

The Season of Advent

Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas, November 27, 2016. Advent is a holy season in the Christian calendar. It is the beginning of the liturgical calendar. The themes of Advent are publicly affirmed, as well as displayed, by the use of Advent candles lit on the Sundays of Advent. A final candle represents Christ and is lit on Christmas Day. It is a time to celebrate light in the midst of darkness, as symbolized best by the Advent wreath. The word Advent means "the coming". It is a time that has many purposes. Advent is a time of expectations, anticipation and celebration as we center our thoughts and actions on three events: (1) the joyful event of Christ's birth, (2) the promise of his return, and (3) the continued presence of the Divine in our lives.

The Advent Wreath's Meaning:

The Advent wreath is made up of two basic parts: the wreath itself and the candles. The wreath is made of evergreen, either real or artificial. Its circular shape represents eternity, for it has no beginning and no end. The evergreen was chosen as it symbolizes growth and everlasting life. There are four candles, three purple and one pink. They represent the four weeks of preparation. As another candle is lit each week, we are reminded of the growing light of Christ's presence.

Jesus' birth on earth is the real cause for Christmas. Advent is more a time of preparation and expectation of the coming of the Lord

The Lighting of the Candles:

1st CANDLE- (purple) "CANDLE OF HOPE"

We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises he made to us. Our hope comes from God. (Romans 15:12-13)

2nd CANDLE- (purple) "CANDLE OF PEACE"

Christ's coming calls us to Peace (Luke 1:68-79)

3rd CANDLE- (pink) "CANDLE OF JOY"

The angels sang a message of JOY! (Luke 2:7-15)

4th CANDLE- (purple) "CANDLE OF LOVE"

God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! (John 3:16-17)

5th CANDLE - (white) "CHRIST CANDLE"

The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins!

His birth was for his death, his death was for our birth! (John 1:29 and John 3:1-8)

. The meaning of the candles is as follows:

First Purple candle: represents hope.

Third, pink candle: represents joy.

Second Purple Candle: stands for love.

Fourth purple candle: is a symbol of peace.

Advent Wreath

The Advent Wreath is made of evergreens and may be any size. There are four candles, one for each week of Advent. The color of the candle is not an essential factor because the symbolism is primarily in the flame. It is traditional that three of the candles be violet or purple, the traditional color of Advent and one is rose. The rose candle is lit the third Sunday of Advent, for this color anticipates and symbolizes the Christmas joy announced in the first word of the Entrance Antiphon: "Rejoice" (Latin, Gaudete). For this reason the Third Sunday is also called Gaudete Sunday, and rose color vestments are permitted. The Advent Wreath represents the long time when people lived in spiritual darkness, waiting for the coming of the Messiah, the Light of the world. Each year in Advent people wait once again in darkness for the coming of the Lord, His historical coming in the mystery of Bethlehem, His final coming at the end of time, and His special coming in every moment of grace. During Advent, family and friends can gather around the Advent Wreath lighting the appropriate candle(s), read from the daily Advent meditation and sing songs. The Church's official *Book of Blessings* also provides a blessing ceremony for the advent wreath which can be used in the absence of a priest. It is a very special time, as Christians wait and prepare for the coming of the Lord, Jesus whose birth we celebrate on Christmas. Jesus' birth on earth is the real cause for Christmas. Advent is more a time of preparation and expectation of the coming of the Lord.



Quioccasin Baptist Church

Sesquicentennial Anniversary 1866 - 2016

9011 Quioccasin Road - Henrico, Virginia 23229
Church Office: (804) 741-2313 - Fax: (804) 741-1501

Sunday, December 18, 2016
4th Sunday of Advent

Love



Reverend Dr. Earl Leslie Bledsoe
Interim Pastor

The Celebration of Morning Worship.....7:55 A.M.
The PreludeMs. Angela M. Mosley
“There’s Something About That Name” No. 22
Advent - Compassion

Lighting of the Advent wreath.

READER 1

1 Corinthians 9:22

To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some.

REFLECT (LEADER)

Compassion is a personal quality that shows love and concern for others. God sent His Son, Jesus into the world because of His compassion for humankind. Jesus came to teach us how to show compassion one to the other. As this Advent Season draws us closer and closer to the birth of Jesus, we are reminded to be compassionate towards others, who may feel powerless over their challenges or circumstances.

READER 2

Matthew 1:18-21

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

READER 3

Psalms 80:1-3

Hear us, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock; you who sit enthroned between the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh. Awaken your might; come and save us. Restore us, O God; make your face shine upon us, that we may be saved.

LIGHT CANDLE 4

LEADER

Today, we re-light the candles of **HOPE, PEACE, JOY**; and, we light the **LOVE** candle to remind us of God's compassionate love for us through Christ Jesus.

RESPOND (Congregation)

Be intentional this week! Show God's love and compassion for others by praying for and taking up a special offering for the Lott Carey Haiti Relief Fund to build houses for the thousands of persons who are still suffering and homeless from the aftermath of the worst earthquake there in 200 years.

Be intentional this week by giving two hours of time for someone you know who is a caregiver.

The Responsive Reading.....Minister/Congregation
“THE LORD’S SUPPER” No. 598

The Hymn of Praise and Adoration No. 87
“THE FIRST NOEL”

THE MUSICAL INTERLUDE

The Welcome/Announcements/Recognitions.....Deacon Edith Lomax, Church Clerk

THE MUSICAL INTERLUDE

OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN LIST
PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN MEMBERS

- Mrs. Dorothy Clark 1261 Marywood Lane, Apt 311
- Mr. Moses Fenner 2903 Lawson Street, 23224
- Deaconess Florine Fleming..... Eliz. Crump, 3600 Mountain Rd, Glen Allen, Room A4**
- Mrs. Helen FosterBeth Sholom Lifecare – 1600 John Rolfe Prkwy - Room 111/Unit 3**
- Miss Helena Fountain..... 607 Fountain Lane
- Mrs. Denise Hardy 10640 Anna Marie Drive
- Mr. Herbert Jackson 709 Parham Road
- Ms. Joyce Johnson..... 8300 Ridge Road
- Ms. Everlena King..... 4403 Forest Hill Avenue
- Ms. Marjorie McIntyre 1261 Marywood Lane, Apt 209
- Mrs. Josephine Norrell 2514 Shadyside Avenue, Suitland, MD 20746
- Mrs. Emma J. Truman.....Morningside of the West End, 3000 Skipwith Road, Unit 241
- Mrs. Florence Tyler..... 4551 Sadler Road
- Reverend P. Frances Watson..... 121 Taylor Avenue West, Hampton, Virginia 23663
- Mr. James Woodson..... 3221 French Street

HOW MAY WE SERVE YOU?

- Sickness in the Home
- Desires Offering Envelopes
- Moved to the Address Below
- A Newcomer in the Community
- Seeking Church Membership
- Desires A Pastoral Call
- Children for Church School
- In Need of Prayer

NAME _____ PHONE _____
 ADDRESS _____ DATE _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

Information supplied by: _____
 Please check desired one(s), tear off, and place in the offering plate or give to the Minister.

DEACONS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Deacon Jack Stuart (804) 270-3816 and Deacon William Hudgins
 (804) 270-1386. Please inform them of any persons that are sick.

Website: www.quioccasin.org - Email: qbc@quioccasin.org

Announcements

TODAY after 11:00 A.M. service: Come join the youth as they decorate the Chrismon Tree in the New Fellowship Hall .
 (The sheet with the definition of Chrismon Tree including the list of ornaments is located on the piano.)

<p>December 19 at 6:30 P.M.</p> <p>December 19 at 6:00 P.M.</p> <p>December 19 at 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>December 21 at 11:00 A.M.</p> <p>December 21 at 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>December 24 at 11:00 A.M.</p> <p>December 25 at 8:00 A.M.</p> <p>December 28 at 11:00 A.M.</p> <p>December 28 at 6:45 P.M.</p> <p>December 28 at 7:30 P.M.</p> <p>December 29 at 7:00 P.M.</p> <p>December 30 at 6:15 P.M.</p> <p>December 31 at 11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.</p> <p>December 31</p> <p>January 1 at 8:30 A.M.</p> <p>January 1 at 10:00 A.M.</p> <p>January 5 at 6:00 P. M.</p> <p>January 7 at 8:30 A.M.</p> <p>January 7 at 11:00 A.M.</p> <p>January 12 at 6:30 P.M.</p> <p>January 14 at 8:30 A.M.</p> <p>Janury 14 at 10:00 A.M.</p> <p>January 16 at 11:30 A.M.</p> <p>January 21 at 9:00 A.M.</p>	<p>Deacons Conference of Richmond and Vicinity meeting, First African Baptist Church, 2700 Hanes Avenue, Richmond, VA</p> <p>Commission on Finance meeting</p> <p>Women in Mission Ministry meeting</p> <p>Aging with Grace Senior Citizens – no meeting</p> <p>Christmas Play “A Christmas to Believe In” – New Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Holiday - No Choral Ensemble rehearsal</p> <p>Christmas Worship Service – no Sunday School</p> <p>Aging with Grace Senior Citizens meeting</p> <p>Bible Study – Reverend Dr. Earl Bledsoe</p> <p>Prayer and Praise</p> <p>Sanctuary Choir rehearsal</p> <p>Children/Youth Choir rehearsal</p> <p>Aging with Grace “New Year’s Eve Brunch” featuring “Debo.” Donation \$25 – see any Aging with Grace member for a ticket.</p> <p>Joint Watch Night Worship Service hosted by Saint James Baptist Church, 401 Blair Road, Richmond, VA 23238 6:30 P.M. – 7:30 P.M. Dinner; 7:30 P.M. – 8:00 P.M. Prayer and Praise; 8:00 P.M. – 10.00 P.M. – Watch Night Worship Service</p> <p>Sunday School</p> <p>Morning Worship Service</p> <p>Usher meeting</p> <p>Men’s Fellowship meeting at Golden Choral</p> <p>Choral Ensemble rehearsal</p> <p>Male Chorus rehearsal</p> <p>Deacon’s meeting</p> <p>Deaconess meeting</p> <p>Henrico County, Va. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration Assoc. Board is honoring Dr. King at Henrico High School, 302 Azalea Ave/, Richmond, VA.</p> <p>Media committee meeting</p>
--	---

Due to a change in our Food Pantry operation, we are requesting members to donate a can good or package dry good each week in the month of December.

All scripture for Advent is taken from the New International Version (NIV)
Credit for Advent reflections:
A special thanks to The Reverend Dr. Patricia E. Coker-Bell for contributing the 2010 Advent reflections. Dr. Coker-Bell served as a member of the BGC Christian Education Leadership Team for several years. She was awarded both the M.Div. and D. Min. degrees from the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University. Currently she is a member of the BGC Writing Team. Dr. Coker-Bell serves as the Assistant Director of Christian Education for Training and Development at the Grove Baptist Church in Portsmouth where The Reverend Dr. Melvin O. Marriner is the Senior Pastor.

The Scripture.....	Minister
	“John 17:1-13”
Special Music.....	The Volunteer Choir
	“Glory Be to God on High”
	No. 88
The Prayer	Minister
The Prayer Response	Volunteer Choir/Congregation
	“Silent Night! Holy Night!”
	No. 101
THE MUSICAL INTERLUDE	
The Stewardship Challenge/Prayer.....	Deacon Vaughn Dennis
	“1 Corinthians 16:1-2”
THE MUSICAL OFFERING/TITHES/OFFERINGS	
(Benevolence).....	In Unison
	“Psalm 24” ^{KJV}
(MORTGAGE)	Ushers/Deacons/Congregation
	“Praise Him!”
(Tithes/General).....	Ushers/Deacons/Congregation
	“We’ve Come This Far by Faith”
	No. 529
The Offertory Prayer.....	Deacon Jack Stuart
The Offertory Response	No. 559
	“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”
The Hymn of Preparation	The Volunteer Choir
	“Angels We Have Heard on High”
	No. 89
The Sermon	Reverend Dr. Earl L. Bledsoe
	Interim Pastor
	“JOHN’S CLAIMS FROM JESUS’ PRAYER”
THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP	
The Invitational Hymn.....	No. 81
	“Jesus, the Light of the World”
	<u>THE LORD’S SUPPER</u>
The Invitational Statement	Reverend Dr. Bledsoe
The Prayer of Confession/Dedication	
The Pardon	No. 206
	“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”
THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER	
	“Let Us Break Bread Together”
	No. 358
	“There Is a Fountain”
	No. 142
The Closing Prayer/Benediction/Grace.....	Reverend Dr. Bledsoe
The Choral Response	Choir/Congregation
	“The Lord’s Prayer”
	No. 540
The Hymn of Fellowship/Dedication	No. 92
	“Go, Tell it on the Mountain”
<<<The Church School	9:30 A.M.>>>
	Deacon Arthur W. Byrd, Jr. – Superintendent

The Period of Prayer and Praise 10:40 A.M.
The Celebration of Morning Worship..... 10:55 A.M.

The Prelude Mr. Paul Locke
The Introit

“I Feel Jesus”
Advent - Compassion

Lighting of the Advent wreath.

READER 1

1 Corinthians 9:22

To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some.

REFLECT (LEADER)

Compassion is a personal quality that shows love and concern for others. God sent His Son, Jesus into the world because of His compassion for humankind. Jesus came to teach us how to show compassion one to the other. As this Advent Season draws us closer and closer to the birth of Jesus, we are reminded to be compassionate towards others, who may feel powerless over their challenges or circumstances.

READER 2

Matthew 1:18-21

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

READER 3

Psalms 80:1-3

Hear us, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock; you who sit enthroned between the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh. Awaken your might; come and save us. Restore us, O God; make your face shine upon us, that we may be saved.

LIGHT CANDLE 4

LEADER

Today, we re-light the candles of **HOPE, PEACE, JOY**; and, we light the **LOVE** candle to remind us of God's compassionate love for us through Christ Jesus.

RESPOND (Congregation)

Be intentional this week! Show God's love and compassion for others by praying for and taking up a special offering for the Lott Carey Haiti Relief Fund to build houses for the thousands of persons who are still suffering and homeless from the aftermath of the worst earthquake there in 200 years.

Be intentional this week by giving two hours of time for someone you know who is a caregiver.

The Responsive Reading..... Minister/Congregation

“THE LORD’S SUPPER” **No. 598**

The Hymn of Praise and Adoration **No. 87**

“THE FIRST NOEL”

THE MUSICAL INTERLUDE

The Welcome/Announcements/Recognitions Deacon Edith Lomax, Church Clerk
THE MUSICAL INTERLUDE
Special Music The Sanctuary Choir
The Scripture..... Minister

“John 17:1-13”

Special Music The Male Chorus

The Prayer Minister

The Prayer Response Choir/Congregation

“I Must Tell Jesus” **No.340**

THE MUSICAL INTERLUDE

The Stewardship Challenge/Prayer..... Deacon Jack Stuart

“1 Corinthians 16:1-2”

THE MUSICAL OFFERING/TITHES/OFFERINGS

(Benevolence)..... In Unison

“Psalm 24” KJV

(MORTGAGE)..... Ushers/Deacons/Congregation

“Praise Him!”

(Tithes/General)..... Ushers/Deacons/Congregation

“We’ve Come This Far by Faith” **No. 529**

The Offertory Prayer..... Deacon Vaughn Dennis

The Offertory Response **No. 559**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

The Preparatory Selection..... The Sanctuary Choir

The Sermon **Reverend Dr. Earl Leslie Bledsoe**

Interim Pastor

“JOHN’S CLAIMS FROM JESUS’ PRAYER”

THE INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

The Invitational Hymn..... **No. 101**

“Jesus, the Light of the World”

THE LORD’S SUPPER

The Invitational Statement Reverend Dr. Bledsoe

The Prayer of Confession/Dedication

The Pardon **No. 206**

“Have Thine Own Way, Lord”

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

“Let Us Break Bread Together” **No. 358**

“There Is a Fountain” **No. 142**

The Closing Prayer/Benediction..... Reverend Dr. Bledsoe

The Choral Response Choir/Congregation

“The Lord’s Prayer” **No. 540**

The Hymn of Fellowship/Dedication **No. 92**

“Go, Tell it on the Mountain”