

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

ENTRANCE

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME

THE CHILDREN’S MESSAGE Pastor Jan

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE (see insert)  
Chloe Mullins and Danielle Mason

\*HYMN UMH 211 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (Stanza 6)

\*HYMN UMH 234 *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

PRAYERS OF CELEBRATION AND CONCERN

THE LORD’S PRAYER UMH 895

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING John 1:1-8

CANTATA GATHER AT THE MANGER  
(Please see the Insert)

OFFERTORY

OFFERING

\*DOXOLOGY UMH 95

SENDING FORTH

\*HYMN UMH 217 *Away in a Manger*

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE

*\* Congregation stand as you are able*

Prayer Request

*Please provide information below:*

*Person placing the request:*

*Prayer Requested for:*

*Name:*

*Their Need :*

*Are they family, friend,  
co-worker or neighbor?*

*YES or NO*

*May we share your prayer  
request in our bulletins and  
newsletters?*

*YES or NO*

*Email:*

*Phone:*

# Welcome To GROVE

We Are Glad You  
Are Here

Today you will experience Christ-centered worship and fellowship. Want to know more about our ministries and opportunities? Your ushers, members and pastor are here to assist you. Welcome to Grove! Welcome home!

First Time at Grove?

Let us help you connect

Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Tear off and place in  
offering plate or give to  
an usher.

## PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

If there is someone you would like to add to  
Remember in Prayer, please contact Linda Fasnacht

Amy Black  
Renie Price  
Corene Simms  
Jim Keffer  
Sam Belche  
Frankie Cook

Sonya Nicely  
Casey Wojteria  
Wayne and Nancy Pridgen  
Tony Lambert  
Those homebound  
Those in assisted living  
The Middle East

## SERVING TODAY

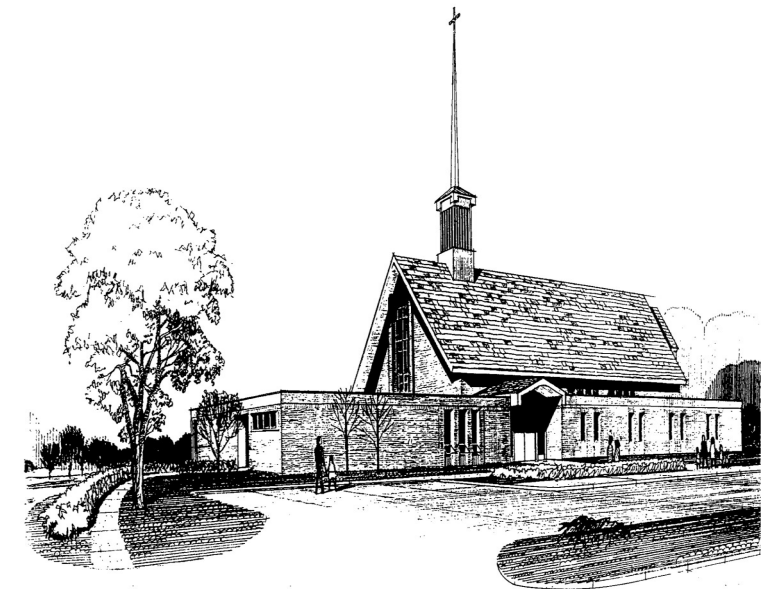
Ushers  
Advent Candles  
Acolyte  
Sound Technician  
Altar Guild  
Sunday Counters  
Monday Counters  
Nursery Staff

Clay Carson/Betsy Hagen  
Danielle Mason/Chloe Mullins  
Natalie Schepisi  
Dave Winston  
Linda Clifford/Delores Smith  
Susan Lesko/Tommy Fisher  
Linda Fasnacht/Beth McDaniel  
Chloe Mullins/Danielle Mason

## **Grove United Methodist Church**

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

December 17, 2023  
Third Sunday of Advent  
10:00 am



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

*Pat Brown*  
Organist

*Rev. Dr. Joseph Borden*  
Chancel Choir Director

*Libby Watts*  
Handbell Choir Director

*Rev. Ila Schepisi*  
Deacon in Residence

*Jim Harrison*  
Pianist

*Linda Fasnacht*  
Administrative Assistant

*Donna Alley*  
Finance Assistant

*Dana Watson*  
Videographer

*Lynn Wright*  
Custodian



## **This Week at Grove UMC**

### Sunday 12/17/23

8:30 am: Methodism Class  
9:00 am: Sunday School—Young Adult Class  
9:15 am: Sunday School—O'Donnell Adult Class  
9:30 am: Choir practice in the choir room  
10:00 am: Worship  
11:30 am: "Angels of Christmas" Advent Study  
3:00 pm: SPRC Meeting

### Monday 12/18/23

6:30 pm: Book Group (via Zoom)

### Tuesday 12/19/23

7:00 pm: Administrative Board (via Zoom)

### Wednesday 12/20/23

7:00 pm: Choir practice

### Thursday 12/21/23

7:00 pm: Contemplative Prayer

### Friday 12/22/23

Church Office Closed

### **Holiday Gift Cards**

The Ministries Board is collecting donations to purchase Food Lion gift cards to provide food for families in need within the Radford City Public School System. Donations will be collected through December 17. Make checks payable to Grove UMC and write "Holiday Gift Cards" in the memo line. See Dave Winston if you have any questions.

### **A Call to Prayer**

Are you a prayer warrior? Do you find yourself praying on a regular basis for others? Grove UMC seeks prayer warriors who will pray for Grove's future. Learn more. Contact Pastor Jan 540-589-9118.

### **Grove Greeter**

Do you have something to share, an article or an announcement for the January Greeter? If so, please send your information to Linda Fasnacht no later than 12/20/23.

### **December 24 Christmas Eve**

#### **Morning Worship 10:00 am**

Engage and experience the Christmas Story according to Luke come alive before your eyes.

*Sermon: God's Highly Favored*

#### **Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion 5:00 pm**

*Sermon: Making Room for the Baby.*

*This year's Christmas Eve offering will go to support New Voices Campaign: The UMC Holston Conference initiative to support our Wesley Foundations', Camping Ministries and UMC affiliated Colleges.*

### **December 31**

#### **Morning Worship 10:00 am**

We will be blessed with music as Pat Brown plays organ selections from her years at Grove UMC.

*Reception to honor Pat will follow in the Fellowship Hall*

### Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

Reader 1: When God's people were surrounded by hardship, suffering, and grief, Isaiah proclaimed, The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit (Isaiah 61:1-3a).

Reader 2: We come today as people who are also surrounded by suffering and grief. And yet, the Spirit hovers among us, tending and anointing, inspiring freedom where there is captivity, declaring blessing in places the world has cursed, and igniting fierce joy where mourning and heartache prevail.

**Congregation: We wait as people who experience hardship and pain, yet we are called to witness to the persistent joy that sustains our life as God's people.**

Reader 1: We light these candles as signs of our shocking hope, just peace, and fierce joy. May our lives shine with the fierce, tenacious joy of the Light who lives in our hearts as we wait and work for the coming of God's Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

### ***GATHER AT THE MANGER***

#### A Christmas Celebration for the Family of God

Created by Dennis and Nan Allen

Presented by the Chancel Choir of

Grove United Methodist Church

Piano: Pat Brown; Conductor: Joseph Borden

Narration: The Reverend Dr. Jan Nicholson Angle and  
The Reverend Ila Schepisi

*Come and Worship with The First Noel*  
*Gather at the Manger with O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Narration One  
*Born This Night with Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Narration Two  
*Fairest Lord Jesus*

Narration Three  
*I Want to See You*

Narration Four  
*\*Gather at the Manger (Reprise) with Angels We Have Heard on High*

Prayer

\*Please join the choir in singing the last stanza of  
*Angels We Have Heard on High.*

***Come to Bethlehem, and see Him whose birth the  
angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the  
newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!***