

# Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church



## *Welcome to Worship at Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church!*

*Our faith community extends a warm welcome to all worshipping with us today and hopes that you will return often.*

## *Welcoming All, Serving Christ, Transforming Lives*

The Service for the Lord's Day;  
First Sunday of Christmas; December 26, 2021  
*Our Vocal Leader is Bob Beilfus.*

WELCOME

Anghaarad Teague Dees

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Anghaarad Teague Dees

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*We offer God's peace to one another in the ancient words of the church:  
"The peace of Christ be with you." & response "And also with you."*

PRELUDE

*Break Forth O Beauteous Heavenly Light*

J S Bach

## DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Audrey Webb, Liturgist

L: God of light, we thank you for giving us the gift of Jesus Christ.

P: **We come before you with the wonder and delight that you come to us in the child born in a manger.**

L: Be with us on this day of birth and rebirth.

P: **Come, honor us with the presence of your gracious, joyful Spirit.**

L: Fill our weary hearts with renewed hope and joy. Rekindle in our souls the light of Christ.

P: **Glory to you in the highest, O God, glory in the highest!**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Audrey Webb, Liturgist

Source of all Light, we celebrate today the coming of your Word made flesh, your Light of Life to dwell among us. Bless us, that we might reflect the Light of Christ in our daily lives and in our world so desperate for the love, peace, hope and joy this day brings. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, the light of the world! Amen.

**\*HYMN #143**

*Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

1 Angels, from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
you, who sang creation's story,  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king!

3 Sages, leave your contemplations;  
brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great desire of nations;  
you have seen his natal star:  
come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king!

2 Shepherds, in the fields abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing;  
yonder shines the infant light:  
come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king!

4 All creation, join in praising  
God the Father, Spirit, Son,  
evermore your voices raising  
to the eternal Three in One:  
come and worship, come and worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king!

**\*CALL TO CONFESSION**

Audrey Webb, Liturgist

God's love has been poured into our hearts through the gift of the Holy Spirit. The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God in confidence. Confident in God's grace, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Audrey Webb, Liturgist

Almighty God, we confess that we let our fears get the better of us. At times we feel frozen, stuck right where we are, not only physically, but mentally and spiritually. We end up focused on the wrong things, looking back instead of looking forward. Remind us that we are not alone. Remind us that you never leave us and are always present with us. Remind us to see you in the faces of our neighbors around us. May we be hopeful and not fearful, may we be loving and not judging, may we be open and not close-minded. In Christ's name we pray and seek forgiveness. Amen. *(Please take a moment of silence for personal confession and reflection.)*

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Audrey Webb, Liturgist

Into our world, born of a woman comes, in the flesh, the living God; Moved by our plight, suffering rejection, feeling for those whose lives are flawed, pardoning all who truly repent comes Jesus Christ our Lord, God's liberating Word. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. **Thanks be to God.**

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE Hymn #103 *Come Now, O Prince of Peace vs 1***

Come now, O Prince of Peace; make us one body.  
Come, O Lord Jesus; reconcile all people

**HONORING HELEN FORD ON HER RETIREMENT**

## DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

### SCRIPTURE READING:

Luke 2:41-52

Audrey Webb, Lector

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

### ANTHEM

*O Come All Ye Faithful*

Hymn # 133

### SCRIPTURE READING

Colossians 3:12-17

Anghaarad Teague Dees

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

### SERMON

What Are You Wearing?

Anghaarad Teague Dees

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: A Christmas Affirmation** (adapted from a poem by Madeline L'Engle)

God did not wait till the world was ready, till nations were at peace.

God came when the Heavens were unsteady

and prisoners cried out for release. God did not wait for the perfect time.

God came when the need was deep and great. God dined with sinners in all their grime,

turned water into wine. God did not wait till hearts were pure.

In joy God came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.

To a world like ours, of anguished shame, God came and God's Light would not go out.

God came to a world which did not mesh; to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.

In the mystery of the Word made Flesh, the Maker of the stars was born.

We cannot wait till the world is sane to raise our songs with joyful voice,

For to share our grief, to touch our pain, God came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!

**HYMN #145***What Child Is This*

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
 on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
 Whom angels greet with anthems sweet  
 while shepherds watch are keeping?  
 This, this is Christ the King,  
 whom shepherds guard and angels sing;  
 haste, haste to bring him laud,  
 the babe, the son of Mary!

2 Why lies he in such mean estate  
 where ox and ass are feeding?  
 Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
 the silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear, shall pierce him through;  
 the cross be borne for me, for you.  
 Hail, hail, the Word made flesh,  
 the babe, the son of Mary!

3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
 come, one and all, to own him.  
 The King of kings salvation brings;  
 let loving hearts enthrone him.  
 Raise, raise the song on high.  
 The virgin sings her lullaby.  
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born,  
 the babe, the son of Mary!

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Audrey Webb

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Hymnal, page 35

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 debts,  
 As we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation.  
 But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
 and the glory, forever. Amen.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Our lives abound with signs of your matchless love, O God. Our days are full because of your mercy. As those long ago journeyed to Bethlehem and felt great joy at what had occurred, so also we come before you, praising your name for what you have made known to us. Accept our tributes to the Christ-child; use them that he may grow in stature among all people. Amen.

**\*HYMN #113***Angels We Have Heard on High*

1 Angels we have heard on high,  
 sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
 and the mountains in reply  
 echoing their joyous strains.  
 Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
 Gloria in excelsis Deo!

2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
 Why your joyous strains prolong?  
 What the gladsome tidings be

which inspire your heavenly song?  
 Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
 Gloria in excelsis Deo!

3 Come to Bethlehem and see  
 him whose birth the angels sing;  
 come, adore on bended knee  
 Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.  
 Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
 Gloria in excelsis Deo!

**BENEDICTION**

Anghaarad Teague Dees

**POSTLUDE***Angel Tidings*

Arr. C Tournquist