

YEAR END SERVICES AND SPECIAL EVENTS

NOVEMBER

14th-11am Worship Service

Kara Lu and the ARC Worship Team lead us in worship. Pastor Frank Gallo preaches. Snack fellowship follows service.



17th-6pm Worship/Study/Fellowship Meal and Thanksgiving Food Baskets

Rob Grant. leads us in worship as we gather for our last night of the Wednesday fall study on biblical hospitality. We celebrate over a turkey dinner and deliver holiday food baskets to those in need.



21st-11am Service of Praise and Testimony

Sheryl Wheeler joins us to lead songs of praise and thanksgiving, with readings and testimonies of God's faithfulness. Pastor Frank Gallo preaches. Pie Fellowship follows service. We send out cards to veterans.



28th-11am First Sunday of Advent

Lexi Johnson and the ARC Worship Team lead us in worship with Christmas carols and hymns and some special pieces as we start into the Advent season focusing on the **HOPE** we have in Jesus. Pastor Frank Gallo preaches. Snack fellowship follows service.



DECEMBER

4th -11am-6pm Arlington Holiday Festival

Arlington Community Holiday shopping village! Fire pits w/marshmallow roasting! Hot chocolate! Eggnog crawl! Live music! Petting zoo! Tree lighting! Parade! A great community event! Parade is at 5PM.



5th-11am Second Sunday of Advent with Holiday Meal

Kara Lu and the ARC Worship Team lead us in worship with Christmas carols and hymns and some special pieces as we continue focusing on the **PEACE** of God. Pastor Frank Gallo preaches. We share a fellowship meal after service. Invite others!



5th-7pm Vassar College Annual Service of Lessons & Carols Vassar College Chapel

A beautiful service that includes readings, choral anthems, and congregational carols, culminating in a candle lighting ceremony. Vassar College Choir, Chamber Singers, Women's Chorus, and Cappella Festiva Chamber Choir perform. One of the following is required for attendance: Proof of vaccination, negative PCR result from the last 72 hours, negative antigen result from the last six hours. A beautiful celebration!



12th-11am Third Sunday of Advent and Children's Holiday Art Class

Kara Lu and the ARC Worship Team lead us in worship with Christmas carols and hymns and some special pieces as we move with understanding through the Advent season focusing on the **JOY** we have in our relationship with our Lord. Pastor Frank Gallo preaches. Arlington Kids have a Christmas art class with artist, Ms. Marlea, teacher and owner of The Artist's Corner, making a holiday craft before our holiday fellowship meal following service. Snack fellowship follows service.



19th-11am Fourth Sunday of Advent

Lexi Johnson and the ARC Worship Team lead us in worship with Christmas carols and hymns and some special pieces as we consider the **LOVE** we will know in Jesus'. Pastor Frank Gallo preaches. Snack fellowship follows service.



24th-6-7pm Christmas Eve Service (5pm refreshments/7pm refreshments)

Sheryl and Dan Wheeler and others lead worship at this service of readings, seasonal hymns and special music as we **REJOICE** that Jesus has come to bring us salvation and will return for his church. Mission Church joins us for this shared service. Please welcome all to this beautiful time of rejoicing. Holiday pictures are taken before service with refreshments. light refreshments following service. All are welcomed!



26th-11am Year End Worship Service

The ARC Worship Team lead us in worship as we remember the goodness of God in 2021 while blessing one another with peace for the New Year. Pastor Frank Gallo preaches. Snack fellowship follows service.



WHAT IS WORSHIP

Worship is at the center of the church's life. In worship, we acknowledge God's worth. That worship encompasses the whole week—when we are out in the community, in our homes, or gathered at church. Because Christians are all members of the one body of Christ, we make it a priority to come together to worship as one.

Historically, worship services have a particular flow that reflects our encounters with God: approaching God, receiving the Word of God, and responding to God. The particulars of the service are flexible, but the foundation remains the same.

HOW OUR THEOLOGY SHAPES OUR WORSHIP

Worship is an embodiment and expression of our beliefs. It enables us to articulate our faith and to act it out in word, song, and gesture.

Our theology is articulated most simply in the structure of our beliefs that God created all things good; we sinned and are guilty of falling short of the glory of God; God sent Jesus Christ so that we might have life; and by the power of the Holy Spirit, we respond to God's grace with thanksgiving and lives of service.

Our worship service then follows a three-part pattern, with a beginning note of praise:

- **Gather and Draw Near:** We approach God, first with praise, an acknowledgement of our sinfulness and need, and in worship.
- **Hear God's Word:** God speaks to us a word of grace, in Scripture, sermon, and sacrament (baptism and the Lord's Supper).
- **Respond:** We respond to God with gratitude and service.

MUSIC IN OUR SERVICE

God's people sing. The role of music in worship is biblical. Over and over, the Bible shows the people of God singing songs of praise and gratitude, lament, and petition. Because of that, our worship emphasizes the participation of the whole congregation in singing and can include solos and group singing to glorify God. Just as the service as a whole is not a performance, music within the service should allow the congregation to offer their hearts to God. Music should both glorify God and nurture the faith of the people. We worship with hymns, songs, melodies, using instruments.

WHAT IS THE ADVENT SEASON?

Advent Season is a very special time of year that sometimes gets lost in the bright lights of the Christmas season it precedes. The first day of Advent is the first day of a new Liturgical (or church) calendar and begins a four-week period of preparation in anticipation of the nativity of Jesus at Christmas.

The Advent Season is all about reflecting on how we can prepare our hearts and homes for Christ's birth in the world as it is today. It is a time for faith communities and families to remember, through prayer, reflections, special music, and good deeds what the true meaning of Jesus' birth is. There are many different traditions associated with the four weeks of Advent.

The Advent season invites us to step away from what can be a frenzied time of parties and shopping to consider how we commemorate the birth of Jesus, one of the times of remembrance in our Christian faith. It is also a time to reflect on the triumphant return of Jesus at the second coming.

WHAT IS THE LITURGICAL(CHURCH) CALENDAR?

The liturgical calendar follows the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Some branches of Christianity follow a liturgical calendar that observes more specific events and traditions than others. Here are key seasons and colors that Christians in many protestant churches observe each year.

Most Christian churches follow a church calendar of sorts, even if it is to observe just specific biblical events like the birth, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ while others observe many of the events and traditions, while others observe all.

