

**THIS WEEK AT QUAKER:**

**Sunday, December 31**

9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

**Monday, January 1 New Year's Day**

Church Office Closed

**Wednesday, January 3**

No STAR Homeschool Group

11:00 a.m. Centering Prayer

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



**Luncheon to Support the Blind in our Community**

There will be an annual luncheon at Calvary Baptist Church on Monday, January 8th. If anyone would like to serve at this luncheon or provide food, please contact Shirley Morris at 434-841-5438.

**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**

Pastor: Rev. Anghaarad Teague Dees

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Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Phone: 239-2548 Fax: 239-6071

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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 Christmas  
December 31, 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 *Break Forth O Beauteous Heavenly Light* Handel

DISCIPLES GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Faith Jacob, liturgist  
L: We waited.  
P: **And imagined a savior.**  
L: We imagined power.  
P: **One like the world but stronger and on our side.**  
L: We imagined a king on a white horse wielding a sword.  
P: **We got a baby born in a stable among the livestock.**  
L: We imagined the work done for us through the destruction of our enemies.  
P: **We receive a baby who will teach us our calling to seek reconciliation and to love expansively.**  
L: Praise be to God for the unexpected babe of Bethlehem.  
P: **Praise to the wisdom of love. Amen**

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION Faith Jacob, liturgist  
Christmas God, because you came to us as a helpless little baby, we are reminded that each of us, young and old alike, are your children. Through the incarnation of your Son, Jesus Christ, the Word has been made flesh and light has shattered the darkness. We gather this day on the other side of Christmas morning, we rejoice that we have just scratched the surface in understanding the good news that is before us. How great you are that you have chosen us as your dwelling place. Bless this our worship and lead us to your everlasting light. Amen.

\*HYMN #143 *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

CALL TO CONFESSION Faith Jacob, liturgist  
As we continue the season of Christmas, let us confess our sins, our actions and inactions that are contrary to the kingdom of the newborn King.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, we confess our sins against you and one another, and pray that you will fill us with your light, that we may live our lives as true disciples in your name without counting the cost. We would like to see ourselves as benevolent and caring at all times but we recognize that often our actions or our inactions cause harm to others. We cling to the security of our privilege rather than standing up for the rights of the oppressed and we fail to speak against those who profit in the harming of innocents. We truly fear to know the reality of injustice in this world. So we ask, Merciful God accept our repentance and show us the way. Amen.

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Faith Jacob, liturgist

God's light is present in this world. Present in the Christ child, born to lead us out of darkness. Present in the hearts of those who love and welcome the Christ child. We are loved, we are forgiven.

God'Alleluia! Amen.

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

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

TIME WITH CHILDREN Richard Goodman

DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING Galatians 4:4-7 Bible, page 231  
Faith Jacob, lector

ANTHEM *Who Would Think That What Was Needed* Bell  
Gerald Doyle, soloist

SCRIPTURE READING John 1:1-14 Bible, page 111

SERMON Richard Goodman

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

HYMN #145 *What Child is This*

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Work of Christmas*  
by Howard Thurman

When the song of the angels is stilled, When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home, When the shepherds are back with  
their flock, The work of Christmas begins:

To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among others,  
To make music in the heart.

PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* Praetorius

\*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)

Our hearts praise you, O Lord, our spirits rejoice in God our savior, for you have remembered us, your humble servants. We celebrate and give thanks for the great things you have done for us. You have kept your promises to us and may we keep our promises to you. In Christ you have shown us how to love, how to serve, how to sacrifice. Accept know these gifts of our lives and our labors that we know return to you. Holy One, be the light in our darkness this day, that we might reflect your light into the dark corners of our world. Amen.

\*HYMN #136 *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

DISCIPLES DEPART TO SERVE GOD

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE *Angels We Have Heard on High* Barnes

\*Please stand if able