

Glade Weekly News

December 2 - 8, 2024



Glade Church, a United Church of Christ (UCC) congregation, is a progressive Christian community—welcoming, compassionate, and joyful—seeking to embrace all people wherever they find themselves in life. We strive to discern God’s still-speaking voice through worship, study, fellowship, and service. We work for God’s peace and social, economic, and ecological justice.

Lectionary Readings for the Week

Malachi 3:1-4 — Luke 3:68-79 — Philippians 1:3-10 — Luke 3:1-6

Scripture for the Week

Luke 3:68-79 (Common English Bible)

⁶⁸ “Bless the Lord God of Israel
because he has come to help and has delivered his people.
⁶⁹ He has raised up a mighty savior for us in his servant David’s house,
⁷⁰ just as he said through the mouths of his holy prophets long ago.
⁷¹ He has brought salvation from our enemies
and from the power of all those who hate us.
⁷² He has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors,
and remembered his holy covenant,
⁷³ the solemn pledge he made to our ancestor Abraham.
He has granted ⁷⁴ that we would be rescued
from the power of our enemies
so that we could serve him without fear,
⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness in God’s eyes,
for as long as we live.
⁷⁶ You, child, will be called a prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way.
⁷⁷ You will tell his people how to be saved
through the forgiveness of their sins.
⁷⁸ Because of our God’s deep compassion,
the dawn from heaven will break upon us,
⁷⁹ to give light to those who are sitting in darkness
and in the shadow of death,
to guide us on the path of peace.”

Word for the Week

Peace
b69c6



Pastor Kelly's Comments on the Scripture

This is the prophecy of Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist. When the angel Gabriel first told John of the coming birth of his child, Zechariah pointed out that he and his wife were quite advanced in age and couples their age did not conceive or bear children. Because of his unbelief, the angel struck Zechariah mute until John was born. On the eighth day of after his birth, according to Jewish custom, John was to be circumcised and given a name. It is at this time that the Spirit comes upon Zechariah, his tongue is loosened, and he sings a song of praise and prophecy.

What's interesting is that verses 68-75 are not about his own son, but about his nephew, Mary's coming baby – Jesus of Nazareth. Zechariah's song announces that God is trustworthy, and the promises of God will be fulfilled. There will be peace in the land as God brings salvation to Their people.

John is given his vocation in this song. He is to prepare the people to live into the fulfilled promise. He is to prepare the people to have ears to hear the gospel that will be preached by the Savior of the world. John will help people repent, turn from their ways of destruction and desperation, so that they might see the breaking dawn of promise. As they live into the promises of God, as they become a reflection of God's love, they will begin to bring the kingdom of God to earth.

Kelly Bryant

Office Day Next Week: Friday December 13th Kelly isn't listing hours to not place limits on their availability to you. Please contact them for a meeting at a time that fits your schedule on office days. Should you need Pastor Kelly outside of these days, please don't hesitate to contact them.
540-521-9993, bryantkj@gmail.com.

Join us for worship at 11:00 a.m. every Sunday Morning

Attend in-person at 1600 Glade Rd. Blacksburg, or on Zoom at

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88914981619?pwd=Q3E4Rk95d2lZGtONlVqSDcrMm1xdz09/#_success

Spiritual Formation Class and Youth Group meets again on December 15

Spiritual Formation for adults and Youth Group meets on the first and third Sundays of each month.

Next meeting date is Sunday, November 17 at 9:45 AM. We hope you'll join us!

Volunteers are needed for Kids Church and Youth Group

There are leader slots available for youth, kids, and nursery. Session topic info is available on the sign-up link below. Youth Group is on the first and third Sundays of each month at 9:45 AM. Kids Church is on the second and fourth Sundays of each month during worship service. Here is the link to sign up to serve our children: [Kids Church and Youth Group Volunteer Signup](#)

Laundry Love

Thursday, December 12 from 6-8 PM at North Main Laundromat.

Laundry Love has opportunities to volunteer. This is a great way to put "Words" into "Actions" of faith and love. We do this at the laundromat on North Main across from the Y-Thrift Shop. Click below to volunteer!

[VOLUNTEER FOR LAUNDRY LOVE](#)

It's not too late to turn in your 2025 Pledge Card!

It's not too late to turn in your 2025 Pledge Card! Pledging is important because it helps Council plan the budget for next year. Cards are available on the podium at the front and back of the Sanctuary.

You are welcome to drop your card into the offering plate or email a digital copy to the church at treasurer@gladeucc.org. Thank you!

To Our House Volunteer Signups are OPEN!

Glade Church will be hosting To Our House from December 28, 2024 through January 11, 2025.

Here's the link to sign up to volunteer: [To Our House 2024/2025](#)

Our guests appreciate your care and support. Thank you!

Help provide an extravagant welcome

We are going to start having Greeters posted at the two main entrances to the church to welcome people as they arrive on Sunday mornings. Greeters will hand out a bulletin, make sure visitors receive a visitor card to fill out, and answer any questions they may have about the church service and the building. See Sandra Bryant for more information or to sign up to be a Sunday Greeter.

Coffee & Devotion Group Meets via Zoom on Wednesdays at 10:00 am

This virtual get-together meets at 10 a.m. on Zoom and lasts for about an hour for a time to meet people, share thoughts, hear a brief devotion, and join in prayer. This time of fellowship is open to everyone, it's a time to gather for conversation, devotion and prayer. Come meet some people you may not know.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89240288592?pwd=KzhRWlJiQTkzWWRIYTNUckdPaUNqUT09>

Radical Conversations [RadCon] Meets Saturdays at 11:00 am

Radical Conversations meets from 11:00-12:15 each Saturday morning at the church. This is a time for open discussion of a wide range of topics. RadCon is open to any and every interested individual. On December 7, Bonnie Cranmer will be joining us to talk about water sources and infrastructure.

Save the Date - Pastor Kelly's Ordination Service

We hope everyone will be able to join us for Pastor Kelly's Ordination Service on Sunday January 12, 2025. The service is currently scheduled to begin at 5 PM and will be followed by a potluck reception. Additional details will be forthcoming as plans are finalized.

UCC Purpose, Vision, and Mission Statements

Purpose: To love God with all our heart, mind soul, and strength and our neighbor as ourselves. (From the Gospel of Matthew)

Vision: United in Christ's love, a just world for all.

Mission: United in Spirit and inspired by God's grace, we welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all.



John 17:21 is the scriptural foundation of the United Church of Christ