

River of Grass UU Congregation

December 17, 2023 – 10:30 AM

Entering Into the Christmas Story: We All Have a Role to Play

Let us search our hearts for our place in the Christmas story that never ends.

Let us choose again our role in the incarnation of love.

- Rev. Shari Woodbury

Bring your goodwill, cooperation, and joy as we all play our part bringing the Christmas story to life before our very eyes. Are you one of our stars? A manger animal? An angel? A wise person or one of their assistants? Come experience this familiar, beloved story as if it were happening right here and right now!

Come as you are – either in-person at the Old Davie Schoolhouse Auditorium or virtually on Zoom. We welcome you on Sunday morning at 10:30. Come a bit before and we can Chat prior to the service... We'll be watching for you!

In person at:

- Our Sunday morning rental space is located at the Old Davie Schoolhouse
- 6650 Griffin Road, Davie, FL 33314 ([Click for Directions](#))
- Service will begin at **10:30 AM**
- Childcare will be provided.

Use the Zoom link below to gather with us virtually in Zoom. Catch us on Facebook live on our [facebook page](#).

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/961564350?pwd=cFpKY2RtRk4wVE5NbDczdTU5THViQT09>

Meeting ID: 961 564 350; Password: 873805

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/ab3E9JRtb9>

Rev. Amy Carol Webb

Entering Into the Christmas Story: We All Have a Role to Play

River of Grass – December 17, 2023 – Order of Service

Prelude – “What Child Is This” Words: William Chatterton Dix; Music: traditional English folk song;
Performed by: Cecilia Roy, piano

Welcome – Karen Gonzalez

Call to Worship – “Invitation to Christmas” By: Rev. Shari Woodbury

Theme Hymn #327 – “Joy, Thou Goddess” (V1 & 2) Words: Friedrich Schiller; Music: Ludwig van Beethoven; Performed by: River of Grass choir; Gary Gonzalez

Chalice Lighting –

*We light this flame to remember
A baby born under a star
Of justice, of hope, and of peace,
That we, too, may follow,
That we, too, may shine. (Webb)*

Covenant

In the light of love, let us renew our covenant as we say together:

Love is the spirit of this congregation and service is its law.

This is our great covenant:

to dwell together in peace, to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.

El Amor es el espíritu de esta congregación, y el servicio su ley principal.

Esta es nuestra gran promesa:

vivir juntos en paz, buscar la verdad a través del amor, y ayudarnos mutuamente.

Deepening Music #249 – “On This Day Everywhere” Words: Composite 1958, based on Theodoric Petri's *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; Music: Theodoric Petri's *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; Performed by: Cecilia Roy, piano

Candles of Community

Stones of Reflection

Pastoral Response

Sung Response

*From all that dwell below the skies
let songs of hope and faith arise;
let peace, good will on earth be sung
through every land, by every tongue.*

Heritage and Hope

Growing Our Beloved Community (New Member Ceremony)

Offering – <http://riverofgrassuu.org/donations.html>

Offering Music #327 – “Joy, Thou Goddess (instrumental)” Words: Friedrich Schiller; Music: Ludwig van Beethoven; Performed by: Cecilia Roy, piano

Message – “Entering into the Christmas Story” Faith Development

Closing Music #253 – “O Come, All Ye Faithful” Words: John Francis Wade; Music: John Francis Wades's manuscript, c. 1740-1743; Performed by: Cecilia Roy, piano

Announcements

Closing Words and Extinguish Chalice

Shine On and Invite to Hospitality