

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

God, we welcome you into our midst! Teach us in this time of waiting, to be open to let go of all those things that hide your presence from us. Fill us with the gift of your grace and love. May we joyfully share the gifts you have given us and may we share your love by loving your people...by loving our neighbors...by loving your world. It is with hope that we now dedicate these meager offerings to the work of your Kingdom. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

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

DISCIPLES DEPART TO SERVE GOD

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* arr. Balcombe

*Please stand if able.

THIS WEEK AT QUAKER:

Sunday, December 3

9:00 a.m. Sunday School
10:00 a.m. Worship: Communion & Two Cents a Meal offering
11:15 a.m. Children's Choir
4:00 p.m. Youth Choir
No Youth Fellowship

Tuesday, December 5

10:00 a.m. Bible Study on Zoom

Wednesday, December 6

STAR Homeschool Group meets downstairs
11:00 a.m. Centering Prayer
6:00 p.m. Prayer for Church Family at Home

Thursday, December 7

5:00 p.m. STAR Homeschool Christmas Party in Fellowship Hall
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir rehearsal

Friday, December 8

10:00 a.m. Lynchburg Retired Teachers Meeting
6:00 p.m. The Welcome Table

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 by Margaret Tucker in loving memory of her husband, Robert Tucker.

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 ACOLYTE TODAY is Olivia Evans.

OUR USHERS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER are Eric Barringer, Sharon Barringer, Bob Lockridge & Maureen Lockridge.

OUR ELDERS ON DUTY FOR DECEMBER are Liz Huband & Elizabeth Plucker.

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 AND BULLETINS 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.



QMPC Staff

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Parish Associate	Richard Goodman	Organist / Adult Choir Director	Rose Peak
Office Administrator	Deborah Ashworth	Youth Choir Director	Casey Wood
Bookkeeper	Sheryl Kesselring	Children's Choir Director	Savannah Sorrels
Treasurer	Sara Curtis		

Quaker Memorial Presbyterian Church



*Welcoming All
Serving Christ
Transforming Lives*

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.

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 3, 2023

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* Manz

DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE The Garbee family
Gather in hope, people of God. Sing the Advent song!
Song of faith, song of trust, a song to welcome the Christ.

Gather in hope, people of God and hear the prophet's song:
"O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence - When you, O Lord did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait." (Isaiah 64:1,3-4)

And so we wait.

Let's light the first candle, for the waiting has begun. We are pregnant with anticipation, we feel hope rising up within us. And so we light the first candle and name it hope. Candle of hope, burn bright and fill our hearts with the Christ Child's light. As we wait, we are like children hearing lullabies cooing us to rest with hearts filled with light and love and hope.

Lullaby: *All Through the Night*
Savannah Sorrels, soloist

(The first candle is lit as the soloist sings the lullaby.)

Unison Prayer:
As our days grow shorter and our nights longer, we wait for you, O God. We are hopeful for Christ's presence in the midst of this world that is filled with turmoil. God, it is not easy for us to wait, but that is what this season is about...waiting is what Advent calls us to do. Comfort us in our impatience and remind us that in the lullabies of hope, your time will come for Christ comes on the 'morrow and Christ is here. Amen.

*HYMN #87 *Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

*CALL TO CONFESSION Laura Robert, Liturgist
As we begin this Advent season we confess that we have not always been patient. We want to rush ahead, rather than wait. As this season begins, let us slow down, listen to our hearts, prepare ourselves for the coming Christ and trust that God is with us. Let us confess our sin together:

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION Laura Robert, Liturgist
Forgive us, Lord, for the times we refuse to listen to those who announce your presence. Forgive us when we forget that you are among us, you are calling us, you have great hopes for us. We allow our arrogance to believe that we don't need you and when things go awry we blame you. We allow our impatience to rush through this Advent season, but sometimes we need to slow down. We need your strength, O God, for this journey...slow us down that we might see you, we might hear you, we might trust you. Help us remember that we are never alone. We pray in the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us. Amen.

(Please take a moment of silence for personal confession and reflection.)

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON Laura Robert, Liturgist
The truth of Advent is this, God is coming to us! We are not alone. In Christ we are accepted. We are set free of the past. We are given to the future. Look at the light shining, this is what hope looks like.
We are not alone, God comes to us in Emmanuel! Alleluia! Amen.

CHORAL RESPONSE *O Come, O Come Emmanuel (Refrain)*

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

BAPTISM OF ALAYNA JACQUELINE HANEY - daughter of Alex & Nadege Haney

DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Bible, page 201
Laura Robert, Lector

ANTHEM *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* arr. Baldwin
Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 15:19-21 Bible, page 77

SERMON Miriam's Song of Joy! Anghaarad Teague Dees

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed
I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

HYMN #538 *Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises! (Verse 1)*

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

SOLO *I am the Bread of Life* Clausen
Gabe Trent

I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE

PRAYER AFTER ALL ARE SERVED

DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

OFFERTORY *On a Bethlehem Hill* arr. Peterson

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.