



Hyattsville Mennonite Church

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

Vol. 71

December 17, 2023

No. 14

Gathering for Worship

VT – *Voices Together* hymnal (purple)

Prelude (*Allegro from Haydn Sonata in G, Hoboken XVI: G1*)

Praising

Call to Worship (*adapted from Psalm 126*)

When YHWH brought us captive back to Zion, we thought we were dreaming!

Our mouths were filled with laughter, then our tongues with songs of joy.

And from the nations we heard “Their god has done great things for them.”

Now set our captive hearts free, YHWH! Make them like streams in the driest desert.

Then those who now sow in tears will reap with shouts of joy.

Those who go out weeping as they carry their seeds, will come back with shouts of joy as they carry their harvest home.

Hymn: VT 2 – *Come, All You People*

Lighting the Advent Candle (*from Isaiah 64*)

God has sent us to bring good news to those who are poor;

to heal broken hearts;

to proclaim release to those held captive

and liberation to those in prison;

to announce a year of favor from YHWH, and the day of God’s vindication;

to comfort all who mourn, to provide for those who grieve in Zion —

to give a wreath of flowers instead of ashes,

the oil of gladness instead of tears, a cloak of praise instead of despair.

They will be known as trees of integrity, planted by YHWH to display God’s glory.

They will restore the ancient ruins, and rebuild sites long devastated;

they will repair the ruined cities, neglected for generations...

They will be known as trees of integrity,

planted by YHWH to display God’s glory.

I will joyfully exult in YHWH, who is the joy of my soul!

Confessing

Confession

Messiah Remix

2-3. *Comfort Ye and Every Valley*

Haggai 2:6-7; Malachi 3: 1-3; Isaiah 7:14

Isaiah 40:9, 60:1

Scripture Sketchers

Hymn: VT 252 – *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

Isaiah 60:2-3

Scripture Sketchers

12. *For unto Us a Child is Born*

Congregation

14-16. *“Angel Recitatives”*

17. *Glory to God*

Congregation

18. *Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion*

Isaiah 35:4, 6b-7, Isaiah 40:11

Come Unto Me

Choir

44. *Hallelujah*

Congregation

Responding

Responses

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Praying Together

Work of the Church

Welcoming our Guests

Announcements

The Ministry of Giving

Children’s Offering

Ministry Highlight: Megan Flores, Executive Director of IROC

Advent Offering: *Immigrant and Refugee Outreach Center (IROC)*
Offertory
Prayer of Dedication

Sending

Hymn: VT 261 – *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*
Benediction

Lectionary for Next Sunday

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16; Luke 1:46b-55; Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26;
Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38

Calendar

- Dec. 21:** *Longest Night Service*, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 24: *4th Sunday of Advent*, Cindy preaches, 11:00 a.m.
Dec. 31: *Lessons & Carols*, 11:00 a.m.
Jan. 7: *Epiphany Pageant*, 11:00 a.m.
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Announcements

Longest Night Service, Dec 21: This year in lieu of a Christmas Eve evening service, HMC is holding a “Longest Night” service on Thursday, Dec. 21, the winter solstice, at 7:30 p.m. The holiday season can often be busy and exhausting so we invite you to take a pause for some quiet amidst the festive frenzy. All are invited to this service of poems, scripture, silence, and music.

Volunteers needed for December 28 Day Center Meal: We need volunteers to prepare chili, fruit and bottled water for the meal on Thursday, December 28 at the [PG Plaza Day Center](#). If you can help, please sign up using the form in the listserv announcements.

Advent/Christmas Offering: This year's advent offering will go to the *Immigrant and Refugee Outreach Center (IROC)*, which serves the DMV area. IROC has served more than 3000 individuals, 30% of which do not receive any resettlement agency support. They are volunteer run and have only recently hired a part-time person to help coordinate contributions. Thank you for your generous donations.

Advent Worship Art: As we explore Being Present during the advent season, the worship arts display will also be present with us. Instead of a changing and progressive banner series, we will worship with the same banners throughout the season and see what they reveal to us the longer we are present with them. Small shifts may present themselves over time, or perhaps the changes will happen within us. Wherever the journey takes us, we invite you to practice being present with what is.

Church Year Theme

Grow Boldly



Assistive Listening Devices are available. Please ask an usher for assistance.