

Sunday, December 3, 2023
10:00 a.m. Worship Service

Hope

Frist Sunday of
Advent



MEDIA
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OUR MISSION AND VISION

Our Mission is to love God and love our neighbor. Our Vision is to be a Christian Community that worships together, serves together, and grows together in faith.

Welcome

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

Lisa VanHeldorf, Director of Traditional Music

Jim Gatch, Worship Leader

Emily Barth, Organist

The Chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of loved ones by the Campbell Family.

GATHERING

Prelude

Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming

John Stallsmith

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Leader: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

Congregation: We are easily distracted by the darkness that comes with unease and anxiety.

All: Source of light, shine in our lives and in your world with your renewing hope.

Advent Candle Lighting

The Beaumont Family

Advent Prayer

All: Eternal God, as we await the coming of our savior, give us the courage to hope. Give us grace to see your plans of redemption for our lives, for this community, and for the world. Through Jesus Christ, the source of our redemption and hope. Amen.

Advent Song

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice, Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

**please stand in body or in spirit*

***Opening Worship** (Led by Worship Team)

(Music Sheets available)

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

Charles Wesley, Red Mountain Music

King of My Heart

Steffany Gretzinger/Bethel Music

Children's Moment

Rev. Dr. David Cagle

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: Preparing for Christ’s coming requires honest examination of our lives and our hearts.

All: Let us turn to God in prayer and confess our sins.

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

Prayer of Confession

All: Awesome God, we confess our sin of our separation from you. We have blamed you for hiding from us, rather than admitting we have failed to see you in the thousands of ways you are revealing yourself every day. We have not called on you, and we have not listened for your call to us. Without you, we have become tiny islands of self-concern. Our links with the rest of your children are stretched and broken. O God, we long for that loving community in which your reign is acknowledged and your purposes are served. Move us to that place, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (II Corinthians 5:17)

Leader: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***Advent Song of Praise, Hymn #13 (Blue)**

Prepare the Way

Fling wide your gates, O Zion

Your Savior's rule embrace

And tidings of salvation

Proclaim in every place

All lands will bow rejoicing

Their adoration voicing

O Blest is Christ that came

In God's most holy name

***Sharing the Joy of Our Faith**

EQUIPPING

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Jim Gatch

Sermon Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9 (pg.606)

Rev. Dr. David Cagle

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Where Are You, God?”

Rev. Dr. David Cagle

RESPONDING

Prayers of the People

Invitation to Stewardship

Offering Song (Led by the MPC Choir)

People Look East

French Folk Medley

***Song of Praise and Dedication**

Hymn #23 (Blue)

Angels We Have Heard on High

Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo,
Gloria in excelsis Deo

***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 of Affirmation

SENDING

*Closing Hymn #8 (Blue)

Life Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Charge and Blessing

*Postlude

Wachet Auf

Philipp Nicolai

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 3 years old during our 9:00 a.m. Sunday School hour and the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

Sunday School -Adults meet at 9:00 a.m. in Room 102 and via Zoom.

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 are Monday - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

During inclement weather, please call to make sure staff is present before coming to the office.

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Like and follow us on Facebook (Media Presbyterian Church).

ONLINE GIVING

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Annual Advent Family Kick-Off Party**
 - ◆ All are welcome to join us for our Annual Advent Family Kick-Off Party on Sunday, December 3, after the service. We will have light refreshments, games, crafts, etc. For more information, please get in touch with Jeanne Cunningham (fuselloj@gmail.com).
- **MPC Annual Christmas Concert**
 - ◆ All are welcome to the MPC Annual Christmas Concert being held in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 17, beginning at 7:00 p.m. Invite your friends, family, and neighbors to come hear the talented musicians of Media Presbyterian Church! Reach out to Lisa (lisa@medispresbyterian.org) for more information.
- **Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship Celebration**
 - ◆ Our Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship Celebration will occur Sunday evening, December 24, beginning at 5:30 p.m. This is a family-friendly service of lessons and carols celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. All are welcome!
- **MPC Missions-Alternative Gift Cards**
 - ◆ Please help support our Global and Local Missions of MPC by purchasing gift cards. They will be on sale every Sunday through December in Hassler Chapel. This year we are supporting Compassion for Life in Liberia, and the Greenhouse Project in Chester, PA. For questions or more information, don't hesitate to contact Cindy McPeak (cindymcpeak101@gmail.com).

- **Rose Tree Media School District Angel Tree**
 - ◆ MPC is supporting needy families within the Rose Tree Media School District. Please see the Sign-Up Genius in the newsletter to sponsor a child this year. All gifts are due back Friday, December 16. For more information, email Brian and Eileen McLaughlin (mclaughlin.bes@gmail.com).
- **Poinsettia Sales**
 - ◆ Poinsettias may be ordered by filling out the form on the next page 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 17.

ONGOING MINISTRIES

- **MPC Youth Ministry**
 - ◆ Youth Sunday School meets from 9-9:45 a.m. in the Youth Room. Youth Group meets on Thursdays from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Youth Room.
- **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.
 - ◆ **Cornerstone Kids Wednesday Nights**-Children in Kindergarten through 5th grade join us every Wednesday night from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Children's Wing for games, crafts, songs, and more!
 - ◆ Contact Janis Richards (janis_richards@yahoo.com).

MPC IS HIRING

- **Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries**
 - ◆ The Search Committee requests your help in finding a qualified applicant for the position of Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries at MPC. This is a full-time, non-ordained position that is responsible for developing and leading our ministry to children, youth, and families. Qualified candidates may contact employment@mediapresbyterian.org. See the website or newsletter for more information.



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 17.**

Poinsettias may be taken home after the 5:30 p.m. 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 3, 2023

Sunday, December 3

- 8:30 a.m. Choir Practice, Sanctuary
- 8:45 a.m. Nursery opens for drop-off
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School, Room 102 & Zoom
- 9:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School, Children's Wing
- 9:00 a.m. Youth Sunday School, Youth Room
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 1st Sunday of Advent,
with BLOC, Sanctuary
- 11:30 a.m. Advent Kick-Off Party after the service, Dale Hall

Monday, December 4

- 12:00 p.m. Prayer & Devotion, Rev. Rose, Zoom
- 4:45 p.m. Mission Study Team meeting, Room 102

Tuesday, December 5

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday, December 6

- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Warriors, Rev. Rose Sparrow
Call 425-436-6394, Code 338523#
- 6:30 p.m. Cornerstone Kids Wednesday Nights,
Children's Wing

Thursday, December 7

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study Breakfast, Court Diner, Media
- 10:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study, Rev. Rose, Zoom
- 12:30 p.m. Intercessory Prayer & Prayer Chain Updates
- 7:00 p.m. Youth Group, Youth Room
- 7:00 p.m. Faith & Film, Room 103 & Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. Yoga

Friday, December 8

Office Closed

Saturday, December 9

- 6:00 p.m. NA Meeting

Sunday, December 10

- 8:30 a.m. Choir Practice, Sanctuary
- 8:45 a.m. Nursery opens for drop-off
- 9:00 a.m. Adult Sunday School, Room 102 & Zoom
- 9:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School, Children's Wing
- 9:00 a.m. Youth Sunday School, Youth Room
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 2nd Sunday of
Advent, Children's Pageant, (no BLOC),
Sanctuary

Transitional Pastor	Reverend Dr. David Cagle	David@mediapresbyterian.org Ext. 1001
Parish Associate	Reverend Rose Sparrow	Rose@mediapresbyterian.org Ext. 1002
Business Administrator	Jack Schoen	Jack@mediapresbyterian.org Ext. 1006
Office Administrator	Ro D'Angelo	Ro@mediapresbyterian.org Ext. 1007
Church Administrator	Rebecca Peak	Rebecca@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
	Receptionist	Ext. 0
	Main Kitchen	Ext. 1021
	Parlor <i>(back of sanctuary)</i>	Ext. 1022
	Nursery	Ext. 1023
	Benevolence Hotline	Ext. 2000



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