



# Hyattsville Mennonite Church

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

Vol. 73

March 22, 2026

No. 27

## Gathering For Worship

Prelude

### Praising

Call to Worship

One: Come into God's presence,  
you who imagine and you who seek,  
you who disrupt and you who repair.

**All: By the Spirit, we gather in hope.**

One: Come into God's keeping,  
you who bear the divine image,  
you who are in this world but not of it,  
you who feel tested or tried.

**All: In Christ, we gather and we belong.**

One: Come into God's presence,  
singing for joy and for justice;  
bringing prayer and worship, your most faithful acts of resistance.

**All: To God be the glory! We gather to praise!**

Hymn: 47 – *God of Our Strength*

Lighting the Peace Lamp

### Confessing

Confession

*We will hold silence for the next few moments. As you continue to focus on your breath, you are invited to ponder the following words of prayer:*

**All: We confess that our purchases support harmful practices and abusive regimes. We confess that our entertainment choices, at times, center people who mock the weak.**

**We confess that our participation in consumerism and disposability causes destruction of creation. Forgive us for aligning our allegiance with systems and corporations that harm life and cause suffering. Help us resist the temptation to devote ourselves to worldly ways that offend your righteousness. We choose to give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, so we might have open hands to serve you better. Amen.**

Hymn: 748 – *Take, O Take Me as I Am*

Words of Assurance

## Hearing the Word

A Time for Children

Scripture Reading: Mark 12:13-17

Message:

Natasha White

### **Giving to God What Belongs to God: The Call to Defend Human Dignity**

Hymn: 172 – *God Calls You Good*

## Responding

Responding to the Message

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

*Please come forward to the mic if you wish to share something.*

Praying Together

Life of the Church

Welcoming our Guests

Announcements

## Ministry of Giving

Children's Offering: *Children are invited to bring their offering forward at this time*

Lent Offering: Life After Release (LAR)

Offering: *You are invited to bring your offering forward at this time*

*Offertory*

Prayer of Dedication

## Sending

Hymn: 827 – *Move in Our Midst*

Benediction

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## Lectionary for Next Sunday

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29      Matthew 21:1-11

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## Calendar

- March 24:** Prayer Vigil: Asylum Case at the Supreme Court, 8 a.m.
- March 25:** Dinner & Biblical Storytelling event with Storyteller Tracy Radosevic, 6:15-9:15 p.m. St Andrew's Episcopal Church, College Park, MD
- March 26:** PG Day Center Meal, Volunteers need to prepare the meal and to serve. Sign up is posted on listserv.
- March 27:** Film Screening: 7-9 p.m. Film screening of *Exodus*, a documentary capturing the humanitarian crisis unfolding at the U.S. - Mexico border.
- March 29:** *Palm Sunday*, processional 10:40 a.m.
- April 2:** *Maundy Thursday* Service, 6:30 p.m. A light meal will be served. RSVP link shared on the listserv. RSVP by March 30<sup>th</sup>.
- April 3:** *Good Friday*, Holy Comforter Service, 7 p.m.
- April 5:** *Easter Brunch*, 9:30-10:30 a.m.  
*Easter Service*, Michelle Burkholder preaches
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## Announcements

**Lent Offering:** During Lent, HMC is fundraising and gathering volunteers for Life After Release. Our goal is to fundraise \$5,000 for LAR's Surviving Justice Retreat. To donate,

you can either write a check and place it in the LAR donation basket or visit <https://givebutter.com/life-after-release>. To volunteer for a LAR program, please see our fliers in the foyer or visit <https://www.mobilize.us/lifeafterrelease>

**LAR Jail Support Returns:** LAR's Jail Support resumes in April! Donation bins are in the foyer. Items needed now: shoestrings, sanitary pads (various sizes), feminine wipes, travel-size deodorant, mouthwash, toothpaste, lotion, and hand wipes. Food donations will be collected later in April.

**Welcome to Natasha White**, a formerly incarcerated survivor of solitary confinement who served fifteen years in the New York Prison System. After her release, she became a campaign leader in the Close Rikers Movement and the HALT SOLITARY campaign, helping secure a historic legislative win in New York in March 2021.

**Asylum Case:** March 24th the Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in *Noem v. Al Otro Lado*, the most important asylum case in generations. HMC signed onto this multi-faith amicus brief. Before oral arguments an in-person faith vigil will be held outside SCOTUS at 8 a.m.