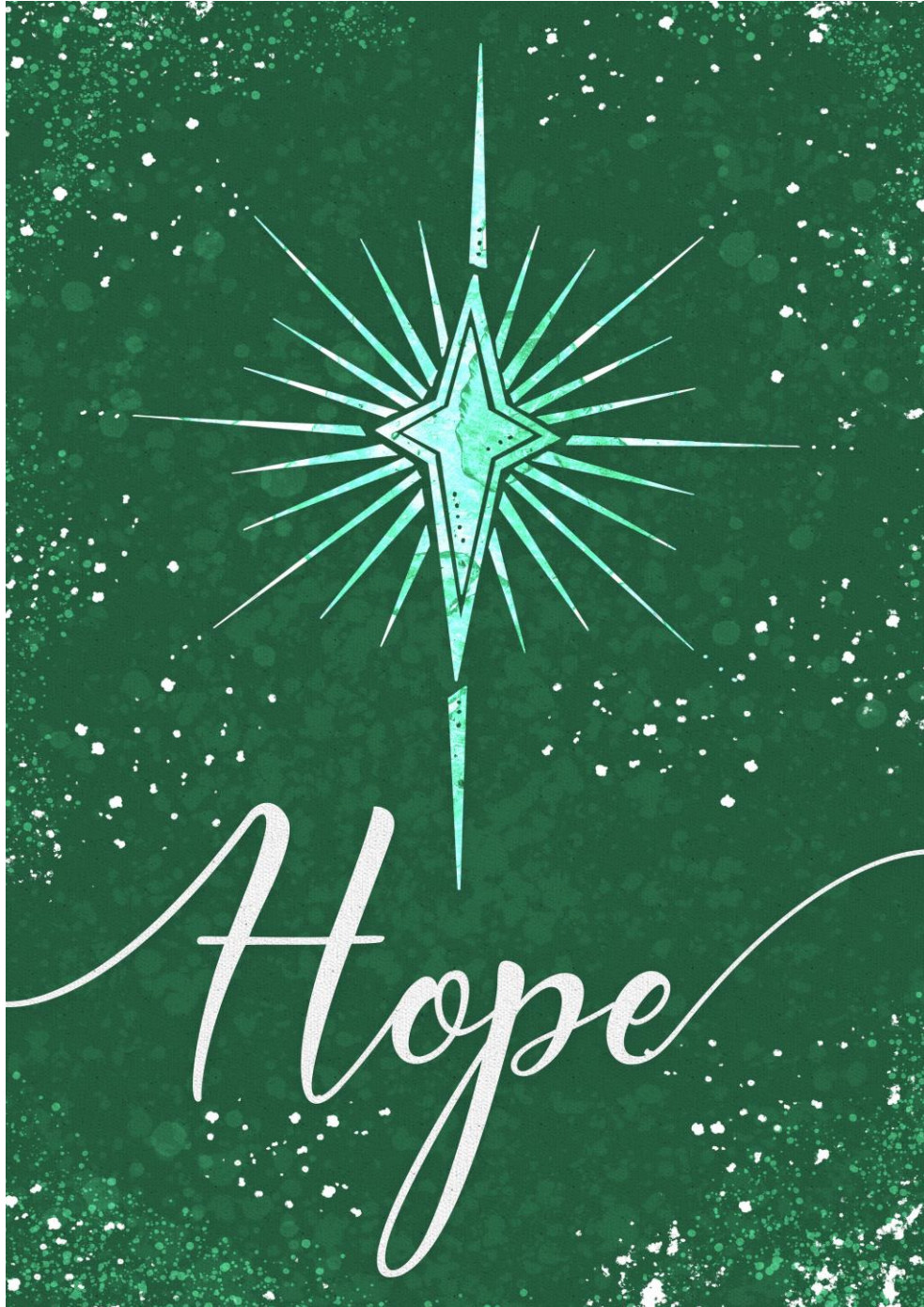

Marple Presbyterian Church

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 03, 2023



MARPLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
REV. KAREN. R. NELSON, PASTOR
105 N. SPROUL ROAD | BROOMALL, PA 19008
610-356-1098 | marplepc@gmail.com | www.marplepres.org

Welcome

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 03, 2023



Today – First Sunday of Advent

LITURGIST: Daria Trumbetas

HEAD USHER: Tom Trumbetas



*First Sunday
of Advent*

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.
- Assistive Listening Units are also available – please see any usher.

RESOURCES

Contact Us | 610-356-1098

marplepc@gmail.com

Website | www.marplepres.org

facebook.com/MarplePresbyterian

HOW DO I CONNECT?

Christian Education | [Ben Mitchell](#)

Deacons | [Linda Pursley & Joyce Holmwood](#)
marplepresdeacons@gmail.com

Fellowship | [Mack Smith](#)

Finance | [John Strain](#)

Membership Development | [Alfie Wilkes](#)

Mission | [Barb Zelonka](#)

Music | [Susan Greene](#)

Nursery | [Amy Eckels](#)

Personnel | [Barb Zelonka](#)

Property Management | [Charlie Fry](#)

Rentals | [Church Office](#)

Stewardship | [Amy Eckels](#)

Treasurer | [Bill Brower](#)
marplepctreasurer@gmail.com

Worship | [Kerri Robinson](#)

Youth Group | [Ben Mitchell](#)

For more contact info, please contact the church office.

Worship elements adapted from

Illustrated Ministries, 2022

Service for the Lord's Day

10:30am

Prelude | Susan B. Greene

Welcome and Announcements | Rev. Karen R. Nelson, Pastor

***Call to Worship**

Leader: From generation to generation, God has walked among us.

People: Come, young and old, to worship in God's presence.

Leader: From generation to generation, we have sung the songs of liberation.

People: Let us sing of our Redeemer who sets the people free.

Leader: From generation to generation, we have heard the stories of God-made-human.

People: Let us tell the living stories again and again.

Leader: Listen, generations of disciples, come together and praise God.

People: Let us call his name Emmanuel, God is with us.

Leader: Come, let us worship God.

***Opening Hymn** | *Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending* | *Insert*

Opening Prayer (unison)

Emmanuel, God-with-us and God of our ancestors,

We join in a great cloud of witnesses,

Acknowledging the coming Messiah,

The Prince of Peace, the Hope of the world.

You are here among us, you were here before us,

And you will be here after we leave.

Like the generations who came before us,

We anticipate Jesus, your incarnate Son.

We draw our attention to your Spirit, ever-present, always with us.

Quiet our hearts and minds that we might be transformed by the worship we share today.

Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Leader: When we gather, God is with us. And when God is with us, hope dwells among us.
Speak a word of peace to your neighbor, to your family members, to a stranger. May
the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Congregational Response **Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah | #85 – Verse #1*

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah 85



1 Light one can - dle to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the
2 Light two can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the
3 Light three can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the
4 Light four can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the



light ban - ish dark - ness. He shall bring sal -
light ban - ish dark - ness. He shall feed the
light ban - ish dark - ness. Lift your heads and
light ban - ish dark - ness. He is com - ing;



va - tion to Is - rael, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.
tell the glad ti - dings. Let your light be shin - ing.

This text works best when used incrementally during the four weeks of Advent. It underscores the “waiting” theme of the season and concludes appropriately with reference to Matthew 25:1–13. The tune name meaning “deep in the forest” comes from the opening of a Yiddish love song.

TEXT: Wayne L. Wold, 1984
MUSIC: Yiddish folk song; arr. Wayne L. Wold, 1984
Text and Music Arr. © 1984 Fortress Press (admin. Augsburg Fortress)

TIF IN VELDELE
10.7.9.6

*Please stand as you are able

Lighting of the Advent Wreath | The Trumbetas Family

Trumbetas Family: Into a hopeless world, Emmanuel will be born, God with us, hope for all. And hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us (Romans 5:5).

Trumbetas Family: Today, we light the candle of hope, because in God's presence we find hope. (light the first purple candle)

Trumbetas Family: Emmanuel, God-with-us, and God of our ancestors,
We hope because you have never left us or forsaken us.
When we were hateful, you convicted our hearts.
When we were depressed, you comforted our souls.
When we were bullied, you cried with us.
When we were lost, you called us home.
When we were angry, you inspired our actions.
When we were joyous, you clapped your hands.
And when we were grieving, you held us close.
Because you have felt it all before and you know all we experience,
We have hope you will never, ever leave us. Amen.

Choir Anthem | Celtic Advent Carol by Angerman & Barrett |
feat. Michelle Ballard, Flute and John Strain, Percussion

Prayer of Confession

Emmanuel, God-with-us and God of our ancestors,
We know we are never alone because you are always with us.
You were with us in the moments when we did not love ourselves,
when we did not love our neighbors, and when we did not love you.
You know all our moments of weakness and struggle, and we confess them with boldness,
because you never leave nor forsake us. Forgive us, God.

Musical response for personal confession and reflection.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: The abundant grace that fell upon our ancestors continues to be poured out over us.
God is faithful to forgive us for the ways we stray from the path of love and justice, the path of Jesus. Be pardoned. Receive grace today and be free to love yourself, your neighbors, and our God.

People: Thanks be to God.

Congregational Response *Gloria Patri | #579

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

*Please stand as you are able

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Congregational Response **Doxology | #592*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

All: Emmanuel, God-with-us and God of our ancestors, as we part with our resources, returning an offering from the abundance of your provision, fill us with hope. We know when we come together with our gifts, you are faithful to create something glorious. Take our offering as an investment in a new world of love and justice. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Lessons

1 Corinthians 1:3-9 |

Mark 13:24-37 |

New Testament pg. 155

New Testament pgs. 47-48

Sermon | Rev. Karen R. Nelson, Pastor

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.

***Preparation Hymn | *In the Bleak Midwinter* | Insert**

The Lord's Supper

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.

***Closing Hymn | *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* | Insert**

Benediction

Postlude | Susan B. Greene

Please join us today at noon in the Sanctuary for Theology & Photography of Sacred Space



Theology & Photography of Sacred Space **Sunday, December 3rd at noon, Sanctuary**

Why do some churches have empty crosses while others show Jesus?

Why do some churches have stained glass while others have regular windows?

Why do some churches have an altar, others have a communion table, and some have both an altar and a communion table?

While not all church design is true to their tradition's heritage, historically all these differences were meaningful and intentional. Pastors Kayla and Karen will discuss the devotional significance of certain choices in Lutheran and Presbyterian worship space. Then, Chaplain John Ehman will teach us how to capture these meaningful spaces artistically, and we will spend time taking pictures together.

**Please stand as you are able*

348 Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

1 Lo, he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
2 Now re - demp - tion, long ex - pect - ed,
3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,

once for our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand,
comes in sol - emn splen - dor near; all the
high on thine e - ter - nal throne; Sav - ior,

thou - sand saints at - tend - ing join to
saints this world re - ject - ed thrill the
take the power and glo - ry; claim the

Despite unclear musical origins, the result here is a characteristic early Methodist hymn tune, notable for its breadth and range. It effectively sets a text of similarly mixed sources, one that Charles Wesley regarded as related to "Thy kingdom come" in the Lord's Prayer.

TEXT: Stanzas 1, 3, Charles Wesley, 1758, alt.; stanza 2, John Cennick, 1752, alt.
MUSIC: Thomas Olivers, 1763; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

HELMSLEY
8.7.8.7.4.4.4.7

CHRIST'S RETURN AND JUDGMENT

sing the glad re - frain: Al - le -
trum - pet sound to hear: Al - le -
king - dom as thine own. Come, Lord

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
Je - sus; come, Lord Je - sus; come, Lord

lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!
Je - sus. Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone!

In the Bleak Midwinter 144

1 In the bleak mid-winter, frost-y wind made moan;
 2 Our God, heaven can-not hold him, nor earth sus-tain;
 3 An-gels and arch-an-gels may have gath-ered there;
 4 What can I give him, poor as I am?

earth stood hard as i-ron, wa-ter like a stone;
 heaven and earth shall flee a-way when he comes to reign:
 cher-u-bim and ser-a-phim thronged the air;
 If I were a shep-herd, I would bring a lamb;

snow had fall-en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak mid-win-ter a sta-ble place suf-ficed
 but his moth-er on-ly, in her maid-en bliss,
 if I were a wise man, I would do my part;

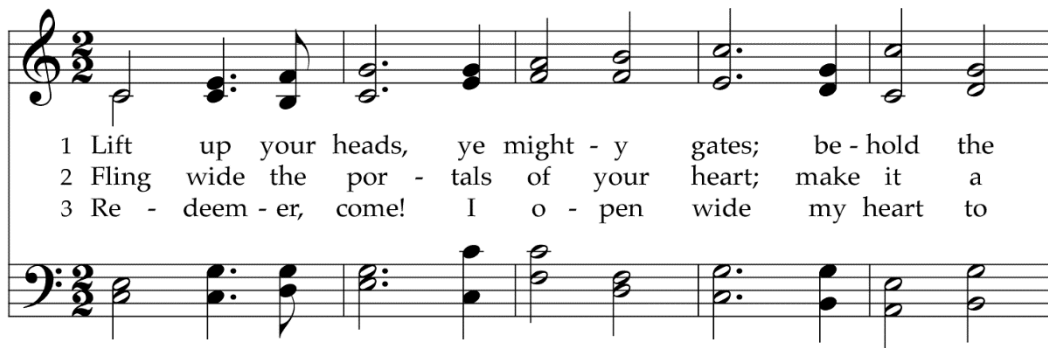
in the bleak mid-win-ter, long a-go.
 the Lord God in-car-nate, Je-sus Christ.
 wor-shipped the be-lov-ed with a kiss.
 yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

Though this text describes winter weather in England rather than in Palestine, the poet is using familiar surroundings as a means of making the Nativity more immediate and personal. The tune name honors a Gloucestershire village near the composer's birthplace in Cheltenham.

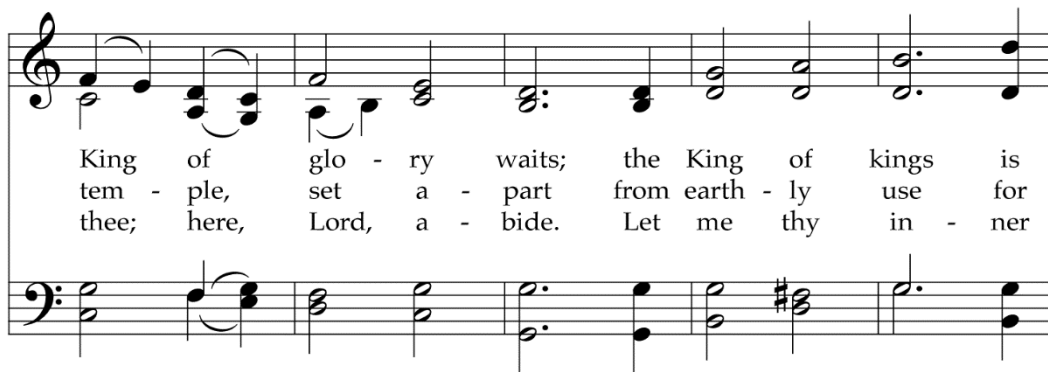
TEXT: Christina Rossetti, c. 1872, alt.
 MUSIC: Gustav Holst, 1906

CRANHAM
 Irregular


Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 93



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
 2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
 3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to



King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
 thee; here, Lord, a - bide. Let me thy in - ner



draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.
 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in me re - veal.

Beginning as a paraphrase of Psalm 24:7–10, this text then applies the door imagery to the singer's heart, and concludes with the individual's welcome of the approaching Savior. It is set to a very effective anonymous 18th-century English tune that has served many texts.

TEXT: Georg Weissel, 1642; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1855, 1863
 MUSIC: *Musica Sacra*, c. 1778

TRURO
LM

This Week

MONDAY

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

TUESDAY

Thrift Shop 10am-3 pm

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

WEDNESDAY

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

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

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

THURSDAY

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

Adult Choir Practice | *Chapel* 7 pm

SATURDAY |

Breakfast with Santa 9 – 11 am

Thrift Shop 10am-4 pm

SUNDAY

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

Looking Ahead

DECEMBER 17

Deadline to order Poinsettias

Christmas Cantata | *Sanctuary* 10:30 am

This year's cantata will be – "*Season of Joy*"

Youth Group Christmas Party 4-7 pm

DECEMBER 21

Longest Night Service | *Sanctuary* 7:00 pm

DECEMBER 24

Interactive Family-Friendly Service 10:30 am

Traditional Candlelight Service 9:00 pm

Learn More



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



Join us for Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 9 at 9:00 am. \$7 for 5 years and up; \$4 for 4 years and under.

Volunteers are needed at 8 am for this event. Please see Mack if interested in helping with this festive occasion.

DECEMBER 17 – "Season of Joy"
Christmas Cantata

YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY

DECEMBER 17 | 4 pm – 7 pm





Please fill out this form and return to the church office with your payment, no later than Sunday, December 17th, if you would like to place a poinsettia in the Church Sanctuary for Christmas. Poinsettias may be taken home at the conclusion of the Candlelight Service on December 24th.

Names will appear in the bulletin exactly as printed below.

Quantity: _____ @ \$8/plant Paid via: ☐ Cash ☐ Check # _____

Given by: _____

In honor/memory of:

In honor/memory of:

In honor/memory of:

In honor/memory of:



MARPLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

HOSTS

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 9, 2023

9:00 am - 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

\$7 for 5 years and up

\$4 for 4 years and under

FREE for 2 years and under

Includes: pancakes, sausage, juice, milk, coffee/tea

Families are invited to have breakfast with Santa on Saturday December 9th in our Fellowship Hall. Please invite your friends and neighbors to come with you. We encourage you to bring your camera to photograph the event.

Upcoming Events

Breakfast with Santa 12/9, 9-11 am

Theology & Photography of Sacred Space 12/3, noon

Cantata Service 12/17, 10:30 am

Longest Night Service 12/21, 7pm

Christmas Eve

Interactive

Family-Friendly Service

December 24, 10:30 am

Traditional Candlelight Service

December 24, 9 pm

Children's Sunday School

Sundays, 10:30 am

Youth Group

1st & 3rd Sundays, 4 pm

MARPLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
105 N SPROUL RD, BROOMALL
marplepc@gmail.com



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.



SESSION**DEACONS**

Charles Fry '23

Douglas Ballard '25

Amy Eckels '25

Marion Brower '24

Ben Mitchell '24

Cerrie Cox '23

Carol Robinson '24

Bette Downs '24

Kerri Robinson '23

Virginia Geisbert '25

Mack Smith '24

Joyce Holmwood '23

John Strain '23

Greg Hoffman '24

Ryan Walden '25

Eileen Matthews '24

RuthAnne Yakscoe '23

Linda Pursley '24

Alfie Wilkes '25

Diane Valaitis '23

Barbara Zelonka '25

Shirley Wise '23

Kim Wooden '25