

CLARKE PARISH

Grace Episcopal Church / St. Mary's Memorial Church

THE EVANGELINE

November 24, 2021



FROM THE OFFICE

COVID TRACKER
Clarke County, VA

Nov. 24, 2021

RED ALERT (High)

While we remain in either **RED** (high) or **ORANGE** (substantial), we will continue to require masks at all Clarke Parish services.

If we drop to **YELLOW** (moderate) or **BLUE** (low) for 14 consecutive days, we will lift the mask mandate.
It **MUST** be 14

Reflections

Dear Friends:

As we begin this new season of ministry together after last Saturday's wonderful celebration, what better time to begin this new season than a season founded on beginnings - Advent.

Advent signifies the beginning of the Church's year. You have done a lot of waiting and longing during this transition but now we enter the season of waiting and longing. However, this season is not just about beginnings and waiting for a saviour to redeem the world. It is also a season about hope. There has long been a tradition in Latin Rite Church - what is now the modern Roman Catholic Church to see Advent as a season of penance much like that of Lent. However, there is a lesser-known tradition in the Church to view Advent as a season of hope. This tradition is in many ways far more Anglican since it developed in Old Sarum (modern-day Salisbury) in England. The color is not the penitential

consecutive days
though in
accordance with
CDC guidelines.

If you wish to monitor
this information, you
may use the following
link using the CDC
website, and select
Virginia and Clarke
County.

<https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#county-view>.

Community Transmission

High

New Cases - 18

Positivity - 31.52%

Deaths - 0

Eligible Population Fully

Vaccinated - 65.5%

purple but rather what is known as Sarum Blue. The Sarum Rite was the Rite being used in the Roman Catholic Church in England up until the Reformation and in fact, is the basis for modern Anglican rites. For example, the tradition that we use here for "High" services such as last Saturday of the celebrant only wearing the chasuble for the celebration of the Eucharist is a Sarum tradition and not one you will find in most modern Roman Catholic churches where the celebrant wears the chasuble throughout.

This Sunday - the first in Advent - we will bless our new Sarum Blue Altar hangings and vestments at Grace that were given in memory of two long-time parishioners, Ann Heard and Bing Germelman.

St. Mary's will continue the modern Latin tradition of purple. So we will have both traditions represented in this parish, at least for the time being.

Wishing you all a blessed Advent,
Justin+

Coffee with the Clergy:

Please join me on Monday afternoons at Cordial Coffee in Berryville from 2-4 pm. This time is meant for parishioners and community members alike to come down and share a cup of coffee/tea and some conversation with me. I hope to see you soon!

SERVICE SCHEDULE

Evening Taize Service

November 27, 2021

5 pm in the McIntosh Chapel at GEC

Taize

Celebrant: Rev. Justin Ivatts

Seminarian: Caroline Mitchell

Lay Reader: Penny Poe

Pianist: Wendy Oesterling

First Sunday of Advent

November 28, 2021

8 am at Grace Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist (Rite I)

Celebrant: Rev. Justin Ivatts

Seminarian: Caroline Mitchell
Lay Reader: Wendy Oesterling

9:15 am at St. Mary's Memorial Church

Holy Eucharist (Rite I)

Celebrant: Rev. Justin Ivatts

Seminarian/Lay Reader: Caroline Mitchell

Pianists: Hailey Outland & Helena Goldberg

11:15 at Grace Episcopal Church

Holy Eucharist (Rite I)

Celebrant: Rev. Justin Ivatts

Seminarian: Caroline Mitchell

Lay Reader: Robin McFillen

Acolytes: Stella Herndon & Gray Jones

Organist: Wendy Oesterling

[Click HERE - Lectionary Insert for Nov. 28, 2021](#)

Jeremiah 33:14-16 / Psalm 25:1-9 / 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 / Luke 21:25-36

*The altar flowers at Grace Church are given to the glory of God
by Kathy & Jon Campbell in loving memory of their son,
Graham Robert Campbell.*

NOTE

Instead of regular Sunday School classes this week,
everyone is invited to participate in an Advent Wreath Workshop
in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 10 am.

Virtual Worship

For those of you still wishing to join us virtually instead of attending in-person worship,
the 11:15 am service at Grace Church will continue to be live-streamed each week.

Please use the links below to view the service offerings.

These links are permanent and will not change week after week.

Our YouTube page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTT0nfgs77DzKrl2qxC38Cg>

Our Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Grace-Episcopal-Church-111667788869782>

CHURCH NEWS

Always stay up-to-date with events and activities

Church Calendar - Quick View!



November 24-26 - Office CLOSED! Thanksgiving Holiday

November 27 - Evening Taize Services BEGIN / 5 pm in the McIntosh Chapel

November 28 - Blessing & Dedication of new altar hangings / a beautiful new set of custom-made blue altar hangings will be dedicated for use at Grace Church during the 11:15 am service. These hangings are given to the glory of God in memory of past parishioners, Ann Robertson Heard and Carle F. Germelman, Jr.

November 28 - **Advent Wreath Workshop!** / 10 am in the Fellowship Hall at GEC. In lieu of regular Christian Education classes (youth and adult), everyone is invited to join us to make a beautiful Advent Wreath for their home using fresh greenery clipped from trees and bushes found on the church campus. Suggested donation \$15.

December 4 - Evening Taize Service / 5 pm in the McIntosh Chapel

December 5 - Piedmont Singers "Christmas in Our Hearts" Concert/ 4 pm at Grace Church

December 7 - St. Mary's Vestry Meeting / 1 pm in the Parish House

December 11 - Main Street Chamber Orchestra "The Nutcracker" / 3 pm at Grace Church

December 11 - Evening Taize Service / 5 pm in the McIntosh Chapel

December 18 - Evening Taize Service / 5 pm in the McIntosh Chapel

December 19 - Only one service of worship will be offered this morning beginning at 10:15 am @ St. Mary's.

December 19 - NO Sunday School Classes!

December 19 - Service of Nine Lessons & Carols/ 6 pm at Grace Church

December 20 - GEC Vestry Meeting / 7 pm in the Conference Room

December 24 - Christmas Eve Services / 5 & 11 pm at Grace Church

December 25 - Christmas Day Service / 9:15 am at St. Mary's

December 26 - Only one service of worship will be offered this morning beginning at 10:15 am @ Grace Church / Morning Prayer with Caroline

December 27-31 - OFFICE CLOSED!

TAIZE in Advent!

Saturday Evenings beginning on November 27th



During the Season of Advent, Clarke Parish will offer special Saturday evening Taize services for our church family and the community. Everyone is welcome!

These services will begin at 5 pm in the McIntosh Chapel at GEC every Saturday in Advent - Nov. 27, Dec. 4, Dec. 11 and Dec. 18.

What is Taize? Taize is an ecumenical type of worship that originated in 1940 in the small village of Taize, which lies in the southern part of Burgundy, France, by a monk named Roger Louis Shutz-Marsauche. The practice has spread worldwide since it is non-denominational and seeks to unite all forms of Christianity. A candlelit, contemplative service highlighted by repetitive prayers and music, and periods of silence, Taize allows attendees the opportunity to be in peaceful prayer and unity with God and their own spirituality. "According to the official Taize Community, the repetitive songs allow people to continue to pray the songs in their heads even after the service is over. This keeps prayer going all day long in the followers' minds and hearts."

Advent Wreath Workshop

Sunday, November 28 - 10 am
Fellowship Hall at GEC



In lieu of regular Christian Education classes (youth and adult), everyone is invited instead to join us in the fellowship hall to make a beautiful Advent Wreath for their home using fresh greenery clipped from trees and bushes found on the church campus.

This workshop is open to all - Suggested donation \$15

The Backpack Program Holiday Food Drive



The Backpack Ministry is in full swing for the 21-22 school year. Clarke Parish is currently packing 36 bags each week that are distributed to two schools in Clarke County. Our volunteers are absolutely awesome as they are always reliable and extremely generous in so many ways.

We are getting geared up for our holiday packing and can use your help. When you are out shopping, consider adding any of the following items to your grocery list and dropping it off in the donation box in the Parish Hall.

- Canned Pasta (spaghettios, ravioli, etc.)
- Canned Chili/Stew
- Vienna Sausage
- Tuna
- Ramen Noodles
- Fruit Cups/Bags

As always, many thanks for your support.
Susan Catlett, Coordinator

CLARKE COUNTY HOLIDAY GIFT PROGRAM

Community Outreach

Please help us spread holiday cheer throughout our community!



Clarke Parish has again partnered with our local Dept. of Social Services agency to help community members in need this holiday season. We have 'adopted' a bunch of people from the 'Angel Tree' who are in need of some extra love and assistance right now.

We need your help - In these difficult and uncertain times, the demand for assistance is greater than usual. Let's come together as a parish to lend a hand and help our neighbors!

If you would like to sponsor an 'Angel Tree' recipient (11 adults / 8 children) this holiday season, please contact Robin in the church office at 540.955.1610 OR amzgrace@verizon.net. We have requests from children, teens, adults, and the elderly - wherever your heart lies, we can match you with an appreciative recipient. Will you lend a hand? Still facing the challenges of COVID in our lives, the majority of our adult and elderly adoptees would prefer gift cards to local retailers instead of specific items. Walmart, Martins Grocery, the Dollar General Store, and Amazon gift cards seem to be the overwhelming favorites. That's pretty easy, right? The children too like gift cards, but they also have specific 'wish list' items like coloring books, lego sets, jigsaw puzzles, pop-its, arts & craft supplies, etc...

I'd like to encourage our readers (congregants and friends) to please consider supporting this important program. Your help can be as simple as buying gift card(s) and sending them in the office OR simply making a monetary contribution and we'll do the shopping.

With Heartfelt Blessings -

Robin McFillen, Parish Administrator & Director of Christian Education / Youth Activities

NOTE - Our gift offerings **MUST** be returned to the Dept. of Social Services no later than December 10th! We'll use the office as a collection site.

All 'Angel Tree' recipient information will be kept confidential. No names will be released.

HOLIDAY CONCERT

The Piedmont Singers Present "Christmas in Our Hearts"

Saturday, December 4 @ 7 pm - Grace Church, The Plains

Sunday, December 5 @ 4 pm - Grace Church, Berryville

Many of our "regular" holiday activities and practices were turned upside down by the pandemic, leaving big holes in our hearts. For many of us, Christmas does not seem like Christmas at all without beautiful live Christmas music.

This was surely the case for **The Piedmont Singers**, the musical outreach ministry that came to Grace Church in early 2020. At Christmas 2020, The Piedmont Singers were silent, along with choirs around the world, celebrating Christmas in their hearts.

The Piedmont Singers began as a "musical outreach ministry" at Emmanuel Church in Middleburg with singers from churches across our region presenting Handel's *Messiah* in December 1999. Since then, the choir has gained a reputation for presenting the finest in sacred choral music from many periods and genres for Christmas and during Holy Week. Today The Piedmont Singers are at home and serve as a music ministry at both Grace Church in Berryville and Grace Church in The Plains. We are delighted to be surrounded by Grace!

Christmas 2021 brings The Piedmont Singers back to live concerts with **Christmas In Our Hearts**, presenting "musical comfort food" at Grace Church in The Plains on Saturday, Dec. 4, at 7:00 pm, and at Grace Church in Berryville on Sunday, Dec. 5, at 4:00 pm. The concerts are open to the public and free of charge. Donations will

be gratefully accepted. Masks are required.

We look forward to sharing wonderful music to fill all our hearts with beautiful images of the Christ-child coming to earth, including "Christ Is the Morning Star" by John Rutter. We hope you can join us!

Wendy O.



Online Giving

It's as easy as 1,2,3...

We have partnered with [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly) - a trusted platform to provide a simple, convenient, and secure way to continue supporting our ministry through online giving from anywhere at any time.

Please consider this option to make a pledge or one-time payment to the church. You can also set up recurring payments, and likewise, you can utilize [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly) to give to the General Fund, Grace Giving, St. Mary's Giving, the Rector's Discretionary Fund, the Backpack Program, or 'Other' by selecting from the drop-down menu options.

[Click HERE to Give Online Now](#)

The [Tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly) link is also available by visiting the Parish Website at www.ClarkeParish.org

Grace Episcopal Church & St. Mary's Memorial Church | 540.955.1610
amzgrace@verizon.net | www.clarkeparish.org