



Hyattsville Mennonite Church

A Christ-centered welcoming church committed to peace & justice.

Vol. 68

December 13, 2020

No. 15

Gathering for Worship via Zoom

Gathering & Prelude (10:45 a.m.)

Anne-Claire Frank-Seisay, tech host

Advent III Visual:

Our Advent theme is: “anticipating | incarnating”. The visual prelude will explore this theme by becoming and being a unique in-process image each Sunday as the weeks of Advent pass (art by Michelle Burkholder).

Introductory Song: “We Are Waiting For You” by The Many

The Many is an uncommon, intentionally diverse collective making music for people to sing together about peace and justice and a world where all belong. [Learn more about their work here.](#)

Welcome & Call to Worship (11:00 a.m.)

Cindy Lapp

Praising

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

Karen Minatelli, Elina Minatelli

Come, thou long-expected Jesus!
born to set thy people free,
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of ev’ry nation,
joy of ev’ry longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit,
rule in all our hearts alone.
By thine all-sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Lighting of the third Advent Candle

Tony Brun & Christy McKay family

All are invited to light a candle or lamp where you are.

Confessing

Confession (from John 1)

Cindy Lapp

Hymn: HWB 71 – *Joyful, joyful, we adore thee*

Karen Minatelli, Elina Minatelli

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love.
Hearts unfold like flow’rs before thee,
praising thee their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
drive the dark of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day!

Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever bless’d,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
all who live in love are thine.
Teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heav’n reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
blooming meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
call us to rejoice in thee.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus
which the morning stars began.
Love divine is reigning o’er us,
leading us with mercy’s hand.
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife.
Joyful music lifts us sunward
in the triumph song of life!

Hearing The Word

Time for Children

Michelle Burkholder

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 126

I Thessalonians 5:16-24

Dwight Miyake

Max Janzen

Message: *The Gospel of Joy-Smashing*

Donna Britt

Donna Britt is the author of *Brothers (and me): A Memoir of Loving and Giving*, which explores the intersection of two seemingly unrelated issues: women's oft-unexamined giving to the men in their lives, and the unjust police killing of her brother Darrell and its effects. A former nationally syndicated columnist for the *Washington Post*, Britt lives in Silver Spring, MD with her husband and sons. You can also find [her piece from this past June](#) connecting her brother's death and that of George Floyd.

Musical Interlude

Karen Minatelli

Responding

Prayer

Cindy Lapp

If you want to share something to be included in the prayer, please type it in the chat box.

Offering & Announcements

Your offerings can be mailed to the church, you can give through the HMC website on PayPal, or set up with your bank to have a check sent to the church each month.

Our Advent special offering will go towards the work of Life After Release (LAR). Please mark your checks accordingly for this offering. Thank you for your generosity!

Ministry Highlight: LAR participatory defense program

Dr. Linda Green

Benediction

Cindy Lapp

Hymn: HWB 184 – *Hark! the glad sound*

Hark! the glad sound! The Savior comes!
the Savior promised long!

Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne,
and ev'ry voice a song.

On him the Spirit largely poured,
exerts its sacred fire,
wisdom and might and zeal and love,
his holy breast inspire.

He comes the pris'ners to release
in Satan's bondage held.

The gates of brass before him burst,
the iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,
the bleeding soul to cure,
and with the treasures of his grace
to enrich the humble poor.

Karen Minatelli, Elina Minatelli

His silver trumpets publish loud
the jub'lee of the Lord.

Our debts are all remitted now,
our heritage restored.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,
thy welcome shall proclaim,
and heav'ns eternal arches ring
with thy beloved name.

Conversing

Conversation & Welcoming Our Guests

hosted by Michelle Burkholder

This time of conversation is a space to share any joys, concerns, or other reflections from today's service.