



SECOND SUNDAY
OF ADVENT

“GOOD
OLD-
FASHIONED
‘FEAR &
TREMBLING”

SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 8TH, 2024

10AM WORSHIP SERVICE

MEDIA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome

MPC'S MISSION

Worship. Grow. Serve.

Together

VISITING TODAY?

If this is your first time worshipping with us, we hope you will feel welcome. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us by phone at 610-566-3944.

We also invite you to visit our website at www.mediapresbyterian.org

Leading Worship This Morning...

Reverend Dr. David Cagle, Transitional Pastor

Reverend Rose Sparrow, Parish Associate

Andrew Behringer, Director of Contemporary Music

Lisa VanHeldorf, Director of Traditional Music

Emily Barth, Organist

Paul Tutton, Worship Leader

Today's chancel flowers are dedicated in loving memory of Wesley Argo, from his wife, Marjorie and daughters Deborah, Sharon, and Carolyn.

GATHERING

Prelude**The Golden Carol**

Robert Wilson

Welcome and Announcements**Call to Worship** (Luke 1:68-79) (Advent, Christmas, & Epiphany pg. 76)

Leader: Raise your voices, lift up your hearts. Praise the One, the only One, life-giving God of Israel.

All: You have turned to your people and set them free. You have raised a strong deliverer from the house of your servant David.

Leader: Raise your voices, lift up your hearts.

All: Thank God for the messengers of hope, who bring knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of sins.

Leader: Raise your voices, lift up your hearts.

All: An ancient promise is fulfilled: On people who live in a dark night, under the shadow of death, the dawn from heaven breaks to free us all from fear and guide our feet into the way of peace. Praise God! Praise God Amen!

Advent Song

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O Come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer

Our spirits by Thine advent here;

Disperse the gloomy clouds of night

And death's dark shadows put to flight.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Lighting of the Advent Candle of PEACE by: The Somsanith Family**Prayer of the Day (All)**

God, our light and our salvation, you bring hope and peace to the lowly and oppressed. Let us see the world through your eyes that we may love the widow and orphan, that we may work for justice, that our lives may bear witness to the good news of the kingdom at hand and our vocation serve to draw people to your salvation; through your Son, Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***Opening Worship**

(Music Sheets Available)

(Led by Worship Team)

*Light of the World**O Little Town of Bethlehem***Please stand in body or in spirit*

Blessing of the Children (*All*)

Almighty God, from whom we receive our life: We thank you for blessing us with the joy and care of children. Give us calm strength and patient wisdom, that we may teach them to love you, and to love whatever is just, true and good. Protect them from danger and hold them safe in your arms. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Call to Confession

Leader: Saints, let us trust in God's love for us and confess our sin, confident in God's mercy.

All: **Let us confess our sins together.**

(Now, take a few moments of honesty before God in silent confession)

Prayer of Confession (*All*) (Malachi 3:1-2)

Refining God, you have sent us prophets and we have not listened. We have not always determined what is best or made way for your reign in our lives, our church, and our society. Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

Assurance of Pardon (Feasting on the Word pg. 26)

Leader: Friends, I am confident of this: if we repent, God is sure to forgive us. The One who began a good work in us will bring it to completion. Grateful for the promise of joy and of peace, let us share that peace with one another. Receive the good news of the Gospel. The Lord is our righteousness.

All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

***Song of Praise,** *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

Henry Smart

**All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ,
the newborn King!**

***Sharing the Joy of Our Faith**

EQUIPPING

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Paul Tutton

Scripture Reading: Malachi 3:1-4 pg. 778

Rev. Dr. David Cagle

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Reading II: Philippians 1:3-11 pg. 953

Rev. Dr. David Cagle

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: "Good Old-Fashioned 'Fear & Trembling'" Rev. Dr. David Cagle

RESPONDING

***Affirmation of Faith (*All*)**

A Declaration of Faith

Leader: Brothers and sisters, what do you believe?

All: God sent the promised Deliverer to His people. Jesus, the long-expected Savior, Came into the world as a child, descended from David, conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of Mary, a virgin. He lived as a Jew among Jews. He announced to his people the coming of God's kingdom of justice and peace on earth. We affirm that Jesus was born of a woman as is every child. Yet born of God's power as was no other child. In the person and work of Jesus, God Himself and a human life are united but not confused, distinguished but not separated. The coming of Jesus was itself The coming of God's promised rule. Through His birth, life, death, and resurrection, He brings about the relationship between God and humanity that God always intended.

Prayers of the People

Invitation to Stewardship

Offertory Anthem

Take Comfort My People

(MPC Choir)

*Doxology

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation!

Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!

Glory to God, all Glory in the highest!

O come, let us adore Him,

O come let us adore Him,

O come let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!

Prayer of Dedication

CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER

There are prepackaged communion cups located in baskets at the back of the sanctuary if you prefer not taking communion by intinction.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise. *The prayer continues...*

Sanctus (*All*)

Holy, Holy, Holy

Richard Proulx

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

The Lord's Prayer (*All*)

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who have sinned against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution
Communion of the People
Prayer

SENDING

***Closing Hymn #8** **Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates**
(Blue)

Charge and Blessing

Postlude

Variations on *Winchester New*

Nigel Williams

GENERAL INFORMATION

Restrooms -A restroom is located in the parlor at the back of the sanctuary. Handicap-accessible restrooms are located through either side door at the front of the sanctuary, then around the corner.

Nursery -Our Nursery is available for infants and children up to 4 years old during our 9:00am Sunday School hour and the 10:00am worship service.

Sunday School -Adults meet at 9:00am in Room 102. Children's Sunday School is in the Children's Wing. Youth Sunday School is in the Youth Room.

Prayer Chain -If you are in need of prayer or would like to receive prayer chain updates, please email Reverend Rose.

Attention Mothers of Infants -The parlor at the back of the church is available for privacy during church services.

Church Office Hours- Monday through Thursday, 8:30am-4:00pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS

◆ **Confirmation Class**

MPC will offer a Confirmation Class for high school students who are interested in exploring their faith more deeply and in becoming members of Media Presbyterian Church. We will have an informational meeting for interested students and parents in mid-December, and the class will begin in late January. Here is a description of the curriculum we will be using from the PCUSA called "Big God, Big Questions." "Focused on preparing students to authentically answer the traditional membership questions, this Confirmation curriculum will equip students with the vital skills of asking and seeking answers using scripture, tradition, and church to tell their own story as Christian believers." For more information, please contact Tom Jackson at tjack713@hotmail.com, or 610-299-4326.

◆ **Christmas Eve Service**

MPC's Christmas Eve Service will be held at **5pm** on Tuesday, December 24th.

◆ **Faith & Film Club**

will meet next on Thursday, December 12, 2024 is "A Midnight Clear" (1992), directed by Keith Gordon, and starring Ethan Hawke, Gary Sinise, Peter Berg, and Kevin Dillon. The film tells the story of a small American intelligence unit near the end of World War II who find a German platoon that offers a Christmas truce. Please email Steve Beckley at strybeck242@gmail.com to request an invitation to the Zoom conference or for any questions.

◆ **Reception after service!**

Immediately after service today we will be having a brief reception to celebrate the retirement of the Dickason's and to celebrate our new Director of Children and Youth Ministries, Ty Harvey!

ONGOING MINISTRIES

◆ **Adult Sunday School**

- Adult Sunday School meets each Sunday from 9-9:45am in Room 102. You may begin attending at any time! For additional information, please contact: Reverend David Cagle (david@mediapresbyterian.org).

◆ **Cornerstone Kids Children's Ministry**

- Building Lives on Christ (BLOC) is available most Sundays for children in 2nd grade and younger. The children are dismissed after the Children's Moment and should be picked up from Room 201 when the service is over.
- Contact Jeanne Cunningham (fuselloj@gmail.com) for more information.
- All Aboard!

Everyone is welcome to ride the Bethlehem Express with us this fall! On Wednesday nights from 6:30-7:30, we will start preparing for Christmas by learning songs, doing crafts, playing games, and taking imaginary train rides to some unexpected places! In preparation, look up some cool facts about trains and get ready to share them with your fellow passengers. You won't want to miss this adventure!

◆ **MPC Youth Ministry**

- Youth Sunday School meets from 9-9:45am in the Youth Room.
- Youth Group meets on Thursday from 7-8:30pm in the Youth Room



POINSETTIA ORDER FORM



Your orders for poinsettias enable us to beautify our sanctuary on Christmas Eve and allow you to recognize loved ones.

Poinsettias may be ordered by filling out this form and either placing it in the offering plate or returning it to the office. Plants cost \$12.00 each. Please make checks payable to *Media Presbyterian Church*. Orders and payments must be received by **Sunday, December 15**. Poinsettias may be taken home after the 5pm service on Christmas Eve. If you do not wish to take your plant, please check the appropriate box below. Plants not picked up will be taken to the sick and/or homebound.

Please reserve:

_____ **Red Poinsettia (s)**

_____ **White Poinsettia (s)**

_____ **Total x \$12.00 each = \$ _____ enclosed**

In memory of:

In honor of:

To the Glory of God:

GIVEN BY:

Please hold _____ plant (s) for pickup.

Please deliver _____ plant (s) to shut-ins.

FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 8th, 2024

Sunday, Dec 8th

8:30am Choir Practice, Sanctuary
8:45am Nursery opens for drop-off
9:00am Adult Sunday School, Room 102
9:15am Worship Team, Sanctuary
10:00am Sunday Worship Service (BLOC), Sanctuary
11:30am Worship Team, Sanctuary

Monday, Dec 9th

12:00pm Prayer & Devotion, Rev. Rose, Zoom
6:30pm PNC, Room 102
7:00pm Finance cmt. mtg., Zoom

Tuesday, Dec 10th

10:00am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, Dec 11th

9:00am Woofies Baking Co., Kitchen
10:00am Prayer Warriors, Rev. Rose Sparrow
Call 425-436-6394, Code 338523#
2:30pm Bible Study, Lima Estates
6:30pm Wednesday Night Kids Club, Youth Room
6:30pm MOYC, Room 103
7:00pm Christology class, Zoom

Thursday, Dec 12th

7:00am Men's Bible Study, Court Diner
10:00am Women's Bible Study, Zoom
6:30pm MPC Ringers, Sanctuary
7:00pm Faith & Film Club, Hybrid
7:00pm Youth Group, Youth Room
7:00pm Yoga
7:30pm MPC Choir, Sanctuary

Friday, Dec 13th

Office Closed

Saturday, Dec 14th

6:00pm NA Meeting, Dale Hall

Sunday, Dec 15th

8:30am Choir Practice, Sanctuary
8:45am Nursery opens for drop-off
9:00am Adult Sunday School, Room 102
9:00am Youth Sunday School, Youth Room
9:15am Worship Team, Sanctuary
10:00am Sunday Worship Service & Christmas Pageant
11:30am Worship Team, Sanctuary

Transitional Pastor	Reverend Dr. David Cagle	David@mediapresbyterian.org Ext. 1001
Parish Associate	Reverend Rose Sparrow	Rose@mediapresbyterian.org Ext. 1002
Interim Business Administrator	Sandy Campbell	Sandyc@mediapresbyterian.org Ext. 1006
Church Administrator	Camryn Gavula	Camryn@mediapresbyterian.org Ext. 1005
Facilities Manager	Scott MacDonald	Scott@mediapresbyterian.org Ext. 1008
Director of Traditional Music	Lisa VanHeldorf	Lisa@mediapresbyterian.org
Organist	Emily Barth	Emily@mediapresbyterian.org
Director of Contemporary Music	Andrew Behringer	Andrew@mediapresbyterian.org
Director of Children & Youth Ministries	Tyler Harvey	Ty@mediapresbyterian.org Ext. 1003
	Main Kitchen	Ext. 1021
	Parlor (back of sanctuary)	Ext. 1022
	Nursery	Ext. 1023
	Benevolence Hotline	Ext. 2000

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Sign up to receive our weekly digital newsletter by going to our website or by emailing camryn@mediapresbyterian.org

ONLINE GIVING

Visit MediaPresbyterian.org/GiveOnline or scan the QR code to give your tithes.

