

Order of Worship
December 9, 2018
Children's Christmas Program
Grace Church of Columbiana
The Rev. Dr. Robert C. Joy, Pastor

Mrs. Judy Bott, Organist

Mr. Harry Hofmeister, Music Director

*Indicates an invitation to stand. If you are more comfortable being seated, please do so.

Welcome to Grace Church! We are glad you have joined us today to worship God!

If you would like to receive our newsletter, *Grace Notes*, or receive email updates from the church, please record your name and address and/or email address. If you have a prayer request, please write it on the 3 x 5 card provided and place it face down in the silver prayer offering plate. They will be read by the minister at prayer time. Out of respect for God and consideration for your neighbor, please take a moment and turn your cellphone or electronic device completely off.

The Gathering of God's People

Prelude

The Ringing of the Bell (The bell has been used by Grace Church for many years as a means of calling all God's people to worship.)

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the Advent Wreath:

Colleen Eisenbraun

We Worship the Lord in Spirit and in Truth

*Call to Worship: (responsive, from Isaiah 40)

Leader: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.

People: A voice cries out!

Leader: In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

People: Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

Leader: Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

People: And all the people shall see it together.

Leader: For the mouth of the Lord has spoken!

*Advent Hymn: #132

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

*Prayer of Praise and the Lord's Prayer

Good and gracious God, we give you thanks for gifts of life, for love and joy, for comfort and peace, for healing and mercy, for patience and serenity, but most of all for hope as we prepare for Christmas. Christ's presence changes our world, so we pray that he may indeed be born in us once again, that we may be continually born anew, that the whole world would be reshaped and

reborn as your kingdom emerges around us and within us, through Jesus who taught us to pray, Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Gloria Patri #807

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

We Join Together in Prayer

Sharing Our Concerns and Praises

Prayers of the People

Honoring God with Our Giving

Call to Giving

Offertory

*Doxology: #808

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Hearing of the Word

We are proud to present to you:

"The Christmas Story in Carols"

Here are the songs. If there are hymn numbers and verse numbers listed with the song, the congregation is invited to join in all verses after the children sing the first verse.

Santa Claus is Coming to Town

Jingle Bells

#155 (verses 1, 2, 4)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

#164 (verses 1, 3)

Silent Night, Holy Night

#171 (verses 1, 3)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

#162 (verses 1, 2)

The First Noel

#146 (verses 1, 2, 4)

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

We Wish You a Merry Christmas!

Thanks to the cast, the parents who helped out, and to Alison Hoskinson who put it all together!

*Postlude

Announcements

GRO would like to invite anyone who is interested to attend the ***Stambaugh Chorus Holiday Concert***. The Stambaugh Chorus along with the Community Concert Band will host a concert on Sunday, December 16 at 4:00 p.m., to benefit the Second Harvest Food Bank. The concert is free, but goodwill offerings are encouraged and accepted at the door. There is a sign up in the dining hall if you would like to go with us.

GRO's Mission for December is ***Heifer International***. For a donation you can help purchase livestock for an impoverished family. Giving a family livestock is like giving them a small business by helping them produce eggs, wool, milk or even honey. This helps them to sustain a livelihood for their family and the community. See Debbie Rohm to make your donation and add your "animal" to the dining room tree!

GRO will also sponsor the ***Memorial Christmas Eve Luminaries***. For the donation of a small canned good you may select a bag for your tribute. The donation box and bags are available in the dining room.

There will be ***Congregational Meeting*** immediately following the worship service on December 30, to elect another member of Consistory.

MyEoffering is a service we've teamed up with to give you the ability to send your offerings online in the same way that many of you already pay bills and purchase products. We chose to use myEoffering because they are part of a trusted, Christian family-owned company, who have been serving the needs of churches for nearly 100 years. To sign up, go to our church web site, gracechurchcolumbiana.com, and look for the green computer mouse icon. That will then lead you to the myEoffering page for our church, and will direct you on how to sign-up.

Pastor's Note: Don't leave without being a blessing to someone else. Please join us for coffee hour in fellowship hall. You may join a table or stand and mingle!

Also: Sermon copies are usually available on the prayer request table by the door. Past weeks' sermons are on the larger table by the door. Take a copy as you come in or as you leave, or to a friend!

Coming Up:

Sunday, December 16, Choir Cantata

Monday, December 24, 7:00 p.m., Christmas Eve Service

Sunday, December 30, after worship, Congregational Meeting

Remember in Prayer: Georgette Keylor, Nathan Daprile, Christine Romigh, Nancy Reash Garstick, Levi Gaskins, Terri Hoskinson, Jon McMaster, Dennis Weber, Anna May Duffy, Sue Ferguson, Linda Surace, Richard & Mary Ann Rezek, Karl Bott, Jim & Mary Liggitt, Hube Keylor, Ron Beckham, Kevin Channell, Janis Steitz, Ed Todd, Ruth Zarnosky, Don Gormley, Tom Bell, Cara Surace, Rick Weber, Cindy McCue, Patricia Connolly, Ron Smith and Alyce Drakulich

Those Ministering Today:

GREETERS: Joyce & Dick McKee

NURSERY: Jenny Barnett

CANDLES: Ann Gustafson

LITURGIST: Children's Program

USHER: Logan Cope

ELEVATOR: Steve Barnett

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Monday	7:00 p.m.	GRO
Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Pastor Rob will be at McDonald's
Wednesday	6:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
Next Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Choir Practice
	9:30 a.m.	Sunday school
	10:45 a.m.	Worship Service

Those Ministering Next Sunday:

GREETERS: Rich & Jo Berryman

NURSERY: Lisa Eisenbraun

CANDLES: Ann Gustafson

LITURGIST: Choral Cantata

USHER: Logan Cope

ELEVATOR: Steve Barnett

For Our Visitors

Grace Church welcomes you! Please sign our attendance pad so we know you have visited with us. We have a nursery available for all children age 4 and under. For children over 4 years of age, activity bags are available for their use in the sanctuary during the service.

Church Office Phone Number: 330-482-4532

Pastor Joy's Home Phone: 330-892-0512, Cell Phone: 330-277-6640

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday

Church Web Site: gracechurchcolumbiana.com

Church E-Mail Address: gracechurchofcolumbiana@comcast.net
