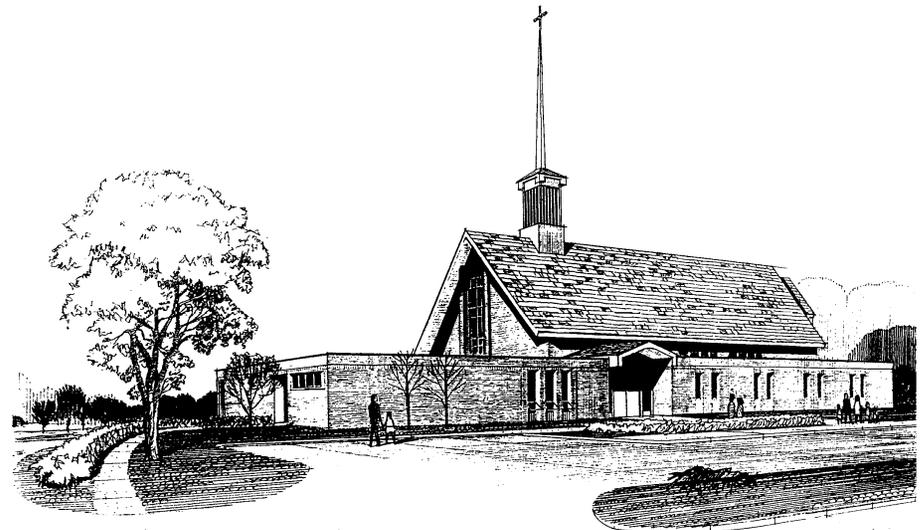


## GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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.

1020 Tyler Avenue, Radford, Virginia 24141  
(540) 639-2807 [radfordgroveumc@gmail.com](mailto:radfordgroveumc@gmail.com)



**Rev. Dr. Jan Nicholson Angle**  
**Minister**

*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*

December 20, 2020  
10:00 am  
The Order of Worship  
Third Sunday of Advent

***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.***

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

GATHERING

PRELUDE AND TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE MAGNIFICAT

Luke 1:47-55

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Bob and Susan Boggess

We live on the brink every day. We stand on the threshold between this world and the next one. We live and move between the ordinary and divine, between the mundane and the mystery. Too often, we forget to look up and see the angels in our living room. We forget that the love we give and live is a sign of eternity, God with us, right now. We forget that company is coming.

Luke tells us that God's favor came to a girl, an ordinary girl. It might have been you or your daughter; it might have been the girl down the street or your grandchild. But the messenger of God came and greeted her and said, "The Lord is with you." What a gift and a promise: Emmanuel, God is with us.

We light these candles with peace in our hearts for the promise of proximity, the nearness of God. Even when we forget to listen, to lean into that presence, God is as close as our own breath. This, in a confused and confusing world, is a peace that passes all understanding. It is the peace that knows that company is coming. O Come O Come Emmanuel!

HYMN

*Away in a Manger*

TIME OF SILENT REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON            *When Peace Takes Up Residence*  
                         Rev. Dr. Jan Nicholson Angle

HYMN              *Emmanuel, Emmanuel*

BENEDICTION

OFFERING and POSTLUDE

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

SOUND SYSTEM

Barry Anderson

ADVENT CANDLE

Bob and Susan Boggess

USHERS

Clay Carson            Adam McAllister  
Delores Smith           Bob Boggess

COUNTERS

Tommy Fisher   Susan Lesko   Susan Boggess

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God by Jon and Shirley Taylor and in memory of Margaret Skeete, Virgil and Verne Taylor and Dan Taylor.

PRAYERS

Amy Black (daughter of Wayne and Nancy Pridgen), Janice Herzog, Keegan (Linda Clifford's nephew) Brent Lesko, Patty McAllister, Junior Server (Anna Frye's nephew), Renie Price, 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.

RADFORD FOOD BANK: Please remember families who are food impoverished during this season by bringing an unopened canned or boxed good. There is a box in the Narthex for Food Bank Collections.

CHRISTMAS EVE OFFERING: This year Grove UMC's Christmas Eve Offering will go to financially support Too Our House. Too Our House, a program of New River Community Action and United Way, provides winter shelter to homeless men in the New River Valley. Please prayerfully consider supporting this ministry by making a donation. Checks may be made to "Grove UMC" and marked for Too Our House. You may bring your donation with you to the Christmas Eve Drive-In Service or mail to the church office.

UPPER ROOMS: January/February Upper Rooms may be picked up in the narthex.

ALTAR FLOWERS 2021: If you would like to provide flowers for any of the open dates, please call Susan Boggess at (540) 639-1078 or [ssboggess@yahoo.com](mailto:ssboggess@yahoo.com)

BOOK CLUB: Resumes January 18th at 6:30pm. We will have an open Forum Discussion on the book "America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America" by Jim Wallis. We will conclude the open forum with a six-week Guided Discussion by the Book's Author where he looks at the Biblical correlations with the book. Join us via Zoom. Let us know you will be with us by contacting Adam McAllister at [groveumchoir@gmail.com](mailto:groveumchoir@gmail.com).

GROVE WEBSITE: Please check our website at [groveumcradford.com](http://groveumcradford.com) for information and updates on what is happening in the Grove!

**Christmas Eve  
Drive-In  
Communion  
December 24<sup>th</sup>**



**Two Services  
4:00 pm  
or  
5:00 pm**

**Reservations  
Required**



Call the church office to reserve for our drive-in Christmas Eve service. To prepare for our time of worship together, we must know how many cars and how many people will be in attendance. This evening we will be reminded that Jesus was born under the stars, in a stable, amidst all creation, let us join the angel chorus as we celebrate our Lord and Savior's birth. Call today 540-639-2807 to reserve.

**FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS**

DEC 27<sup>TH</sup>

ONLINE SERVICE ONLY

We will not be having indoor or drive-in worship on December 27<sup>th</sup> but invite our church family not to miss our online YouTube worship service. This is a wonderful opportunity to worship Jesus while celebrating our United Methodist denominational connection!

**SERMON**

**Rev. Kim Goddard,  
New River District Superintendent**

Mark your calendars as we welcome Rev Kim Goddard our New River District Superintendent who will be delivering a special message for Grove UMC on December 27<sup>th</sup>

**LINK: [groveumcradford.com](http://groveumcradford.com)**

### Away in a Manger

Words: Anonymous

Music: James R. Murray, 1887

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes;  
I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky  
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray;  
bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

### **Emmanuel, Emmanuel**

Words & Music: Bob McGee, 1976

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,  
His name is called Emmanuel.  
God with us, revealed in us,  
His name is called Emmanuel.