

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (in unison)

Lord, we offer ourselves to you this day. We offer our gifts of coins and time and talents too. Show us the right path, O Lord; point out the way for us to follow. Lead us by your truth, and teach us, for you are the God who saves, we put our hope in you. Amen.

HYMN #82 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

DISCIPLES DEPART TO SERVE GOD

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** *Lift Up Your Heads* arr. Ritter

***Please stand if able.**

THIS WEEK AT QUAKER:

Sunday, December 1

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

Wednesday, December 4

11:00 a.m. Centering Prayer

6:00 p.m. Prayer for Church Family at Home

Thursday, December 5

7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal

Saturday, December 7

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Christmas Bazaar

Poinsettias to Decorate the Sanctuary

We are now taking orders for poinsettias to place in the sanctuary during Advent. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia in honor or memory of someone, please fill out a form and place it along with a check in the offering plate or bring it by the office during the week. Each flower is \$12. The order forms can be found on a table in the Narthex. The deadline to order is Sunday, December 15.

QMPC Holiday Bazaar Saturday December 7

Come shop 9am to 1pm from local artisans and vendors for those one of a kind gifts while supporting the youth!

2025 Flower Calendar

There are some openings on the flower calendar for next year. If you are interested in providing flowers for worship next year and have not done so in the past, please contact the church office to find out what dates are available. Also, if you are on the current calendar, please contact the office to let us know you want to continue providing flowers next year.

THE CHANCEL FLOWERS this Sunday are given to the glory of God by Fran & Kent Ford in loving memory of Fran's parents, Frank Webb and Edith Steger.

OUR ELDERS ON DUTY FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER are Bob Lockridge & Sam Miller.

OUR USHERS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER are Gracie & John Lanier and Maureen & Bob Lockridge.

OUR ACOLYTES TODAY are Grace & Joy Jacob.

WORSHIP BAGS are available in a basket in the Narthex for children who stay in the sanctuary during worship. They contain tools for worship and items to foster creativity. Enjoy the bags, and at the end of worship, please return them to the basket.

HEARING DEVICES are available in the Narthex. Please see an usher for assistance.

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS are available from the ushers.

ONLINE GIVING now available! Scan this QR code or click the "Give Now" button on the front page of our website to go directly to our giving page.



Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Welcome to Worship at Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church!

*Welcoming All
Serving Christ
Transforming Lives*

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

For more than a century, Quaker Memorial has been committed to our mission of Welcoming All, Serving Christ, Transforming Lives. If you are seeking a church that offers abundant opportunities for spiritual and personal growth and Christian witness, we believe that you will find a home here.

The Service for the Lord's Day
First Sunday of Advent
December 1, 2024
Wonder. Go on and wonder.

WELCOME Anghaarad Teague Dees

ANNOUNCEMENTS Anghaarad Teague Dees

*PASSING OF THE PEACE Anghaarad Teague Dees

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 *Savior of the Nations, Come* arr. Manz

DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE The Hubbard family

Psalm 77 Bible, page 660

UNISON PRAYER

O Ancient of Days, help us to take time in the busyness of this season to allow time to slow down around us. Help us to be surprised by wonder and set aside time to offer quiet thanks. Open our eyes to the wonder-filled world all around us and fill our hearts with hope. May we wonder, go on and wonder in the days ahead. Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP Laura Robert, Liturgist

The coming of the Lord is near and we wait with hope filled hearts.

Draw close, Lord Jesus, shed your light on all that is filled with darkness.

The Advent of Emmanuel is beyond our imagining: fully human yet fully divine.

Draw Close, Lord Jesus and fill our hopeful hearts with awe and wonder.

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION Laura Robert, Liturgist

Lord Jesus, we await your coming. We wait filled with hope. We wait knowing your light will shine in the darkness. We wait anticipating your peace. We wait embracing your love. We wait with joy bubbling in our hearts. We wait with awe and wonder as the familiar words, rituals and customs birth the new thing that awaits for us. Amen.

*HYMN #104 *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*

*CALL TO CONFESSION Laura Robert, Liturgist

Let us bring to mind the things for which we are ashamed trusting that God will not let us be put to shame. Let us pray together:

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION Laura Robert, Liturgist

Jesus, if we are being completely honest it would be much easier to ignore the hard truths around us. There are poor people who lack adequate care and resources. There are vulnerable people among us who lack protection and dignity. We would rather not see them. It would be much easier if we could just pretend that everything is alright and that darkness and evil do not exist. We wouldn't have to work so hard to speak for the voiceless, to challenge injustice, to have compassion for the marginalized. Give us eyes to see, ears to hear, voices to speak and hearts to love. May we have the courage to acknowledge the need for healing and restoration. May our lives be marked by faith active in love as we watch and wait for your breaking into our world once more. *(Silence is kept)*

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON Laura Robert, Liturgist

God does not hold our sins against us. God does not shame us, but lifts us to new life. The grace of the Triune God is the same today, yesterday and forever.

Thanks be to God. May we go and live out our hope graciously and courageously Amen.

*CHORAL RESPONSE #121 *O Little Town of Bethlehem (v. 4)*

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;

cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;

O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

TIME WITH CHILDREN Skip Wodke

DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 21:25-36 Bible, page 104

Laura Robert, Lector

ANTHEM *Every Valley* Beck

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING Jeremiah 33:14-16 Bible, page 903

SERMON Where is Wonder? Anghaarad Teague Dees

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from the Iona community

We believe that God is present in the darkness before dawn;
in the waiting and uncertainty where fear and courage join hands,
conflict and caring link arms, and the sun rises over barbed wire.
We believe in a with-us God who sits down in our midst
to share our humanity.

We affirm a faith that takes us beyond the safe place:

into action, into vulnerability and into the streets.

We commit ourselves to work for change and put ourselves on the line;
to bear responsibility, take risks, live powerfully and face humiliation;
to stand with those on the edge; to choose life
and be used by the spirit for God's new community of hope.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*HYMN #347 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Lord be with you

And also with you

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & SHARING OF THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER ALL ARE SERVED

DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* arr. Ellson

2 Cents a Meal Offering

*DOXOLOGY Hymn #606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.