
MARPLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“We love because He first loved us.” 1 John 4:19

105 N. SPROUL ROAD | BROOMALL, PA 19008
610-356-1098 | marplepc@gmail.com | www.marplepres.org

Welcome

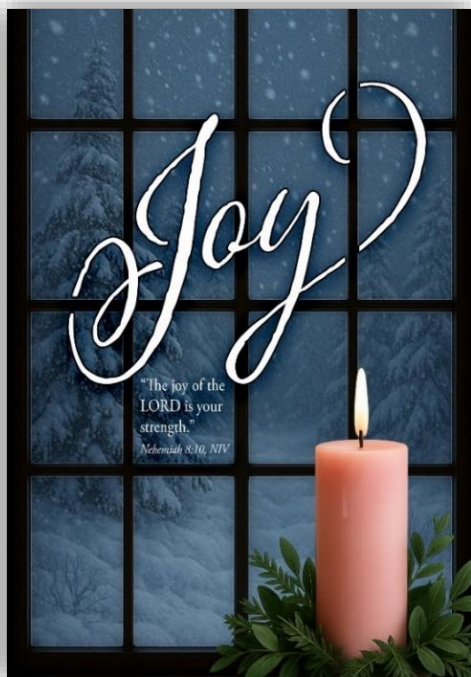
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025



TODAY – 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

HEAD USHER: Tom Trumbetas

FLOWERS: Given by Anne and Terry Canny in appreciation of Susan Greene and the MPC Choir



NEW HERE?

Welcome to Marple Presbyterian Church! We're so glad you came to worship with us and want to do all we can to help you feel at home.

- *All visitors are encouraged to take the information brochure in the pew and place the visitor's section in the offering plate.*
- *Children are welcome in the service! Children's bulletins are available from the ushers.*
- *Nursery care is also available for children thru age 3. The nursery is located directly underneath the sanctuary.*

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Listening devices are available for individuals who have a hearing impairment. Please speak to an usher for more information or to request a device.



RESOURCES

Contact Us | 610-356-1098

marplepc@gmail.com

Website | www.marplepres.org

facebook.com/MarplePresbyterian

HOW DO I CONNECT?

Clerk of Session | *Kristen Mitchell*

Christian Education | *Ben Mitchell*

Deacons | *Linda Pursley & Joyce Holmwood*
marplepresdeacons@gmail.com

Fellowship | *Debbie Pettinelli*

Finance | *Kerri Robinson*

Membership Development | *Alfie Wilkes*

Mission | Session Members

Nursery | *Amy Eckels*

Personnel | *Ben Mitchell*

Property Management | *Paul Avazier*

Rentals | *Church Office*

Stewardship | *Joanne Trumbetas*

Treasurer | *Bill Brower*
marplepctreasurer@gmail.com

Worship | *Amy Eckels*

Youth Group | *Ben Mitchell*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

Carols of Peace, Joy, Hope and Love

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Tanner Family

by Joel Raney

A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent

Choral Opening with Congregation

Call and Response Litany

Leader: Continuing our Advent journey, today,
we light the third candle; the candle
representing joy. We celebrate the
coming of the one who brings great joy
to the world.

People: Prepare the way of the Lord with joy.

Leader: In the midst of waiting, we remember
that joy is found not in what we have,
but in who we welcome – the Savior,
our true joy.

People: Prepare the way of the Lord with joy.

Leader: When the world feels heavy, we
choose to lift our hearts in joy,
knowing that God's presence with us
brings light into the darkest place.

People: Prepare the way of the Lord with joy.

Leader: We celebrate the good news that Christ is near,
and with his coming, joy is made complete in our hearts and in our lives.

People: Prepare the way of the Lord with joy.

Leader: In times of sorrow, we cling to the joy that is rooted in the hope of Christ,
a joy that cannot be taken away.

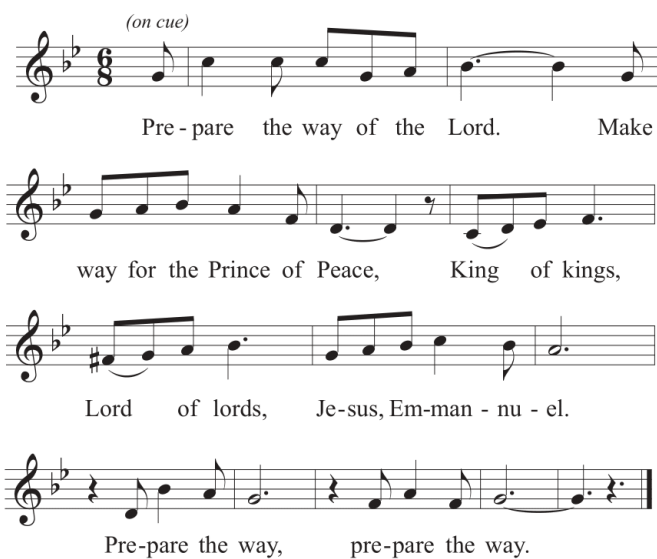
People: Prepare the way of the Lord with joy.

Leader: O God, we open our hearts to the joy of your presence and prepare to
welcome Christ, the greatest gift of all. May the joy of Christ fill our homes,
our communities, and our world as we await his coming in glory.

People: Prepare the way of the Lord with joy.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath (the third candle is lit)

Choral Response with Congregation

*(repeat this chorus after the candle lighting and litany)*

© 2025 Hope Publishing Company, www.hopepublishing.com
All rights reserved.

The Publisher grants permission to reproduce this part for Congregational singing.

ANTHEM	<i>Oh, Come, Little Children</i>	by Bailey/Mayo
BIDDING PRAYER		
BLESSING		
*CONGREGATIONAL CAROL	<i>Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus</i>	#2
WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD		
FIRST LESSON	– Genesis chapters 1-3, 12, 15 and 17 The sinfulness of people and the faithfulness of God the Creator.	
CAROL	<i>Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming</i>	ed. Alice Parker & Robert Shaw
SECOND LESSON	– Genesis chapters 15, 19, 21, 32, 35; Isaiah 7:14, 42:1; Micah 5; Zechariah 9:9-10, Jeremiah 23:5-6 Christ’s birth and coming kingdom are foretold by prophets of God.	
ANTHEM	<i>The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns</i>	by Bailey/Mayo
THIRD LESSON	– Isaiah 60:1-2; Isaiah 9:2, 6-7; Isaiah 52:7-10 The peace and light that Christ Jesus will bring is foreshadowed.	
ANTHEM	<i>Come, Come Emmanuel</i>	by Bailey/Mayo
FOURTH LESSON	– Luke 1:26-38; Luke 3:23-38; Matthew 1:18-25 The angel Gabriel promises the birth of Jesus to the virgin Mary.	
CAROL	<i>Away in a Manger</i>	arr. Matthew Culloton
FIFTH LESSON	– Luke 2:1, 3-7 Luke tells of the birth of Jesus Christ.	
*CONGREGATIONAL CAROL	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	#23
SIXTH LESSON	– Luke 2:8-20 The shepherds go to see baby Jesus in the manger.	
ANTHEM	<i>Arise, Shine, Jesus Has Come!</i>	by Bailey/Mayo
SEVENTH LESSON	– Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11; Matthew 5:14-15; John 8:12 Wise Men follow the Bethlehem star to find Jesus.	
ANTHEM	<i>May My Light Shine</i>	by Bailey/Mayo

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

TITHES AND OFFERING

***CONGREGATIONAL CAROL**

Joy to the World

#40

WE ARE SENT IN GOD'S NAME

BENEDICTION

SENDING CAROL

Amen! Tell It on the Mountain!

arr. Mary McDonald

THIS WEEK

MONDAY

Cub Scout Troop 151 Meeting | *Hall* 7-9 pm

TUESDAY

Thrift Shop 10 am–3 pm

Joys & Concerns Chat | *Zoom* 3-4 pm

zoom.us/j/6103561098 PW MPC

WEDNESDAY

Joys & Concerns Chat | *Zoom* 3-4 pm

zoom.us/j/6103561098 PW MPC

Boy Scout Troop 151 Meeting | *Hall* 7-9 pm

AA Meeting | *Lower CE Bldg.* 7-8 pm

THURSDAY

Choir Practice | *Chapel* 7pm

SATURDAY

Thrift Shop 10 am-4 pm

SUNDAY

AA Meeting | *Lower CE Bldg.* 8-9 am

LOOKING AHEAD

DECEMBER 21

Longest Night Service 7:00 pm

DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve Service 7:30 pm



Deacon Ministry

During this time of pastoral transition please be aware that all Deacons are available for addressing and communicating any pastoral needs. You can text/call or email:

Joyce Holmwood

610-888-7458

jholmwood433@comcast.net

Linda Pursley

631-942-5758

lpursley1981@gmail.com

LEARN MORE



SUNDAY SCHOOL

MPC Sunday School is open to children ages 3 and up and runs weekly during the 10:30 am Sunday Worship Service.

YOUTH GROUP is open to all youth from 6th to 12th grade and meets twice a month between October and May. Please see the full Youth Group calendar for meeting dates, special events, and retreats. Contact the Youth Group Leaders at youthgroup@marplepres.org for additional information.



ANGEL TREE

Items Due December 21st

Marion Brower is again leading our Angel Tree Campaign. CYS is assisting with clothing for the children and resources for clothing for the parents.

Parents need household items as they transition to permanent housing.



Household items needed – laundry detergent, light bulbs, dish detergent, towels, small appliances, plates, cups, glasses, silverware, kitchen utensils, etc.

Robes – unisex, one size (15 needed)

SESSION

Paul Avazier '26

Amy Eckels '25

Ben Mitchell '27

Debbie Pettinelli '27

Kerri Robinson '26

John Strain '27

Joanne Trumbetas '25

Kim Wertz '25

Alfie Wilkes '25

Kristen Mitchell, Clerk

DEACONS

Douglas Ballard '25

Marion Brower '27

Bette downs '27

Virginia Geisbert '25

Patricia Gwartz '26

Greg Hoffman '27

Joyce Holmwood '26

Linda Pursley '27

Diane Valaitis '26

Shirley Wise '26

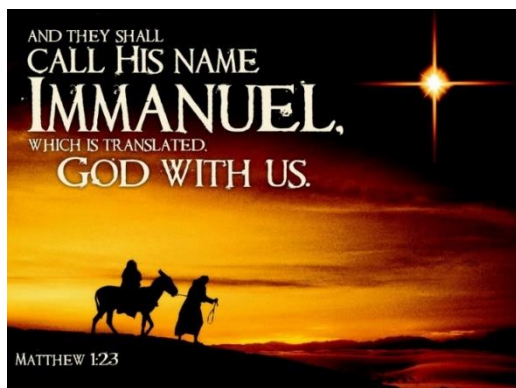
STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Advent, a season of anticipation and hope, as Christians prepare for the birth of Christ. Although Advent is often associated with spiritual preparation, it should also be an opportunity to reflect on our giving and stewardship. Advent calls us to examine what we treasure and to direct our resources toward what matters most. The nativity story is steeped in generosity: wise men bearing gifts, and Mary and Joseph opening their lives to a divine call.

It can be difficult today when the focus is on the event and the preparation to take time to reflect on how we share our resources, time, and talents with others. The Advent season reminds us that true giving is purposeful and reflects Christ's love in our world. It is not just about personal reflection but about reaching out in generosity, echoing the selfless love of Christ. Advent reminds us that generosity isn't measured by the size of the gift, but the heart behind it. Whether it's sharing our time, resources, or kindness, each act reflects God's grace.

Advent reminds us of the most profound act of generosity—the gift of Christ. God's love was made manifest in the form of a child, the ultimate example of sacrificial giving. When we give during Advent, we participate in the same spirit that brought Jesus into the world. As we offer love to others through generosity, we honor the incredible gift God gave us, and with this the spirit of giving and stewardship being a source of joy, growth, and connection with others – we constantly draw closer to the true meaning of Christmas.

Matthew 1:23: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us."



CANTATA APPRECIATION

Thank you for worshiping with us – we hope you enjoy ***Come to the Manger: A Service of Lessons and Carols*** by Lynn Shaw Bailey and Becki Slagle Mayo. This service would not have been possible without contributions by the following people:

CHOIR: Amber Allen, Nola Andrews, Douglas Ballard, Elaina Buecheler, Thomas Francovitch, George Guyer, Patti Gwirtz, Kristen Mitchell, Linda Pursley, & Bernie Strain.

READERS: Terry Canny, Rev. Jim Reisner, John Strain & Joanne Trumbetas

RINGERS: Jessica Francovitch, Stephen Murphy & Kim Wertz

TECH: Sarah Guyer & Ben Mitchell

Thank you to everyone for your patience, hard work and dedication!
~Susan Greene



Tuesdays from 10 am – 3 pm
Saturdays from 10 am – 4 pm

Please come by to shop the new arrivals.

We are thankful for Amy and her team of faithful volunteers. We are always grateful for any help. It is a great way to volunteer at MPC.

YOUTH GROUP CALENDAR 2025-2026

MPC's Youth Group is open to all youth currently in 6th to 12th grade, regardless of membership at Marple Presbyterian Church. We typically meet a few Sundays per month from 4 – 7 pm in the Rowland Room at MPC, 105 N. Sproul Rd, Broomall, Pennsylvania. See below for meeting dates and special events!

Youth Group Meeting Dates:

October 19	February 15
November 2	March 1
December 7	March 15
December 21* – Christmas Party!	April 5
January 11*	April 19
January 25*	May 3
February 1	May 17

**For the Christmas Party, Youth Group will run from 3 pm to 6 pm. Youth are invited and encouraged to stay and attend MPC's Longest Night Service which is from 7-8 pm.*

**For January meetings, we will meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays at the normal time.*

Special Events:

November 15-16 – Lock-in @ MPC

December 27 – Go Karts Trip

***We would like to plan an away retreat once we have a sense availability for our members in the Spring. We will announce dates and information after the holiday season.*

June 6 – Youth Group BBQ

***We are considering turning the BBQ into a campout at the Mitchells' house if members are interested in trying this. We have access to two campers, some indoor accommodations and may be able to procure tents for anyone really wanting to "rough" it.*

For more information, contact Kristen Mitchell at klizzano@gmail.com or 302-494-1146.