



# Hyattsville Mennonite Church

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

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No. 16

## *Gathering for Worship via Zoom*

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

Brian Brubaker, tech host

### Advent IV 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 211 – *Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming*

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming  
from tender stem has sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming  
as saints of old have sung.  
It came, a flow'ret bright,  
amid the cold of winter,  
when half-spent was the night.

Emily O'Brien

Flower, whose fragrance tender  
with sweetness fills the air,  
dispel in glorious splendor  
the darkness ev'rywhere.  
True man, yet very God,  
from sin and death he saves us,  
and lightens ev'ry load.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
the Rose I have in mind.  
With Mary we behold it,  
the virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright,  
she bore to us a Savior,  
when half-spent was the night.

Lighting of the fourth Advent Candle\*\*

Penny Russell

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

\*adapted from Psalm 89 (from Psalms for Praying by Nan Merrill)

\*\*<https://mennocreationcare.org/a-prayer-for-oak-flat/>

## Confessing

Confession (adapted from HWB 703)

Cindy Lapp

***Gracious God, hear our confession.***

***Our hope is uncertain,  
our forgiveness slow,  
our compassion wavers,  
our carry-through is weak.***

***We exalt the proud and powerful,  
put down the weak,  
saturate the rich with good things  
neglect poor people,  
send hungry people away empty-handed.***

***Show us your mercy.***

***Help us show mercy.***

Hymn: HWB 358 – *Óyenos, mi Dios*

Eric Stoltzfus, Cindy Lapp

*Óyenos, mi Dios, óyenos, mi Dios. Listen to your people. Óyenos, mi Dios.*

Words of Assurance (from Psalm 89)

## Hearing The Word

Time for Children (Luke 1:26-38)

Michelle Burkholder

Scripture Reading:

Luke 1:46-55

Lily Groff

Message: ***Permítanme Hablar (Allow Me To Speak)***

AnaYelsi Velasco-Sanchez

AnaYelsi Velasco-Sanchez (she/her/hers) is an IndoLatinx mujerista offering education, coaching, consulting, writing, and art—all intended to assist people in building an interlocking framework for justice. She is the founder of En Conjunto, a collective of people of color working independently at the intersection of justice and spirituality. She also co-created the Digital Dine-In Project, a virtual dining and learning experience bringing people together from around the world. She is an independent practitioner but partners as a co-coordinator with Liberation School South and serves on the board of the Festival Center in Washington, DC. You can follow her on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [Facebook](#).

Musical Interlude: “Sheep may safely graze”, J.S. Bach

Janet Peachey, Emily O’Brien,  
Eric Stoltzfus

## Responding

Prayer

Michelle Burkholder

*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 & Court Watch, a personal reflection

Anne-Claire Frank-Seisay

Benediction (adapted from Romans 16: 25-27)

Cindy Lapp

Hymn: STS 124 – *My soul cries out*

(1) My soul cries out with a joyful shout  
that the God of my heart is great,  
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things  
that you bring to the ones who wait.  
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,  
and my weakness you did not spurn,  
so from east to west shall my name be blest.  
Could the world be about to turn?  
[Refrain]

Emily O'Brien

(2) Though I am small, my God, my all,  
you work great things in me,  
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past  
to the end of the age to be.  
Your very name puts the proud to shame,  
and to those who would for you yearn,  
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,  
for the world is about to turn.  
[Refrain]

[Refrain]

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.  
Let the fires of your justice burn.  
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,  
and the world is about to turn!

(3) From the halls of power to the fortress tower,  
not a stone will be left on stone.  
Let the king beware for your justice tears  
ev'ry tyrant from his throne.  
The hungry poor shall weep no more,  
for the food they can never earn;  
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,  
for the world is about to turn.  
[Refrain]

(4) Though the nations rage from age to age,  
we remember who holds us fast:  
God's mercy must deliver us  
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.  
This saving word that our forebears heard  
is the promise which holds us bound,  
'til the spear and rod can be crushed by God,  
who is turning the world around.  
[Refrain]

## Conversing

Conversation & Welcoming Our Guests

hosted by Cindy Lapp

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