**Waiting with Peace**

**Gerrardstown Presbyterian Church**

**11am Worship Service**

**Second Sunday in Advent December 10, 2017**

**~*We Gather~***

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements, Joys and Concerns of the Church**

Please sign the red Friendship pad in the pew and pass along to others.

**\*Greet each other**

**Lighting of the Advent Candles** Gail and Stephen Zurenda

**Song of Response** #88O Come O Come Emanuel vs. 7

**\*Call to Worship** *(adapted from Is. 40)*

One: Prepare the way for the One who is coming!

**All: Who is coming? What should we get ready?**

One: The Prince of Peace is coming again. Smooth out the rough places, flatten out the mountains, raise up the valleys.

**All: How shall we do this? The task is too great and our numbers too few.**

One: We can make the pathways of our hearts ready in worship, as we prepare to welcome the Lord anew.

**All: Let us prepare our hearts as we sing praise, giving God glory!**

**\*Hymn of Praise**: #106 Prepare the Way, O Zion

**~*We Confess our Sin and Receive Pardon*~**

**Call to Reconciliation:** There is unevenness in our lives and our attention. We are singing Hallelujahs one minute and sad and discouraged the next. Let us offer our roller coaster emotions to God in our prayer of confession.

**Prayer for Confession:** (unison) **Holy Lord, our God, there is nothing unbalanced in your majesty or powerful glory. Your love is steadfast and true, your faithfulness dependable. We, however are like dust, like flowers that fade and grass that withers. Our attention is scattered and peace seems to hardly endure amid our forgetfulness and varied emotions. May we, with your help, pursue the peace your Son Jesus gives, which passes all our understanding as we await his return** **…***Silence is kept*

**Assurance of Pardon**

One: Forgiveness, which is a seed of peace is given to you and me.

**All: Praise God from whom all blessings flow! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

***~We Hear a Word from the Lord~***

**Anthem** GPC Music Team

**Children’s Message**

**Hymn of Meditation** #123 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

**Prayer of Illumination**

**First Scripture Lessons:** Judges 6: 9-24, Isaiah 9:6-7

Leader: The Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** Waiting With Peace

**Second Scripture Lessons:** Matt. 10:34; Luke 2: 14; John 14:27; 16:33

***~We Respond in Joyful Service~***

**Prayers of Intercession**

**Call to Offering**

**Offertory**

**\*Doxology**

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**\*Apostles Creed**

 **~*We Go Forth to Serve*~**

**\*Closing Hymn:** #121 O Little Town of Bethlehem

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Benediction Response:** #88 Refrain **“Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**Postlude**

**Jessica Grubb, Lay Leader**

**Beverly Hughes, Organist**

**Rev. Karen Greenawalt, Pastor**

**\*You are invited to stand**

**Welcome to Gerrardstown Presbyterian Church. We are glad you are here!** If you are a first time guest, please fill out the Red Friendship pads in the pew. We invite you to prayerfully consider GPC a place to call home. If you would like to become a member please talk to Pastor Karen.

**Children are a vital part of our congregation.** Each Sunday we offer Sunday school at 9:45am downstairs, a Children’s Message in worship and Children’s Church downstairs after the Children’s Message. Child care is also available in the nursery downstairs for all those 2 years and younger.

**Advent Wreath:** In the ancient world, various peoples lit fires to mark the turning of the light into winter’s season and to pray for the return of the light. The church has Christianized that practice in the lighting of the Advent wreath. To us, these candles are signs of the growing light of Christ who is coming again in all fullness into the darkness of our world. Until the dawning of that Great Day, we watch and wait in the Holy Spirit for Christ’s coming into the darkness of our world, lighting candles of hope, peace, joy, and love; and remembering the promises of God with prayer and thanksgiving.

**Upcoming Events- Mark your Calendars!**

**Wed. Dec. 13, 20 – GPC Music Team practice – 6:30pm**

**Sun. Dec. 24 -Christmas Eve – One service that day at 4pm**

No 11am worship service that day.

**Sun. Dec. 31 – New Year’s Eve Worship, Communion and the Installation of new Elders at 11am**

**Rescue Mission needs Christmas Cookies and small wrapped gifts for men.** Please bring items and place in bin the Sanctuary by Sunday Dec. 17th.

**Families in need this Christmas - please write a check or give cash to GPC with *Christmas for Families* in the memo line or on the envelope.**

**To contact Pastor Karen** please call the church office 304-229-2316 or her cell 407-619-2821. The church email is gerrardstpc@gmail.com , our webpage is http://gerrardstownpc.com/ . Like us on Facebook at Gerrardstown Presbyterian Church Life



Come join the Christmas Angels in rejoicing over Jesus’ Birth!

Sunday December 24th

**Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship**

**At 4pm**

Only One service that day!