.

**The flame of peace
enters the world again
with the birth of the
Prince of Peace.**

(The candle is lit.)

Let us pray:

**Source of light,
shine in our lives
and in your world with your
everlasting peace.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord
we pray. Amen.**

HYMN: In the Sanctuary

Verse 1

**We lift our hands in the sanctuary
We lift our hands to give You the glory
We lift our hands to give You the praise
And we will praise You for the rest of
our days
Yes we will praise You for the rest of
our days**

Chorus

**Jesus we give You the praise
Emmanuel we lift up Your name
Heavenly Father coming Messiah
And we will praise You for the rest of
our days
Yes we will praise You for the rest of
our days**

Verse 2

**We clap our hands in the sanctuary
We clap our hands to give You the glory
We clap our hands to give You the praise
And we will praise You for the rest of our
days
Yes we will praise You for the rest of our
days**

Verse 3

**We sing our song in the sanctuary
We sing our song to give You the glory
We sing our song to give You the praise
And we will praise You for the rest of our
days
Yes we will praise You for the rest of our
days**

Carr

HYMN: I Need Thee Every Hour

Red Hymnal # 358

Lowry

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

All too often, we believe God's vision of justice and peace is only for us, not those around us. We are sure others need to be cleansed and forgiven, but not us. Let us seek to live as if, indeed, the kingdom is coming near, as we offer our prayers to the One who calls us to Advent living, as we pray together, saying,

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Goodness Incarnate, we must confess that we have not lived as your children. We muddy the clear waters of baptism with the detritus of walking over those we claim we love. We sit in our lonely lives feasting on bitterness, when we could be feasting with those we are told not to trust. We wait for all our desires to be taken care of by you, while you hope we would fill the lives of others with your grace and hope.

Forgive us, God of this holy season, and help us to be as willing to draw near to others, so we might heal their brokenness, touch their loneliness, embrace their grief, and love them as you did when you came to us so long ago, as well as in these moments, in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Silence ...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Here is the good news:

Speak with the whispers of hope until it silences despair;

sing the carols of compassion until all join in the chorus;

shower others with wonder and delight and join in God's dance of grace.

Thanks be to God. We are forgiven! So, let us welcome others with open arms, just as we have been embraced in God's love and laughter. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

PASSING OF THE PEACE*

Please greet one another with the words – **The peace of Christ is with you!** Response – **And also with you!** (Children will join their teachers for worship and learning activities.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 11:1-10, p. 640

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN: It Came Upon a Midnight Clear
Red Hymnal #170

Willis

INVITATION TO SHARE (*Give online at: www.fortwashingtonchurch.org/give/*)

Present offerings to the Lord in righteousness;
Give with pure hearts.

Mal. 3:3

OFFERTORY: A New Hallelujah

Smith

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

In thanksgiving for what has been shared, we sing as one body:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ all creatures here below;

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God, whom we adore. (*Old Hundredth*)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

May your Spirit of generosity rest upon us, Caring God, so that our giving does not end here, but only begins to flow forth in a baptism of hope, of grace, of healing, and of peace to all around us, as well as those we may never meet. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN: We Come to this Table

Gillette

We come to this table, O God, with thanksgiving.

We lift up our hearts, we remember, we pray.

We hear Jesus' welcome—inviting, forgiving;

We know your Spirit's peace as we feast here today.

We dine at your table as sisters and brothers,

Diverse in our cultures, yet nourished as one.

The bread and the cup that we share here with others

Are gifts uniting all who are claimed by your Son.

INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

May the Advent God give you hope.

May God grant you peace.

Let us lift our hearts to God who offers righteousness to all.

We open our hearts to the One who loves justice.

Children of God, rejoice in the One who call us to live in harmony with everyone.

Amen and Amen! We give our thanks to God!

In those days when chaos reigned,
creation appeared, Coming God,
as you spoke the Word
which caused snow to cap mountains;
as you breathed the Spirit
which give life to sheep and shepherds;
as your steadfast loved shaped
all that is good and beautiful.
All this was intended for those clothed
in your image of grace and hope,
but we insisted on forgetting your image in us.
Through the prophets of every age,
we heard your words of encouragement,
but chose to keep looking for life
in unproductive places.
So, in that moment we least expected,
Jesus came, to baptize us with
the Holy Spirit's peace and hope.

With those who have trouble playing nice,
with those who seek to bear fruit,
together with one voice, we glorify you:

Holy, holy, holy are you, God who gives hope to all.

**All creation gathers your harvest of peace.
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who stands side-by-side
with the most vulnerable.
Hosanna in the highest!**

In your holiness, God who approaches,
we find righteousness and justice;
in your Child, Jesus, we discover
our salvation and hope.
When the world dumps buckets
of muddy meanness over us,
he baptizes us in the
Spirit's cleansing waters.
When those around us throw
stones of bitterness and fear,
he takes them to build
homes of hope.
When people would try to divide us,
he builds a park where enemies
push each other in swings,
and sit side-by-side on the grass
for the Lamb's picnic.

As we inch closer to Bethlehem,
as we wait for the kingdom to draw near,
we sing of that mystery which comes as faith:

**This is the One who died, blessing those
who feared him;
this is the One who was raised, the Spirit of
resurrection resting on him;
this is the One who will come, to give justice
to everyone.**

Now in these days, as we gather
around the table gifted with
the bread and the cup,
may your Spirit of wisdom rest on us,
so we may recognize the vulnerable

and welcome their gifts in our lives;
may your Spirit of might rest upon us,
so we may stand up
to injustices around us;
may your Spirit of unity rest upon us,
o we may resist all people,
all words, which seek to divide us;
may your Spirit of compassion rest upon us,
so we may remember, and serve,
the hungry, the homeless, the lonely,

in this holiest of seasons.

And when your harvest of peace
comes at the end of all time,
and we are gathered with our sisters
and brothers around your feast,
we will sing and glorify you forever,
God in Community, Holy in One. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(from the Book of Common Prayer)*

**Our [God] in heaven
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom 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 kingdom, the power
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD, LIFTING OF THE CUP

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION: We Come to This Table (cont.)

**We rise from this table with new dedication
To feed the world's children, to free the oppressed,
To clear out the minefields, to care for creation;
We pray, O God of peace, that our work will be blest.**

Gillette

HYMN: Soon and Very Soon

Red Hymnal #677

Crouch

SENDING

As God has welcomed us in these moments,
let us go to embrace each person we meet.
As Jesus has been our servant of hope and grace,
let us go to serve the most vulnerable around us.
As the Spirit of hope has filled us,
let us go to empty ourselves of joy and peace for all. Amen.

Advent/Christmas Worship/Event Schedule

Tuesday, Dec. 6th, Fort Washington Community Choir Concert, 8-9 pm (Sanctuary)

Saturday, Dec. 10th, FWCC Community Christmas Party/Open House: 4-6 pm (Santa, gifts for kids, Carols, Tree-lighting)

Sunday, December 11th, Recognition/Reception for Elders Scott Simpson & Yvonne Henry for their many years of service to the church; 11 am

Saturday, Dec. 17th, WHCO Christmas Jazz Fundraiser, 3:00 pm (Sanctuary) visit: whco.nyc

Sunday, Dec. 18th, Children's Christmas Pageant, 11 am

Tuesday, December 20th, Blue Christmas/The Longest Night Service, 7:00 pm

Saturday, Dec. 24th, Christmas Eve Worship (Lessons & Carols), 5:30 pm

Sunday, Dec. 25th, Carol Sing & Communion at 11 am

(No Evensong on December 25th or January 1)

Welcome to Fort Washington Collegiate Church; a place of diversity, hospitality and grace. We open our doors to everyone! We welcome all people regardless of race, culture, sexual orientation, social or economic status. As a church family we celebrate our diversity and our connection to God. We seek to follow Christ's example and exemplify the love of Christ; therefore, as a faith community, we value grace over judgment. Although we represent many cultures and points of view, our diversity does not drive us apart, but gives us the opportunity to be enriched by the gifts and leadership of all. Together, by word and deed, we proclaim the good news that there is new life in Christ.

CHILDREN & WORSHIP AT FORT WASHINGTON CHURCH

Nursery Care: The nursery is open and care is available for infants and toddlers between ages 0-3 with Hilda McCrillis in the nursery just behind the Sanctuary. Care is available before and during worship (10:30am - 12:15pm)

Godly Play®: After the Children's Time and during the Passing of the Peace, children 4 years of age through 4th grad are invited to the Second Floor for Godly Play® in Classroom #208. **Caregivers and parents are invited to pick up their children after service.**

Children's Choir: All children who love to sing are invited to rehearse with Eric Alderfer in the Second Floor Meeting Room #205 from 10am-10:45am.

Sunday School: All youth (grades 5th - High School) are invited to join the Associate Minister Bridget Kelso Anthony upstairs in Room #209 after the Passing of the Peace.

Fall Playgroup: All children and caregivers are welcome free of charge on Wednesdays from 9:30am to 11:30 for songs, games and time to play in Fellowship Hall or in the yard (weather permitting). Crawlers are invited to a time of free play on the jigsaw mat set up in the atrium as Mr. Eric accompanies on the keyboard.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Sonia Alston	Evelyn Day	Jane Wai
Anna Svahn	Sylvia Rodriguez	Violetta Proano
Faught Family	Joe Tigner	Mesina Family
Brenda Jon	Margarita Vince- Allen	Branco Family
Alexis Agliano Sanborn	Whittaker Family	Vaughn Family
Sonia Ashmeade	Barbara Marin	Jorge Mantorell
Sandra Catena	Alderfer Famiy	Marco Antonio & Marilyn Calderon
Louise Tatum	Angela Espinal	Joan Bovers
Rosalyn Cuzco	Gwen Wood	

Our prayer partner today is: a member of the Congregational Care Team

If you would like to add someone to the prayer list or have a prayer concern please contact Rev. Dr.

Scott M. Kenefake at skenefake@fortwashingtonchurch.org or Bridget Anthony at banthony@fortwashingtonchurch.org or call (212) 568-4014

INFORMATION & PRAYER CARDS IN PEWS

If you would like to share your information with us or share a prayer request; please fill out the white information card or the green prayer cards.

Single Parent Support Group

The next meeting will be on Sunday, December 11th, at 12:30 pm, in the Worship Arts Room

GOD TALK

Join us Wednesday nights for dinner and a lively discussion. Dinner starts at 6:30 pm, followed by a Scripture reading and discussion at 7:00pm. The full schedule for 2016-2017 is on our website. Next meeting is on December 21st.

NOON PRAYER

Noon prayer will meet on Wednesdays in the North Room, led by Devora Jones

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We need nursery volunteers willing to help with childcare in both the morning and evening service.

STARBUCKS COFFEE BEFORE CHURCH

Join us for coffee and conversation **in the Glass Pavilion** before the morning worship service from 10:30 to 10:59 am.

EVENSONG SPEAKER (REFLECTORS)

Needed for January 8, 15, 22, & 29

CONSISTORY MINUTES ONLINE

Minutes of monthly Fort Washington **Consistory Minutes* and bi-monthly ***Collegiate Church Consistory Minutes* can be found on our website: www.fortwashingtonchurch.org

About Advent

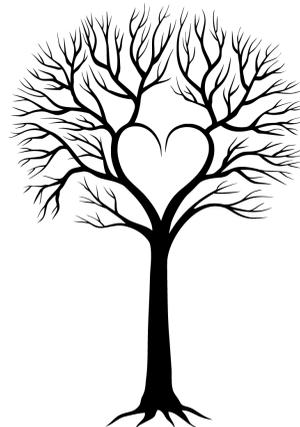
Things look different in church this time of year. We use blue or purple cloth and candles, and we have evergreen wreathes and garland. This time of year, when we start getting ready to celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas, is called Advent. Advent is a time of expectation. "Expectation" means "looking forward to something," and during Advent, we are looking forward to Jesus being born.

Feasting on the Word: Advent Companion, David L. Bartlett, Barbara Brown Taylor, and Kimberly Bracken Long, Editors



FALL STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Pledges for 2017 are now being received. Have we received yours? Electronic Pledge Cards and **on-line giving** can be found on our website at: www.fortwashingtonchurch.org/pledge/ Paper copies are available in the entrance to the sanctuary (vestibule).



HELP US SERVE YOU BETTER!

We need your volunteer and financial support to keep all of our excellent community, fellowship, and educational programs healthy and strong.

If you have any questions regarding volunteering or making a financial gift, please speak with Rev. Dr. Scott Kenefake, or Associate Minister Bridget Anthony. We thank you for your support!

BLUE CHRISTMAS/THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

Tuesday, December 20th, 7pm

The Blue Christmas service is a way to acknowledge the sadness some feel due to loss during a season in which the emphasis is on celebration, joy and gathering with family and friends. Typically this service is held on the eve of the Winter Equinox, the longest night of the year. Fort Washing Collegiate Church will be opening its doors to invite those from the community who might be seeking comfort and solace on this dark night.

AT THE COMMUNION TABLE TOGETHER

AN INVITATION TO ALL...

At Fort Washington Collegiate Church, we believe that the Communion celebration is a time to unite the body of Christ, and therefore, all are welcome to share in this meal, as one body, all people, adults and children together.

HOW WE SHARE TOGETHER...

Here at FWCC, this Christian sacrament, also known as the Eucharist or the Lord's Supper, is blessed by the minister and served by the ordained consistory members of our church. The communion elements are received by walking up the center aisle and taking, first, the bread, and then the juice, before returning to one's seat by the side aisles. So that everyone may have time and space to reflect and pray while receiving the sacrament, communion is a quiet and respectful time in our service.

We try to ensure that this sacrament is open to all who wish to receive it, and therefore, we always use juice instead of wine and offer gluten-free wafers on the glass platter. A member of our consistory will circulate with the communion elements throughout the sanctuary, so that anyone who is unable to come forward to the table can receive the sacrament at their seat.

FOR FAMILIES...

Parents who are taking communion together with their children are encouraged to accompany their children and receive the sacrament together. Children are very welcome to receive communion. To help children understand the sacrament at a fundamental level, we teach about communion and what it means to us at Fort Washington twice a year in all our Sunday school classes. We also offer additional, optional, classes about communion throughout the year for children and families who want to explore more fully the understanding of the sacrament of communion.

For families where children are not taking communion, either because of personal family traditions, or the choice to wait and have children take communion after baptism or attending the additional classes, we offer a blessing for children when they come forward with their parents. This allows parents to take communion and creates a special place for your children until they are ready to share in the sacrament.

COMMUNION SUNDAYS

As we are fed spiritually on communion Sundays, we ask that you remember the hungry and bring an offering of food for our food pantry. Offerings may be placed in the blue bins located in the sanctuary.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

December 4th/Second Sunday of Advent/Holy Communion, 11am
Isaiah 11:1-10; “*New Life Stirring*”-- Rev. Dr. Scott M. Kenefake, Preaching
Theme: Where do we find God? Hint: Wherever the “*new shoots*” of life are found!
5:30 pm, Evensong & Communion, Victoria Dillard, Reflector

December 11th/Third Sunday of Advent, 11am
Luke 1:47-55; “Sing a New Song” by Bridget Kelso Anthony, Preaching
Recognition/Reception for Elders Scott Simpson & Yvonne Henry/Dance Ministry
5:30 pm, Evensong & Communion, Devora Jones, Reflector

December 18th/Fourth Sunday of Advent, 11am
Isaiah 7:10-16, Matthew 1:18-25,
“*Immanuel: God With Us*”-- Rev. Dr. Scott M. Kenefake, Preaching
Theme: What kind of Messiah is this?
Children’s Christmas Pageant
5:30 pm, Evensong & Communion, Johanna Garcia, Reflector

December 20th, Blue Christmas/The Longest Night Service, 7:00 pm

December 24th/Christmas Eve, 5:30pm
A Service of Lessons & Carols

December 25th/Christmas Day, 11am
Carols & Communion

No *Evensong* on December 25th & January 1st

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Scott M. Kenefake, Interim Senior Pastor • **Bridget Kelso Anthony**, Associate Minister • **Eric Alderfer**, Director of Children's Ministry • **Chris Whittaker**, Director of Music • **Laurrinda Hatcher**, Treasurer • **Diana Morales**, Administrative and Operations Manager • **Lazaro Rodríguez**, Sexton • **Amable Morales**, Evening Receptionist • **Wilfredo Serrano**, Sexton

CONSISTORY

Elders: • Victoria Dillard • Jamie Cacciola-Price • Beverley Sheares

Deacons: • Lorenzo M. Alsberry • Brian Plane • Zoe Reyes

Intersections Ministry Deacons: Jay Godfrey • Anna Svahn

MEDIA UPDATES: www.FortWashingtonChurch.org
www.Facebook.com/FortWashingtonChurch

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