



FRANCONIA
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria, VA 22310
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www.franconiaUMC.org



WINTER'S GRACE

A Christmas Cantata at
Franconia United Methodist Church

Sunday, December 22nd
at 10 AM

December 22, 2024 at 10:00 AM
Winter's Grace
Franconia UMC Christmas Cantata

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Franconia UMC Christmas Cantata
December 22, 2024 at 10:00 AM
UMH – United Methodist Hymnal
**Stand in body or in spirit.*

Prelude	<i>It Came Upon a Midnight Clear</i>	Grace Notes
Welcome/Announcements		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
Threshold Moment		
Lighting of the Advent Wreath		The Upp Family
Leader: The journey continues, and this candle will help light our way		
People: We are on our way to more love.		
Leader: So many are in need of grace, in need loving acceptance.		
People: We are a people who simply want Good News.		
Leader: Stories of generosity are markers and signs that goodness is the nature of God.		
People: God's light goes before us, we are not alone.		
*Hymn	<i>O Come All Ye Faithful</i>	UMH 234
*Opening Prayer		
Pastor: Let us pray.		
People: Holy and Living God, we pray for hearts and minds to open wide to merciful acts in Your name. Too often, we clench our fists in fear that what we have will not be enough for us. Give us the humility to make more room. Call us to a "generosity of grace." Call us to be generous—not to a fault—but to a future where all have a place and a home where they are deeply loved. We pray this in the name of Your Son, Jesus, the Christ, Your Love Incarnate. AMEN.		
Children's Moment		Linda Biscardo
Prayer Song	<i>A Star Shone Bright, v. 3</i>	See Screens
Prayers of the People		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
Lord's Prayer		
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread And forgive us our trespasses As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, And the power and the glory. Forever. AMEN.		
Offering	<i>Come Thou Long Expected Jesus</i>	Bells of Praise
*Doxology		UMH 95
*Prayer of Thanksgiving		

Scripture Reading
Homily

Luke 2: 1-14
Bethlehem: A Place of Humility

Bruce ~~Bartolain~~
Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Winter's Grace
arr. by: Joseph M. Martin
Franconia UMC Christmas Cantata

Winters' Grace

Solo: Sarah Chambers

A Winter's Song

Narrator: Valerie Baybas

Celebration For Advent

Narrator: Zach Chambers

Hope, Peace, Joy and Love

Narrator: Ken Todack

Carols of Adoration

Soloist: Karen Ingle

Narrator: Bob Shuffett

Carols of Promise and Praise

Narrator: Patricia O'Donnell

Let the Earth Resound With Praise!

Narrator: Karen Ingle

What Strangers Are These?

Soloist: Peggy Owusu-Ansah

Narrator: Jordan R. Biscardo

Canticle of Peace

Duet: Jordan R. Biscardo and Bob Shuffett

Final Blessing: Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Postlude

Away in a Manger

June Shuffett



*Franconia United Methodist Church believes that everyone is a child of God.
 We welcome all people to worship, join in membership, serve in lay leadership,
 and actively participate in the life of the church.
 We welcome and affirm all persons without regard to gender, gender identity, race,
 sexual orientation, faith tradition, age, marital status, family structure,
 economic background, political affiliation, physical or mental ability or life experience.
 We commit to extend Christ's hospitality, creating a place of safety and sanctuary for all people.
 We recognize there are differences among us and although we may not think or look alike,
 we commit to respect and love one another as we are all the family of God.
 We further commit ourselves to loving acts of invitation, hospitality, and community,
 providing ministry to, for, and with all persons without exception,
 fostering a sense of belonging where people are respected and valued as beloved children of God.*

Media Tech Team:
 Bobby Anderson
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Grace Notes:
 Jordan P. Biscardo
 Jordan R. Biscardo
 Sarah Chambers
 Kalani Johnson
 Rachael Kahelin
 Jessica Posey
 Teaka Robba

Bells of Praise:
 Suzanne Ackley
 Jordan R. Biscardo
 Sarah Chambers
 Kalani Johnson
 Sharon Jones
 Doreen McKnight
 Robert Miller
 Donnell Ries

Cantata Participants:
 Valerie Baybas
 Linda Biscardo
 Jordan R. Biscardo
 Sarah Chambers
 Zach Chambers
 Karen Ingle
 Tammy Kaufax
 Robert Miller
 Patricia O'Donnell
 Peggy Owusu-Ansah
 Rebecca Owusu-Ansah
 Bob Shuffett
 June Shuffett
 Ken Todack

Staff:

Reverend: Melissa Porter-Miller
 Church Office: Jade Miller
 Children's Ministry: Linda Biscardo
 Music Ministry: Amy McCarthy
 Praise & Worship Leader: Sarah Chambers
 Youth & Young Adult Ministries: Sarah Chambers
 Organist: June Shuffett
 Handbells: Linda Biscardo
 All God's Children Preschool: Jessica Copes
 Nursery: Marie Bonhomme and Susann Ferrell

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