



Worship Bulletin and Herndon UMC News December 8, 2024

If you are new to Herndon UMC, welcome! We are so glad that you have chosen to worship with us. You are invited to Discover Herndon at Guapos after worship today (meet at the restaurant at 11:30 am). If it is your first time attending Discover Herndon, your lunch is on us!

ANGEL TREE GIFTS ARE DUE BY MONDAY AT NOON. Please return unwrapped gifts under the trees & gift cards to the office.

ADVENT STUDY – Pathfinders will begin *The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem* by Adam Hamilton TODAY at 11:15am in Rooms 115/116. For more information, contact Pastor Pam at pam@herndonumc.org.

SIGNUP FOR CHRISTMAS ORCHESTRA ON 12/22, bit.ly/christmaso2024. Musicians in the 7th grade and older are invited to participate in this seasonal orchestra offering music at the 10am worship service on 12/22..

HELP MAKE GREENS ARRANGEMENTS! Everyone's invited to help make arrangements for this annual Women's fundraiser to support missions. Sign up for Sunday-Tuesday (12/8-10), no special skill required. Sign up in the app, at bit.ly/HerndonUMCNeeds, or on the Connection Corners. GREENS WILL BE ON SALE NEXT WEEK 5-8 pm while supplies last!

LINK FOOD AND LOVE BAGS are now available in the Welcome Centers. Please return bags with food on the second Sunday of the new year.

THE CLOSET VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ON 12/10. Help support The Closet. Sign up in the app, on the clipboard, or at bit.ly/HerndonUMCNeeds.

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THE NEXT TOS DINNER IS 12/15. Look for more info to come in the app, on the clipboard on the Connection Corner, or at bit.ly/HerndonUMCNeeds.

HELP REACH 1000 BY THE END OF THE YEAR. Mary Martha's goal is to reach 1000 pairs of socks by the end of the year. These donations for the homeless may be dropped in the basket in the cabinet in Room 105.

HERNDON HIGH SCHOOL HOLIDAY CONCERT -- Tuesday, 12/10 at 7 pm. Support the Wesley Choir as they participate in the HHS Choral and Orchestra programs holiday concert at Herndon High School.

ENJOY DESSERT AND THE HHS MADRIGALS -- 12/14 at 7 pm in Doe Fellowship Hall. Herndon UMC welcomes the Herndon High School Madrigals for a new variation on a holiday tradition. Enjoy some sweet treats and sweet sounds of the season. The concert is free and open to all.

CHERRY BLOSSOM BRASS BAND HOLIDAY CONCERT -- This concert has been moved to Woodbridge High School (3001 Old Bridge Rd, Woodbridge) at 7 pm on Monday, 12/16.

"ROOM FOR CHRISTMAS" & FELLOWSHIP DINNER on 12/18 at 6pm in Doe Fellowship Hall. Be an active participant in the show by bringing a gently used item that will help keep someone warm--coats, mittens, scarfs, etc--as a donation for the Closet to the performance. The dinner is brought to you by the Herndon Youth as a fundraiser for the Summer Youth Mission Trip.

LOOK FOR POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS coming in the Tuesday eNews.

LONGEST NIGHT WORSHIP -- 12/22 at 4 pm in the Sanctuary & YouTube. The Longest Night service hopes to create a safe and sacred space for those struggling to feel the joy and light of this holiday season due to loss.

CHRISTMAS EVE, 12/24 -- Two options with Holy Communion and candlelight, 5 pm (kid-friendly) and 9 pm (also on YouTube)!

Worship—10 AM

Gathering Music | *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* | PICARDY | Played by Melissa Chavez

Welcome & Announcements | Rev. Pam Bentley

Lighting of the Advent Wreath | Upward Volunteer Team

[Voice A] I feel peace in beautiful kinesthetic moments: In moments when we hold hands around the table for grace, or when you see siblings laughing at shared memories; In moments that we as a church share, when we baptize babies, when we hear the choir sing in harmony, when our fellowship hall is full of basketball players, musical rehearsals, meals together; In moments when we hear God say again in scripture, “One day every valley will be lifted up,” and, “Darkness did not overcome the light.”

[Voice B] In such a broken world, peace can feel abstract, impossible, and naive. And yet, we come to this sanctuary week after week and say, “The peace of Christ be with you,” because we believe that God sounds, feels, and looks like peace.

[Voice C] So family of God, we light this candle—the candle of peace—as a reminder that when we draw near to God, we are drawing near to peace.

(Candle of peace is lit)

[All] Thanks be to God. Amen.

Opening Song | *O Come O Come Emmanuel* | UMH 211 | led by Melissa Chavez

**[V. 1] O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.**

[Refrain] **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

[V. 4] **O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree, An ensign of thy people be;
Before thee rulers silent fall; All peoples on thy mercy call. (Refrain)**

[V. 6] **O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thy
justice here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put
to flight. (Refrain)**

[V. 7] **O come, Desire of nations bind all peoples in one heart and
mind.
From dust thou brought us forth to life; Deliver us from earthly strife.
(Refrain)**

Opening Prayer | Rev. Pam Bentley | From Ministry Matters

**We have prepared our homes, and our gifts, Lord, but we need help
in preparing our spirits to receive your message of Peace. Free us
from the stresses and strains of this time, and place your peace
which passes all our understanding in our hearts. For we ask this in
Jesus' Name. AMEN.**

Passing of the Peace | Rev. Pam Bentley

Scripture | Malachi 3:1-4 and Luke 3:1-6 NRSVUE | Jim Seevers

Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and
the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The
messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is
coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his
coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like washers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord, as in the days of old and as in former years.

Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.

Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.' "

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Message | Rev. SeongJae Jo

Invitation to Giving | Rev. Pam Bentley

Offertory | *The Yearning* | by Craig Courtney | Wesley Choir, Jane Waldrop, accompanist

"There is a yearning in hearts weighed down by ancient grief and centuries of sorrow.

There is a yearning in hearts that in darkness hide and in the shades of death abide, a yearning for tomorrow.

There is a yearning for the promised One, the Firstborn of creation.

There is a yearning for the Lord who visited His own, and by His death for sin atoned, to bring to us salvation.

Emmanuel, within our hearts, the yearning.

There is a yearning that fills the hearts of those who wait the day of His appearing.

There is a yearning when all our sorrows are erased and we shall see the One who placed within our hearts the yearning.

Emmanuel, within our hearts, the yearning."

Advent Doxology | *Praise God, from whom all blessings flow* | Text and tune adapted by Dean McIntyre | led by Melissa Chavez

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,

Praise God all creatures here below

Praise God above ye heavenly host

Praise God, the Son and Holy Ghost.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing,

Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe the son of Mary.

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer | Rev. Pam Bentley

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Closing Song | *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear* | UMH 218 | Led by Melissa Chavez

[V.1] **It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all-gracious
King."**

The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

[V.2] **Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings
unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.**

[V.3] **And ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending
low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing.
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!**

[V.4] **For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.**

Benediction | Rev. SeongJae Jo

Leaving Music | *Hark the Herald Angels* | arr. Mark Hayes | Played by
Melissa Chavez