



Hyattsville Mennonite Church

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

Vol. 71

December 24, 2023

No. 15

Gathering for Worship

VT – *Voices Together* hymnal (purple)

Prelude

Praising

Call to Worship (*adapted from 2 Samuel 7*)

You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen ones,
I have sworn to David and Bathsheeba:
'I will establish your descendants forever,
and build your throne for all generations.'"
Then you spoke in a vision to your one, and said:
"I have exalted one chosen from the people.
I have found my beloved servant; with my holy oil I have anointed them.
My hand shall always remain with them; my arm also shall strengthen them.
They will not be outwitted, the wicked shall not bring them low.
My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with them;
and in my name the horn shall be sounded. They shall cry to me,
'You are my Creator, my God, and the Rock of my salvation!'

Hymn: VT 97 – *Magnificat*

Lighting the Advent Candle (*adapted from Psalm 89*)

**We light this Candle of Love as a sign that we will be
Present with Love in the world.
We will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;
with our voices, we will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.
We declare that your steadfast love is established forever;
your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

Hymn: VT 241 – *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Confessing

Confession

Hymn: VT 255 – *Love Came Down at Christmas*

Hearing The Word

Scripture Sketchers: *Luke 1:26-46*

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:46b-55

Message: Present with Mary & Elizabeth

Hymn: VT 208 – *With Mary Sing Magnificat*

Responding

Responses

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Praying Together

Work of the Church

Welcoming our Guests

Announcements

The Ministry of Giving

Children's Offering

Advent Offering: *Immigrant and Refugee Outreach Center (IROC)*

Offertory

Prayer of Dedication

Sending

Benediction

Hymn: VT 412 – *My Soul Cries Out*

Lectionary for Next Sunday

Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40

Calendar

- Dec. 31:** *Lessons & Carols Service*, 11:00 a.m.
- Jan. 7:** *Epiphany Pageant*, 11:00 a.m.
- Jan. 14:** *Worship Service*, Cynthia Lapp preaches, 11:00 a.m.
- Jan. 21:** *Anabaptist World Fellowship Sunday*, 11:00 a.m.
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Announcements

Bell Choir Rehearsal: For those who have signed up to be part of the bell choir performing on Dec. 31, please stick around immediately after today's service for a short rehearsal and remember to show up by 9:30 a.m. next Sunday to rehearse.

Church Office Closed Dec. 25-27: The pastors and admin assistant will be out of the office Mon.-Wed. this week. They will be back on Thursday, Dec. 28.

Coffee and Cookies on Dec 31: Let's enjoy one last little feast together in 2023. Bring your favorite cookies or holiday treats to share during the coffee time on Sunday, Dec. 31 at 10:00 a.m. (before the service). All are welcome to join the sugar fest in the fellowship hall.

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.
