

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING: COVID numbers are expected to fluctuate over the next few months. In order to keep our worshipping community safe, if on any Saturday Radford City numbers per <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/coronavirus/covid-19-in-virginia-locality/>

exceed 40 cases per 100,000 people we will NOT have indoor worship. We will be in contact with everyone who has pre-registered for the service as well as send an email correspondence to the church email list.

*Pat Brown
Organist*

*Adam McAllister
Choir Director*

*Libby Watts
Handbell Choir
Director*

*Jim Harrison
Pianist*

*Ila Schepisi
Youth Director*

*Anna Frye
Parish Visitor*

*Joanna Corvin
Finance*

*Lynn Wright
Custodian*

*Dana E. Watson
Administrative
Assistant*

Grove United Methodist Church

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(540) 639-2807 radfordgroveumc@gmail.com



*Please follow the directions of
your ushers and worship leaders.
Due to COVID-19, congregants are invited to
welcome one another with handwaves and
other non-verbal signs of celebration and
worship.*

*Thank you for remaining in your seat
always wearing your mask
and listening to instead of singing the hymns*

November 29, 2020
10:00 am
The Order of Worship
First Sunday of Advent

GATHERING

PRELUDE AND TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Katrina Burda

If ever there was a year, we needed Advent, this is the year. We hardly know how to describe the year we have lived through. We hesitate to reflect on all the mess around us in 2020. All we know is that nothing seems right, nothing seems like it used to be, nothing. We need Advent! The Prophet Isaiah cried out for us, “O that you would tear open the heavens and come down...To make your name known...so that nations might tremble at your presence.” So tear through the mess, O Lord, and come down to us again. We long to be your people, a people of hope. We light this candle as a sign of our hope. Hope that you can meet us even in the mess of our world. Hope that you still see us, though we feel we are lost in the rubble. Let this light be the guide that brings us to Emmanuel once more. O Come, O Come Emmanuel!

CALL TO WORSHIP (from I Corinthians 1)

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus... Therefore, you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. ...God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Let us worship God together in Hope.

HYMN *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 64:1-9

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON *Adventus* Rev. Dr. Jan Nicholson Angle

MUSIC REFLECTION

BENEDICTION

OFFERING and POSTLUDE

***Congregation is to remain in your seats
and wait for ushers to dismiss by rows
Offering may be made at exit
in the touch free drop box***

FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar are given by
Bob and Susan Boggess
for the glory of God and in honor of our family.

ADVENT CANDLE

Katrina Burda

USHERS

Delores Smith Wayne Pridgen
Adam McAllister Dave Winston

COUNTERS

Marceline Hunter Bob Boggess

SOUND SYSTEM

Barry Anderson

PRAYERS

Please pray for the family of Bunk Austin who passed earlier this week, Patty McAllister who is recovering from surgery, Janice Herzog's recovery, Renie Price's health, those in assisted living: Betty Jo Lester, Diane Pryor and Martha Owells

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT OF GROVE UMC: Tithes and offerings will be received in the touch free drop box in the narthex at the close of the service.

HOLSTON HOME OFFERING: Today, we have an opportunity to make a difference. What better way can we express our Christian faith than to invest in the lives of children whose lives have been broken and who look to church to help them become whole again. Please make your check out to Grove UMC and mark it "Holston Home." Thank you and God bless you!

UPPER ROOMS: November/December Upper Rooms publications are in. Pick them up on the table in the narthex after our indoor service or call the church office.

ADVENT DEVOTION BOOKLETS: Advent begins November 29th. Society of St Andrew Advent Devotion books are on the table in the Narthex. Please pick up one for you and a friend or loved one.

BOOK DRIVE: We are collecting books for our RCPS preschool so that each child can have a new book to take home over Christmas from Grove Church. A collection box is in the Narthex until December 13th.

RADFORD FOOD BANK: This is the last Sunday in November which is Grove UMC's month to collect for Radford Food Bank. Thank you to everyone who has contributed this month as there are increased numbers of families in our area who are in need of food due to the pandemic and loss of jobs. Please note: we will always have a box in the Narthex for Food Bank Collections, so keep those food donations coming.

FINDING BETHLEHEM IN THE MIDST OF BEDLAM: Advent Study meets Wednesdays Dec. 2nd, 9th, and 16th.

5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall or by Zoom.

Facilitator is Rev. Dr. Nicholson Angle. Sign up by contacting the church office.

BOOK CLUB: Meets via Zoom on Monday evenings at 6:30 pm. Facilitator is Adam McAllister.

GROVE WEBSITE: Please check our website at groveumcradford.com for information and updates on what is happening in the Grove!

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Words: Charles Wesley, 1744

Music Rowland H Prichard,
1830

Come, Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Words: Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916

Music: Thomas Helmore, 1854

(verses 1 and 2)

O come, O come, Emmanuel
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
and order all things far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show
And cause us in her ways to go.