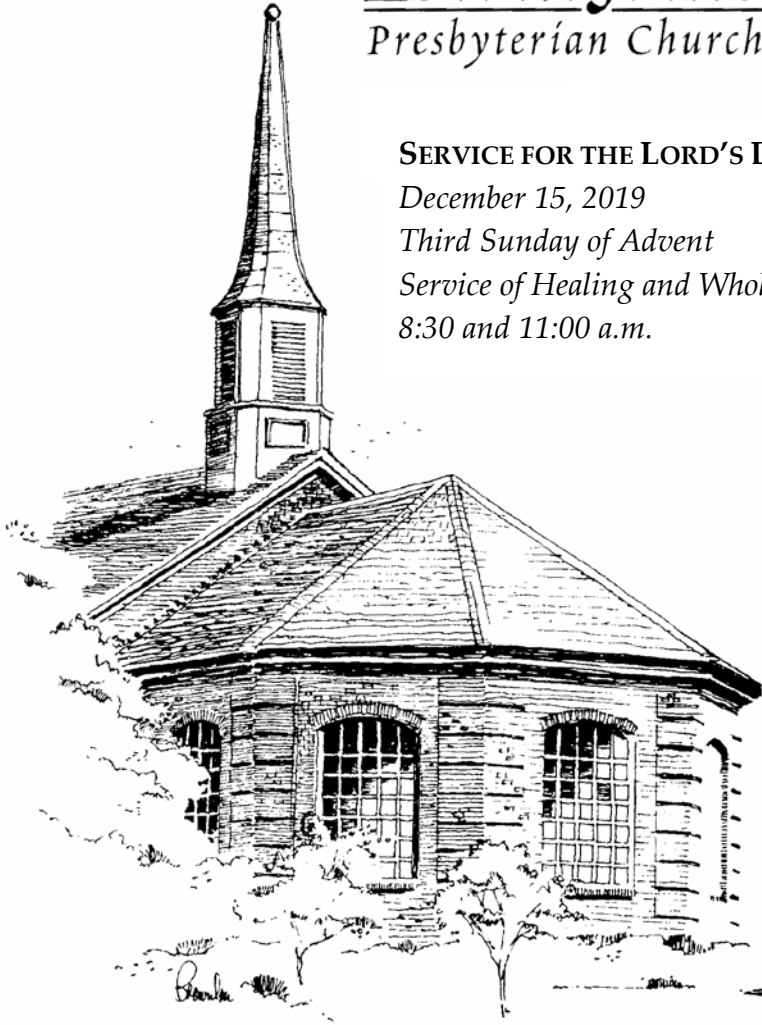


Lewinsville

Presbyterian Church



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 15, 2019

Third Sunday of Advent

Service of Healing and Wholeness

8:30 and 11:00 a.m.

"I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

--MATT. 25:35

WELCOME. We're glad to gather together as a community of faith today. No matter where you are on the journey of faith, you are welcome here, to join in worship and service. All are invited to a time of refreshment and conversation immediately following worship in St. Andrews Hall (down the steps outside the sanctuary, and to the left).

If you are new to this community of faith, we rejoice in your presence with us. Remember, we're not strangers, but rather friends who journey together, following the Lord Jesus Christ.

Please turn off all cellular phones and watch alarms during worship. Please refrain from using flash photography during the worship service.

Leadership at Lewinsville

Ruling Elders

Clerk of Session: Tim Dokken

Steve Becker
Elaine Guth
Rob Hunter
Harriet Neldon

Lori Mabus
Clay McConnell
Ryan Ramsey
Jody Ransom

Treasurer: Janet Gale

Ruth Baxley
Bruce Douglass
David Gunter
Cathy Saunders

Deacons/*Denotes Stephen Leader

Andrew Borene
Verna Chenault (Secretary)
Sharon Gamble
Janie Waldrop
Pat Matheson*

Banafshe Aghvami
Carolyn Fisk
Libby McConnell (moderator)
Sally McKeown
Wendy Maiwurm*

Gary Eames
Emily Foster (vice moderator)
Charlie Mendenhall
Rachel Russell
Karen Siple*

HEARING ASSISTANCE devices are available from the ushers or the audio/video console at the rear of the sanctuary.

PILLOWS are available in the coat room, just outside the narthex, to help make the pew more comfortable during worship. Feel free to borrow a pillow and return it after worship.

MISS A WORSHIP SERVICE? Sermons are posted every week on our website, www.lewinsville.org. DVD recordings of worship services are also archived in the Library. Feel free to check them out any time.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT LEWINSVILLE CHURCH? – Visit the web page www.lewinsville.org or call the church office for more information.

NOTES FOR WORSHIP:

GG – Glory to God The Presbyterian Hymnal
Renew! - Renew! Hymnal (grey)

OT - Pew Bible Old Testament
NT - Pew Bible New Testament

THE LEWINSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 15, 2019, Third Sunday of Advent, 8:30 a.m.

Service of Healing and Wholeness

* *If you are able, please stand*

†† *Latecomers seated*

THE GATHERING

WELCOME

* SONG *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry* GG 96

CONFESSION

SILENCE

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *While We Are Waiting, Come* GG 92, vs. 2

With power and glory, come; with power and glory, come.

Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear and believe the good news that comes from God.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

* RESPONSE *Glory to God* GG 583

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

GLORIA (TAIZÉ)

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

THE WORD

LIGHTING THE ADVENT

Luke 2:8-10

Reader: Today we remember the shepherds. It wasn't the rich and famous who came to worship Jesus that first Christmas Eve, but poor shepherds, working hard in the fields. God saw them, God valued them, and God declared the greatest news of all to them first.

People: Today we give thanks for the shepherds among us, those whom we can easily overlook or ignore, yet to whom God is committed, and who have much to teach us about watching for God in the darkness.

Reader: On this third Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of the shepherds, agents of the gospel and hearers of the word.

People: Come, Lord Jesus!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 35:1-10

OT p. 663

Matthew 11:2-11

NT p. 11

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

In the Desert, A Rose

The Rev. Scott Ramsey

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

GG p. 35

LAYING ON OF HANDS FOR ANOINTING AND PRAYER

Anyone desiring prayer for healing and wholeness may proceed down the center aisle. At the station you may kneel on the cushion, sit in the chair, or choose to stand. If you have a particular prayer request, please let the pastor or elder know. You will be anointed with oil on the forehead, hands will be laid on you by lightly touching the back, shoulders or head, and a prayer will be offered. Then proceed up the side aisles to your seat.

HYMNS DURING ANOINTING AND PRAYER

The congregation's song joins the individual prayers being offered. We are all in prayer together.

Comfort Ye My People

SUNG BY EVAN AYARS

GG 90

Wait for the Lord the Day is Near

WAIT FOR THE LORD

GG 89

For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits

MY SOUL IN STILLNESS WAITS

PRAYER

Mighty God, you rise with healing in your wings, to scatter all enemies that assault us. As we wait in hope for the coming of that day when crying and pain shall be no more, open our hearts by your Holy Spirit to receive your power into our lives and to trust in your eternal love, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

LIFE IN THE CHURCH

OFFERING

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Prepare the Way of the Lord*

GG 95

**Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord,
and all people will see the salvation of our God.**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

All who profess faith in Jesus Christ are invited to the table.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer continues...

Communion will be served using intinction. Gluten-free crackers are available.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER THE SUPPER

THE SENDING

* SONG *People, Look East*

GG 105

* THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

THE LEWINSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

December 15, 2019 11:00 a.m.

Third Sunday of Advent

Service of Healing and Wholeness

* *If you are able, please stand*

†† *Latecomers seated*

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Cradled Amid the Ox and Sheep

* CALL TO WORSHIP

from Isaiah 9:2

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

The light shines, even in places where painful shadows touch our lives.

Rejoice, then, for Christ's presence comes among us with mystery and with power -

And brings new light to our world. Let us worship God!

* HYMN

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

GG 96

WINCHESTER NEW

††

CALL TO CONFESSION

Silent confession

God of light, who shines in deepest darkness, we hear you calling us forth from hopelessness into hope. But we don't trust your call, and we are afraid of taking chances. We fear following your light, because it leads us into places where you need us. We are slow to see your light shining in the faces of our neighbors. Yet we know that it is precisely in those places that your grace shines. Forgive us for our fear, our avoidance of you, and for the different ways that we sin. Guide us in your ways, that we might reflect your grace into the world. Through Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *While We Are Waiting, Come*
With power and glory, come; with power and glory, come.
Jesus, our Lord, Emmanuel, while we are waiting, come.

GG 92, vs. 2

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, hear and believe the good news that comes from God.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

* RESPONSE

Glory to God

GG 583

Unison: **Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!**
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!
Canon: *Lectern side begins, then Pulpit side*
Unison: **Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!**
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

* THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Greet those around you, saying "Peace be with you" or "The Peace of Christ"
If you prefer not to shake hands in greeting while passing the Peace of Christ,
you may choose to make eye contact and greet others in another personal way.

LIFE IN THE CHURCH

THE WORD

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Luke 2:8-10

Reader: Today we remember the shepherds. It wasn't the rich and famous who came to worship Jesus that first Christmas Eve, but poor shepherds, working hard in the fields. God saw them, God valued them, and God declared the greatest news of all to them first.

People: Today we give thanks for the shepherds among us, those whom we can easily overlook or ignore, yet to whom God is committed, and who have much to teach us about watching for God in the darkness.

Reader: On this third Sunday of Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of the shepherds, agents of the gospel and hearers of the word.

People: Come, Lord Jesus!

CHILDREN'S MEDITATION

Following the Children's Meditation, children age 4 through grade 2 are invited to meet Allison Lineberger in the Narthex for Sermon Stories. Children will return to the Sanctuary for worship with their parents following the sermon.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

*Isaiah 35:1-10
Matthew 11:2-11*

OT p. 663
NT p. 11

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON

In the Desert, A Rose

The Rev. Scott Ramsey

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

LAYING ON OF HANDS FOR ANOINTING AND PRAYER

Anyone desiring prayer for healing and wholeness may proceed down the center aisle. At the station you may kneel on the cushion, sit in the chair, or choose to stand. If you have a particular prayer request, please let the pastor or elder know. You will be anointed with oil on the forehead, hands will be laid on you by lightly touching the back, shoulders or head, and a prayer will be offered. Then proceed up the side aisles to your seat.

HYMNS DURING ANOINTING AND PRAYER

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Comfort Ye My People

SUNG BY EVAN AYARS

GG 90

Wait for the Lord the Day is Near

WAIT FOR THE LORD

GG 89

For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits

MY SOUL IN STILLNESS WAITS

PRAYER

Mighty God, you rise with healing in your wings, to scatter all enemies that assault us. As we wait in hope for the coming of that day when crying and pain shall be no more, open our hearts by your Holy Spirit to receive your power into our lives and to trust in your eternal love, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

THE SHARING OF OUR LIVES THROUGH OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

GG 88

(congregation sings vs. 1 and 5)

- 1. 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.**
2. O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily; to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
3. O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

4. O come, thou Root of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell thy people save and give them victory o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
5. **O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

- * CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Prepare the Way of the Lord* GG 95
**Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord,
and all people will see the salvation of our God.**
- * PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SENDING

- * HYMN *People, Look East* GG 105
- * CHARGE AND BENEDICTION BESANÇON
- * DISMISSAL
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

The pastors will be in the narthex to greet you following worship.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 15, 2019

WITHIN OUR PRAYERS

Help carry one another's burden, and in this way you will obey the law of Christ. Galatians 6:2

ALL NAMES ON THE PRAYER LIST HAVE BEEN REMOVED FOR PRIVACY REASONS. THE PRINTED ANNOUNCEMENTS INCLUDED IN THE BULLETIN ON SUNDAY MORNINGS CONTAINS THE COMPLETE LIST.

The weekly prayer list includes those members and friends of the church family who are in a short-term temporarily serious or critical situation. Please remember in your prayers all those listed. Names placed on the weekly list will be removed after six weeks unless the church office is requested otherwise. We need your help to keep our prayer lists accurate and current.

Please refer to the website, www.lewinsville.org, for further information on activities.

THE FLOWER DONATION CHART - for 2020 is in Heritage Hall (outside the volunteer room), so sign up to donate Sunday flowers in memory of a loved one or in celebration of a special occasion. You may also sign up at www.lewinsville.org. The recommended minimum contribution for sanctuary flowers is \$110 and \$65 for narthex flowers.



2020 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN - As of December 12 we have received 159 pledges totaling \$1,036,106.48. Compared to 2019, 75 pledges increased, 49 pledges were unchanged, and 18 pledges decreased; there are 17 new pledges. If you have not yet returned your pledge card, we look forward to receiving it soon.

HELP PROMOTE CHRISTMAS EVE @LEWINSVILLE ON FACEBOOK! – **TODAY and December 22**, please stop by the Christmas Eve Services floor sign in St. Andrews Hall, stand where indicated, and snap a photo with your phone. Then post on your Facebook account, inviting friends to join you at one of our Christmas Eve services. Instruction will be provided by a member of our Communications team, if needed. And thank you for helping to spread the word far and wide about Lewinsville!

ALTERNATIVE GIFTS OPPORTUNITY DURING ADVENT – The Mission and Service Ministry Group invites you to participate in the annual *Alternative Gifts* program. An *Alternative Gift* is a wonderful and easy way to honor loved ones, friends, teachers, neighbors, service providers, and others on your Christmas gift list and simultaneously provide a tax-deductible gift to support one or more Lewinsville mission projects. Obtain one of the beautiful *Alternative Gift* cards for each person you are honoring, and write one check (payable to Lewinsville Presbyterian Church) for your selections. The following organizations are highlighted for your special support: **Homestretch, Friends of the Lewinsville (meal subsidy program), United Orphanage and Academy (Moi's Bridge, Kenya), Falls**

Church Homeless Shelter, Second Story, and S.H.A.R.E. You may also support any of the other organizations/projects listed in the LPC Mission Handbook. To learn more about these organizations and reference the Mission Handbook, visit the *Alternative Gifts* table in St. Andrews Hall each Sunday during Advent.

CHANCEL BELLS - are playing at the Library of Congress on **December 17 at noon** in the Great Hall in the Jefferson Building. If you are interested in attending contact Kylie Johnson, kyliearyn24@gmail.com for further information.



CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING - During Advent and Christmas we turn our eyes to Bethlehem and celebrate the wondrous gift of Jesus Christ, our Savior. By giving to the Christmas Joy Offering, you honor this gift by providing assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need and developing our future leaders at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. The Christmas Joy Offering will be received in worship on Sunday, **December 22 and Christmas Eve,**

December 24. You may put a check in the offering plate and designate in the memo line "Christmas Joy Offering." Offering envelopes are available in the pew racks. Please give generously.

THE ANNUAL BAKE SALE - The annual Christmas Bake Sale will take place next Sunday, **December 22**, between services (and after 11:00 if there is anything left). Proceeds will go towards this year's Winter Mission Project (for college students and young adults) and the annual Summer Mission Project. Lots of delicious goodies will be available! Pick up a last minute gift for a teacher, co-worker or neighbor, or supplement your own holiday baking. Your support is greatly appreciated.

SPECIAL ADULT EDUCATION SESSION DECEMBER 22 IN THE CHAPEL – OUR TWIN MISSION: TO LOVE INDIVIDUALS. TO CONFRONT INJUSTICE. Join Jack Calhoun for a discussion in which he will present the heart of the struggle that is linked (and often a tension) between the call, if not the dictates, of the gospel to feed the sick, clothe, etc., (the social gospel aspects) and the sacramental. Honoring, loving an individual, and being personally present amidst the social justice fray. Led by Jack Calhoun, President and CEO, Hope Matters, Senior Consultant, National League of Cities, Institute for Youth, Education and Families, Board President, California Cities Violence Prevention Network.

Longest Night Worship Service – a Service of Hope
Saturday, December 21, 7:30pm

Christmas Eve Services

Tuesday, December 24, Family Service at 4:30pm
Candlelight Communion Services at 7 and 9:30pm

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 15, 2019

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

- THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT/SERVICE OF HEALING AND WHOLENESS
ALTERNATIVE GIFTS
- 8:30am Service of Worship – Sanctuary
SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER
The Rev. Scott Ramsey preaching (Isaiah 35:1-10; Matthew 11:2-11)
- 9:30am Messy Church breakout opening – Fellowship Hall
Joyful Noise (lower level room 6)/Godly Play (ages 3 to 5)
Children & Youth (grades 1-12), Messy Church Learning Centers
Adults, Topic and Theme Discussions
- 9:45am Adult Education
An Artistic Journey Through Advent. Led by The Rev. Dan Thomas, Carroll Bastian, and John Nothaft. Room 103.
Waiting for The Messiah. Led by Linton Brooks. Chapel.
Messy Church Adult Breakout Group. Led by Debbie Leavens and Ruth Baxley. Room 25A
- 11:00am Service of Worship – Sanctuary
The Rev. Scott Ramsey preaching (Isaiah 35:1-10; Matthew 11:2-11)
- 4:00pm Puppets (for all ages) rehearsal – room 8
- 6:15pm Youth Fellowship – Youth Center

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

- 9:00am Senior Exercise Group – Fellowship Hall
- 10:00am Prayer Shawl Ministry – Chapel
- 1:30pm Circle 3 – Chapel
- 2:00pm Worship at Lewinsville Retirement Residence
- 7:00pm Stephen Ministry training – room 104

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

- 11:30pm Presbytery Group meeting – Chapel
- 1:30pm Program Staff meeting – Library
- 7:00pm Session meeting - Chapel

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

- 11:30am Bible Study – Chapel
- 2:00pm Worship at Chesterbrook Residences
- 7:30pm Nominating Committee meeting - Library

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

- 9:00am Senior Exercise Group – Fellowship Hall
- 1:00pm Clergy Group meeting – Library
- 7:00pm Committee on Preparation for Ministry meeting – Chapel/Bethany room/room 104/room 25A

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

- 7:00pm Young Adult Christmas party - Chapel

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

7:30pm Longest Night Worship service - Sanctuary

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ALTERNATIVE GIFTS/SUMMER MISSION PROJECT BAKE SALE

8:30am Service of Worship – Sanctuary

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

The Rev. Scott Ramsey preaching (Isaiah 7:10-16; Matthew 1:18-25)

9:30am Messy Church breakout opening – Fellowship Hall

9:45am Adult Education

Our Twin Mission: To Love Individuals. To Confront Injustice. Led by
Jack Calhoun – Chapel.

11:00am Service of Worship – Sanctuary

The Rev. Scott Ramsey preaching (Isaiah 7:10-16; Matthew 1:18-25)

12:15pm College Students lunch – District Taco

3:00pm Junior Choristers/Junior Bells (grades 1-3) rehearsal – John Knox room/Music room

4:00pm Puppets (for all ages) rehearsal – room 8

4:45pm Lewinsville Choristers (grades 4 – 12) rehearsal – John Knox room/Music room

5:30pm Lewinsville Bells (grades 4 – 12) rehearsal – John Knox room/Music room

6:00pm Youth Fellowship Christmas Party – Chapel

7:00pm Chancel Bells – Music Room



CHRISTMAS DECORATION FUND

You may contribute to our Christmas Decoration Fund this year by filling out the form below and returning it to the church office or by depositing it in the offering plate. You can also sign up on the web page,

www.lewinsville.org.

All who have given in memory of loved ones will be listed in our Christmas Eve bulletins. Any money remaining will be used for our Flower Fund throughout the year. The Flower Committee will purchase only enough flowers and greens to decorate the Sanctuary and not for each contributor.

We suggest that your contribution be \$70. Checks should be made payable to Lewinsville Presbyterian Church and annotated "Christmas Decoration Fund".

Forms and checks must be returned no later than TODAY, December 15.

NAME _____

PHONE _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

(Please print or type)

MINISTERS
PASTOR
STATED SUPPLY PASTOR FOR CHRISTIAN FORMATION
STATED SUPPLY PASTOR FOR CARE MINISTRIES

DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES
DIRECTOR OF HANDBELLS
CHILDREN'S MUSIC SPECIALIST

The Entire Congregation of Lewinsville Church
The Rev. Dr. Scott Ramsey
The Reverend Annamarie Groenenboom
The Reverend Jen Dunfee

Allison Lineberger

John Nothaft

Kylie Johnson

Evan Ayars

ACTIVE IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

MUSIC MINISTRY	8:30	John Nothaft
	11:00	Anna Barnes, Chancel Choir, Joyful Noise, Junior Choristers
LAY READERS	8:30	Carol Kaffenberger
	11:00	Michelle Gottke
GREETER	8:30	Pat Buss
	11:00	Bob and Cathy Gaugler
DUTY ELDER		Jody Ransom
DUTY DEACON		Sharon Gamble
CANDLE LIGHTERS	8:30	Karen and Michael Flagg
	11:00	Youth

CLERK OF SESSION

Tim Dokken

TREASURER

Janet Gale

MISSION CO-WORKERS

Brian and Helen Chapaitis, Wycliffe Bible Translators, Jerico, VT

Andrew and Ellen Collins, Interserve (USA), Chiang Mai, Thailand

Frank Dimmock, The Outreach Foundation (Africa specialist), Decatur, GA

CHURCH STAFF

CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Bob Clark

FINANCIAL MANAGER

Jeanne Melone

CHURCH OFFICE MANAGER

Sandy Albrecht

FACILITIES MANAGER

Steven Kirkland

PASTOR EMERITUS

The Reverend Gary G. Pinder



LEWINSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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www.lewinsville.org



Donate now
or text 703 270-0451