

Confessing

Confession: Psalm 25:1-10

One: In you, YHWH, I lift up my soul.

All: My God, I trust in you.

One: No one who hopes in you will ever be put to shame.

All: But shame will come to the wantonly treacherous.

One: Guide me in your truths and teach me,
for my hope is in you all day long.

**All: Remember your mercies, YHWH,
your love – your ancient and unwavering love.**

One: Pardon the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways.

**All: Remember me because of your love,
because of your goodness, YHWH!**

One: You guide the humble in what is right, and teach them your way.

**All: All your paths YHWH are full of love and faithfulness
for those who keep your Covenant.**

Hymn: STJ 54 – *Longing for light*

Hearing the Word

Hymn: STS 16 – *Hope before us*

Time for Children

Penny Russell

Scripture Reading

I Thessalonians 3:9-13

Luke 21:25-36

Congregational response:

One: For the Word of God in Scripture,

**All: For the Word of God among us;
For the Word of God within us;
Thanks be to God.**

Message: ***Hope in the Journey: YHWH is Our Justice*** Cynthia Lapp

Hymn: HWB 400 – *Santo, santo, santo*

Communion

*We practice an open communion and all are welcome to partake.
Please come forward down the center aisle and return by the side aisles.
There will also be anointing and prayer available with one of the pastors.*

Responding

Responses to the Message

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Praying Together

The Work of the Church

Greeting our Guests

Announcements

The Ministry of Giving

Children's Offering

Offertory: *Sanctuary Song*

Prayer of Dedication

Sending

Hymn: HWB 178 – *Come, thou long-expected Jesus*

Benediction

TODAY

Greeter: Peter Goering

Ushers: Anna Jeide-Detweiler, Keith Swartzendruber

Nursery: Elena Zehr, Mike Zehr

Worship Arts: Doris Bartel

NEXT WEEK

Nathan Jeide-Detweiler

Elham Eftekhary, Karen Minatelli

Laurel Macondray, Angie Wiens

Melanie Friesen

TREASURER'S REPORT

Offering Last Week – \$6,715

Weekly Goal – \$5,863

Attendance Last Week – 82

Lectionary scripture for next Sunday, December 9:

Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

CALENDAR

Sun. 12/2— Advent I; Cindy Lapp preaches; Church Council, 12:45 p.m.

Sun. 12/9— Advent II; Francisco Serrano from San Mateo preaches;
fellowship meal (see announcement).

Sun. 12/16— Advent III; Christmas pageant (see announcement).

Thurs. 12/20—PG Plaza Day Center meal (see announcement).

Sun. 12/23—Advent IV; Cindy Lapp preaches.

Sun. 12/24—Christmas Eve service, 5:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 9 Fellowship Meal: This will be our Christmas Fellowship Meal and we have invited the San Mateo congregation to join us. Hospitality committee will provide ham, and please bring more food than usual (Christmas favorites) to share. Bring your own table services if possible.

Advent & Christmas Announcements

Advent Worship Arts: The worship visuals during this Advent season focus on the theme of *nurture in the journey* as chosen by HMC Council and Pastorate for the year. The journeys of Mary and Joseph, and the wise ones are familiar to us. We are conscious of the many people who undertake perilous journeys to escape danger, such as the caravan of migrants from Central America. Some journeys are physical or geographical in nature; some encompass a route to spiritual change or transformational justice. What visually represents nurture in such journeys? The cloth draped from the arched support beams conveys the shelter of a tent over our heads as we gather together, providing a nurturing space for reflection and support. The banners express a night sky thick with stars, which in the ever-darkening days of mid-winter in the northern hemisphere, might provide illumination, inspiration or direction.

Advent/Christmas Offering: Our Advent/Christmas offering will go to our work with DMV Sanctuary Congregation Network, an interfaith network of congregations in the DC/MD/VA region that provides support and solidarity to neighbors, friends, and family who fear being detained, deported or profiled. In the face of hate and discrimination, our faith calls us to show love, compassion and hospitality. A primary focus for the Network is Deportation Defense. This includes advocacy, community organizing, fundraising, family support, media outreach and communications. Network members accompany people to ICE check-ins, legal hearings and congressional visits; hold Defend Your Rights trainings; host people who are at risk of deportation; support congregations that are hosting; and press cities and states to get ICE out of schools, jails and courts and to end all policies that racially profile and over-incarcerate people of color. As an active member of the Network, HMC has already contributed significant time and energy to these activities. We are also called on to raise financial support for the Network's activities. **HMC has a goal of raising \$5,000 through our Advent offering to support this work.** The DMV Sanctuary Congregation Network needs to raise an additional \$50,000 in the next two months to hire one more part-time organizer. Thus, besides our congregational offering, we also invite anyone who may be interested in this cause to reach out to your personal networks to invite them to donate via an online giving platform here: <https://give.faithinaction.org/team/DMV>. Please contact Doris Bartel or Cindy Lapp if you have questions.

Christmas Pageant December 16: This year we will hold our impromptu pageant on December 16th instead of waiting till Epiphany! While no rehearsal will be required, any kids and youth who are able to come early to

(Christmas Pageant continued)

church will gather in the sanctuary to get a sense of how the story will flow and may be given specific roles. The pageant will take place that morning during the worship service. Fear not! If you can't make it to the Sunday school time gathering, you can still participate in the pageant during worship!

Christmas Eve Service: On December 24 at 5:00 p.m., we will hold our annual Christmas Eve service of lessons and carols! This service is full of music and Scripture as we gather together to celebrate the birth of Christ. Contact Michelle Burkholder if you wish to participate in the service.

Sunday School for All Ages in December: Sunday School in December will not be held at UPCoB. A traditional Sunday School class will be offered for the 2/3s in the nursery at HMC. For children and youth:

- Dec. 9 at 9:30 a.m. in the HMC foyer, ages 4+ will have a gathering time followed by craft tables to make Christmas ornaments together.
- Dec. 16 at 9:30 a.m. in the HMC sanctuary, ages 4+ will have a gathering time & Christmas Pageant preparation (see separate announcement).
- Dec. 23 at 10:00 a.m. in the HMC Fellowship Hall, all ages are welcome to participate in Carols and Treats. Does your family have a favorite seasonal carol you like to sing? Do you know carols from other cultures/in languages other than English? Bring along some holiday treats (sweet or salty welcome) to share and your favorite carols to sing together before worship; there will also be a hot cocoa and toppings bar!
- Dec. 30 at 10:00 a.m. in the HMC Fellowship Hall, all ages are welcome to gather for a time of informal fellowship and treats before church.

For Adult Education, there will be two options: 1.) Cindy Lapp will lead a drop-in choir in some new pieces that could potentially land in the new hymnal. Those who attend will have the opportunity to sing at the Christmas Eve service, but it is not required. Location will be in the sanctuary on Dec. 9 and 23, and in the basement on Dec. 16. 2.) If singing isn't for you, come to an informal discussion group at the church house (6220 43rd Ave.). Please come with a favorite seasonal poem, song, story or anything really, to share and discuss as a group.

Advent Devotional from Presbyterians for Earth Care: As Christians we are called to reconciliation and covenant with all of creation—our community of life, all of it a gift of the Creator. In a year that has seen release of multiple major reports detailing how our carbon pollution threatens this entire community, we highlight this devotional as a way to help focus our attention and give us time to consider how we can respond meaningfully to this breach in our communal life. <http://presbyearthcare.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/2018-Advent-Devotional-print-layout-.pdf>