

Gathering for Worship VT – Voices Together hymnal (purple)

Prelude

Praising

Call to Worship (adapted from 1 Corinthians 1:3-9)

Grace to you and peace from our Loving God and our Savior Jesus Christ. We give thanks to God for the grace that has been given to us in Christ Jesus; we have been enriched in Christ,

in speech and knowledge of every kind.

You are not lacking in any spiritual gift

as you wait for the revealing of our Savior Jesus Christ.

You will be strengthened so that you may be present

with hope through Christ Jesus.

God is faithful and calls us into fellowship with Jesus Christ.

Hymn: VT 666 - In Thee Is Gladness

Lighting the Advent Candle (with Isaiah 64:3-5a)

The gift of hope is essential

because it reminds us that hard times do not have the last word.

Hope is not simply a wish.

Hope calls us to action based on a belief that things can be different. We can work in hope to bring about a better world.

When you did awesome things that we could not have expected,

you came down, and the mountains quaked in your presence!

From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived,

no eye has seen any God besides you,

who works for those who wait for you.

You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways.

Confessing

Confession Hymn: VT 828 – *Wild Hope in the Wind*

Hearing The Word

Scripture Sketchers: Mark 13:24-37

Scripture Reading Mark 13:24-37

Message: Present to Hope Hymn: VT 209 – We Dream of a Turning

Responding

Communion Lord's Prayer *All are welcome to partake. Non-gluten option is available.*

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

Hymn: VT 248 – *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* Benediction

Lectionary for Next Sunday

Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; 2 Peter 3:8-15a; Mark 1:1-8

Calendar

- **Dec. 5:** CUCE Fundraiser at Franklin's
- **Dec. 9:** *HMC Youth Child Care Fundraiser,* 10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.

Dec. 10: 2nd Sunday of Advent, Michelle Burkholder preaches, 11:00 a.m
Fellowship Meal, 12:00 p.m.
Cookie & Gingerbread House Decorating, 12:30 p.m.

- **Dec.** 17: *3rd Sunday of Advent,* Messiah Sing-a-long, 11:00 a.m.
- Dec. 21: Longest Night Service, 7:30 p.m.
- Dec. 24: 4th Sunday of Advent, Cindy preaches, 11:00 a.m.

Announcements

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.

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. **CUCE Fundraiser at Franklin's, Dec. 5:** Join us for a fundraiser at <u>Franklin's</u> in Hyattsville on Tuesday, Dec. 5 to benefit the Day Center run by <u>Congregations United for Compassion</u> <u>and Empowerment</u> (CUCE). You can eat at Franklin's, order carry-out or delivery for lunch or dinner, order a gift certificate or shop at the general store. Franklin's will donate 20% of your before-tax total -- but you must show your receipt to the host to participate.

Cookie Decorating, Sunday, Dec. 10: There will be gingerbread houses and cookies to decorate immediately following the Fellowship Meal on December 10. Please come and let your Christmas creativity flow!

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.

Church Year Theme GROW Boldly

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