

HYMN #115

Away in the Manger

DISCIPLES DEPART TO SERVE GOD

***BENEDICTION**

Come and see!

The light of God has come into our world

to proclaim God's justice and love;

It has overcome the darkness and brought new life.

Come and follow!

Christ our companion has redeemed our world

He draws us into a loving family

From every tribe and family and culture.

Go and tell!

The Spirit has equipped us for service

To love our neighbors as we do ourselves

To bring God's salvation to the ends of the earth.

Come and see, come and follow, go and tell!

In God's Love the nations of the earth will put their hope.

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.

REPRISE CAROL #136 Go Tell It on the Mountain (refrain only)

*Please stand if able.

THIS WEEK AT QUAKER:

Sunday, December 29

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

Wednesday, January 1 New Year's Day

Church Office Closed

THE CHRISTMAS WREATHS on the front doors are given in loving memory of Alma (Granny Maude) & Harold Webb by Andrea & David Webb.

THE CHRISTMAS WREATH on the choir door is given in loving memory of Margaret & Robert Tucker.

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.

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.

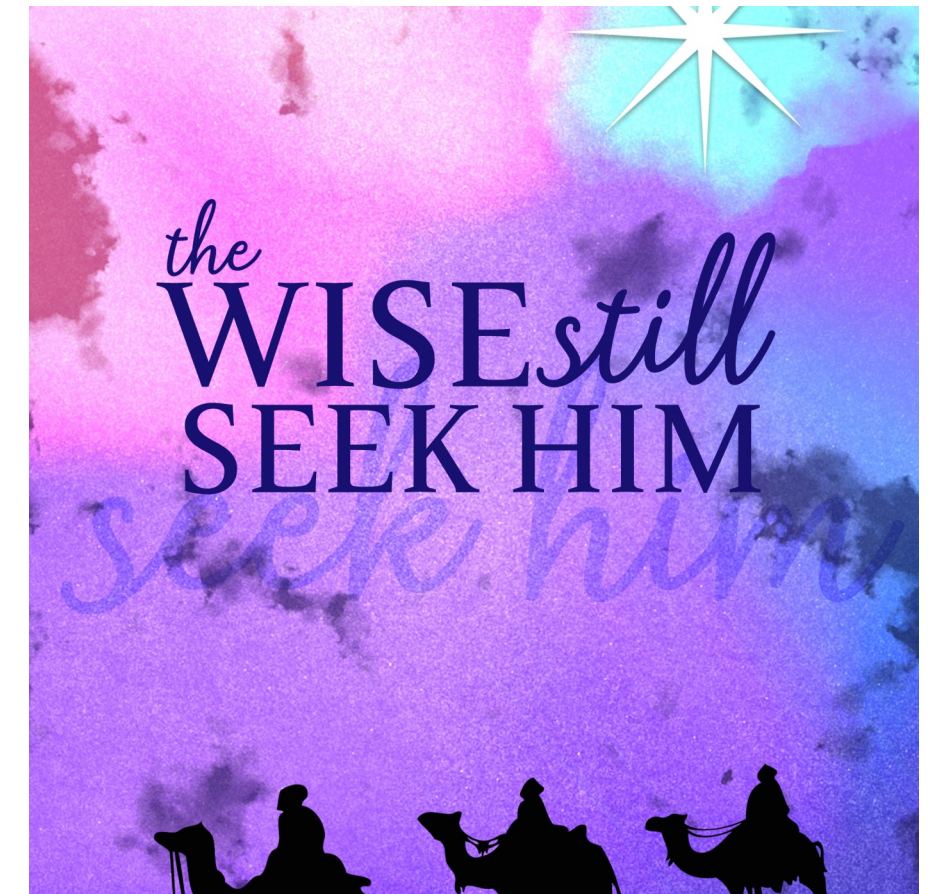
HEARING DEVICES are available in the Narthex. Please see an usher for assistance.

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



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 Christmas
December 29, 2024

WELCOME Faith Jacob
ANNOUNCEMENTS Faith Jacob
*PASSING OF THE PEACE Faith Jacob
*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 *Carol of the Bells* arr. Ellson

DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

*CALL TO WORSHIP Faith Jacob, Liturgist
Let us go with the shepherds:
Let us go to find the Savior!
Let us go with the wise ones:
Let us go to find God's promise, born for us!
Let us go with the poor and humble:
Let us go to find our King, born in a lowly manger.
Come, let us worship; come, let us adore him:
Christ the Lord!

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION Faith Jacob, Liturgist
In this Christmas season like no other, even now, O God, your name is worthy to be praised. For in your mercy and kindness you sent your Son to be our Savior. For the blessing of the Incarnation we have known and for those we have yet to recognize to you we sing our praise. Grant your Spirit to be present here in this time of worship that calls us together to acknowledge that your Word dwells among us. Amen.

*CAROL #119 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (vs. 1-2)*

*CALL TO CONFESSION Faith Jacob, Liturgist
Our God searches us and knows us...all that we are is known to God. Let us confess our sins together, for God is merciful, forgives us and heals us.

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION Faith Jacob, Liturgist
O God, when we make no room for Christ and fail to welcome him into our lives, forgive us. When we follow shooting stars and squander our gifts in Herod's court, forgive us. When we seek to cut down those who might rise above us, forgive us. When we sing sweet sentiments over Christ's birth, and fail to rejoice over his everyday presence, forgive us. We turn to you, O Christ, perfect union of Spirit and flesh...we renounce evil, we claim your love...we choose to be made whole. (*Silence is kept*) Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON Faith Jacob, Liturgist
Only a loving God would send a Savior to suffer for a sinful and forgetful people. Only a concerned God would put on human flesh and experience the same temptations that we face. My friends, Jesus welcomes us into the joy and freedom of salvation.

Today we are assured of Christ's love for us and trust the good news of the gospel. Alleluia! Amen.

*CHORAL RESPONSE #119 *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (vs. 3)*
Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.

CALL TO OFFERING Michelle Lee

OFFERTORY *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day* arr. Ellson

*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.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)
Lord, each day that you wore human flesh, you gave lovingly - without reserve. Today, let us follow us follow your great example. Receive our expressions of love: our finances, our love of God and neighbor, our service and prayers. Bless these gifts and bless us to serve you faithfully. Amen.

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from the Salt Project Gracie Lanier
As Christians, we believe in a God who creates all things: people, languages, beauty, and every color in the rainbow.

As Christians, we believe in a God who becomes flesh, is born in a stable, a refugee with no where to lay his head.

As Christians, we believe in a God who fills us with the courage to welcome the stranger, feed the hungry, and love the foreigner because we were foreigners in the land of Egypt.

This is who we are as Christians: people created to love, to welcome the stranger, and to walk, hand in hand with all God's people, through God's starry night and into the dawn.

SCRIPTURE READING Colossians 3:12-21 Bible, page 246

STORIES AND CAROLS OF CHRISTMAS

Children's Story "The Friendly Beasts" Steve Hubbard

The Story of O Little Town of Bethlehem Michelle Lee
Carol #121 O Little Town of Bethlehem

O Holy Night by Sean Dietrich Skip Wodke
Carol #147 The First Nowell (vs 1-3)

The Journey of the Magi by TS Eliot Steve Hubbard
Carol #147 The First Nowell (vs 4-6)

The Gift of the Magi by O'Henry (redacted) Peggy Deyerle
Carol #144 In the Bleak Midwinter

The Story of Go Tell it on The Mountain Gracie Lanier
*Carol #136 Go Tell it On the Mountain

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE Peggy Deyerle

A Poem for Christmas by Madeleine L'Engle

Hold silence for prayers to be offered

THE 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 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.