

Celebration of Worship

Sunday, December 3, 2023

10:00 a.m.

**Indicates the Congregation is asked to stand*

First Sunday of Advent

*Welcome to worship! The 10 a.m. service is recorded and streamed live online.
The first nine rows of seats may occasionally appear in the recording.*

Prelude *Savior of the Nations, Come* Johann Sebastian Bach
(based on Hymn No. 214)

Choral Introit *Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord* Jacques Berthier
Prepare the way of the Lord. Prepare the way of the Lord, (Taizé Community)
and all people will see the salvation of our God. (from Isaiah 40)

***Opening Hymn – No. 718** *Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending*

***Call to Worship**

Leader: In the midst of darkness, a light shines.

People: **We gather to seek the light of Christ.**

Leader: The days are filled with uncertainty and worry.

People: **Yet, we trust in the One who calls us to keep awake.**

Leader: Be alert, be watchful, for God's love breaks into our world.

People: **Together, we wait and watch, ready to welcome and serve.**

***Opening Prayer**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Gloria Patri – No. 70**

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of the First Advent Candle: Hope

Sung Response – No. 211 (v. 1)

*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.*

Anthem *E'en So Lord Jesus Quickly Come* Paul Manz

*Peace be to you and grace from Him who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed His blood that we might saved be.*

*Sing Holy, Holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God,
who was and is and is to come, Sing Holy, Holy, Lord!*

*Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein, rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon, for Christ is coming soon!*

*E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more,
They need no light nor lamp nor sun, for Christ will be their All!*

Revelation 22 Adapted by Ruth Manz

Morning Prayer

**Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness,
and put on the armor of light, that in the last day, when your Son
Jesus Christ shall come again to judge both the living and the
dead, we may rise to life everlasting; through him who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.**

Quiet Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Giving and Receiving of Our Tithes and Offering

Offertory *Savior of the Nations, Come* J. S. Bach

***Presentation of the Offering – No. 95**

Praise God

***Hymn of Preparation – No. 551**

Awake, O Sleeper

***Gospel Reading**

Mark 13:24-37 (Pew Bible p. 826)

Sermon

Advent's Not Christmas

Rev. David Jacobson

Reception of New Members – No. 33

James Baumgardner

Jean Meile

Bev Brown

Sarah Pickeral

Ed & Lee DeLong

Peggy & Bruce Romenesko

Jan Hayden

Michael Woolford

Rodney Hill

Invitation, Confession, and Pardon - No. 12

The Great Thanksgiving, Musical Setting E - No. 24

Giving the Bread and the Cup

Come forward via the center aisle to receive. You may commune immediately after receiving the elements, or you may kneel at the rail to commune. Return to your seat via the side aisles. Please indicate to an usher if you wish to receive communion in your seat. Pre-packaged gluten-free elements are available upon request.

Hymns for the Serving: No. 618, 620, 622

Prayer Following Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Closing Hymn – No. 730**

O Day of God, Draw Nigh

***Benediction**

Choral Benediction *Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel*
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Veni Emmanuel
(15th cent. French)

Postlude *Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying*
(based on Hymn No. 720)

Johann Walther

Streaming Permissions for 10:00 Service

Prepare the Way of the Lord

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E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

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Awake O Sleeper Rise from Death / MARSH

CHAPEL

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One Bread, One Body

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Catonsville United Methodist Church

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Donald L. Fries - Director of Music & Organist

Church Office - Kathy Kluka (410-747-1886 or cumc21228@verizon.net)

Misty Troll - Director of Christian Formation

Loriann Hughes – Director of Youth Ministries

Michael Schmitt – Early Music & Communications Coordinator

Sunday, December 3, 2023 ~ 7:00 p.m.

Contemporary Praise Celebration



Opening Song: *"Our God"*

Welcome & Birthdays
Karen Higby

Words of Assurance: Psalm 130: 5
Mary Coates

Praise & Worship:
"Hosanna (Praise is Rising)"
"My Everything"

Greeting & Passing of the Peace

Offering & Music Video:
"My Hope is in You" - Aaron Shust

Announcements, Joys & Concerns
Prayer and Reflection

Scripture Reading and Message: Mark 13: 24 - 37
"Advent's Not Christmas"
David Jacobson

Holy Communion

Closing Song: *"Hungry"*

Intercessory Prayer Concerns

For the week of December 3rd:

Janice Arcieri

Brenda Sutton

Ann (Higby) Lwin

Brian

Rose Caldwell

Jane Sneeringer

Greg Martin

Roger Atkinson

Sympathies are extended to the family and friends of Jean Armstrong-Thompson who went to be with the Lord on November 25, 2023.

This week we pray for: *Myanmar, Thailand*

We give thanks for:

- the beauty of these countries and their people, and their many distinctive Buddhist temples
- those who long have struggled that these countries might become more democratic
- the faithful witness of churches, which have advocated with others for greater justice
- efforts to protect the environment and resources in these countries.

We pray for:

- minority ethnic and religious groups who continue to experience discrimination, persecution or even genocide (such as the Rohingyas), and for greater interfaith understanding and tolerance for ethnic and religious diversity
- those victimized by sex tourism and exploitation, and those who perpetuate such acts
- political stability and progress toward democratic rule
- economic justice for all people, and environmental protection, as these countries undergo development.

Our Working Vision Statement

We seek to be a hospitable and vibrant intergenerational community steeped in prayer and scripture and empowered by the Holy Spirit to make disciples of Jesus Christ, sharing the blessings of the kingdom of God in Catonsville and beyond.

Week of December 3 - 9, 2023

Sunday

8:30 a.m. Blended Service	1:30 p.m. A.A., 206
10:00 a.m. Sunday School	3:00 p.m. GS 126/1380, SR
10:00 a.m. Traditional Worship	5:00 p.m. Advent Event, SH
11:00 a.m. Jr. Choir, 206	7:00 p.m. Praise Service
11:00 a.m. Swahili Service, SH	

Monday – Pastor’s Sabbath

6:30 p.m. Girl Scouts, 653, 204	7:00 p.m. Round Dance, SH
7:00 p.m. Bible Study, Library	7:00 p.m. BSA 307G, SR

Tuesday

10:30 a.m. Bible Study, Library	4:30 p.m. Daisy 884, SR
11:00 p.m. Prayer Time	7:00 p.m. BSA 307B, SR
12:00 p.m. SW Holiday Party, SH	7:00 p.m. Girl Scouts 2188, 204
1:30 p.m. Grief Group, Library	8:00 p.m. A.A., 206

Wednesday

10:00 a.m. Ministerium, 211	6:00 p.m. Cubs 307, SH
11:30 a.m. Warm Welcome Lunch, SH	7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Leaders, 206
1:00 p.m. Prayer Shawls, Library	7:00 p.m. Bible Study, 211

Thursday

4:30 p.m. Brownies 178, SR	7:00 p.m. Grief Group, Library
6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts 1640, SR	7:00 p.m. Square Dance, SH
6:00 p.m. Girl Scouts 2499, 305	7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir, 209

Friday

7:30 p.m. MS Youth Group	8:45 p.m. HS Youth Group
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Saturday

8:00 a.m. Methodist Girls	11:30 a.m. Music Together, SH
8:30 a.m. Men’s Bible Study, 211	12:00 p.m. AA, 208
9:00 a.m. Ballroom Dance, SH	2:00 p.m. Co-Op, SH
9:30 a.m. DAR, 211-13	

The altar flowers are given in honor of my family by Robin Holtman.

The bulletins are given in honor of the December birthdays of Tim, Jerry & Will Pyle by Linda Pyle.

Serving today:	<u>8:30 a.m.</u>	<u>10:00 a.m.</u>
Greeters:	Jody & Bill Crum	Janice & Jack Barber
Interpreter:		Sandy Brown
Communion Servers:	Jody & Bill Crum	Janice & Jack Barber Deb Henkel Jan Strevig
Lector:		Chuck Gehrman
Steward:	Logan Shaner	

Large-print bulletins are available from the greeters & ushers.

Are You Struggling? You do not have to face it alone. If you or someone you care about is challenged by a temporary crisis in your life, CUMC's Stephen Ministers are ready to listen, care, encourage, and be there to offer emotional and spiritual support. This is free and completely confidential. Let one of our trained Stephen Ministers meet with you privately—by phone, by video chat, or in person in a safe setting to focus on you and your needs. For more information please contact Stephen Minister Referrals Coordinator, Glenda Henkel, at 410-303-6057 or grhenkel320@gmail.com.

Have you visited our **Upper Room** Prayer Room lately? We hope you will find time for stillness, prayer, and reflection there. We have made updates and created new stations for an Advent themed space. The Upper Room reopens today and will remain open throughout Advent. Please plan a visit. Prayer changes lives!

Celebrate Loriann Hughes' retirement! On Sunday, December 10th, we will honor her at the 10:00 service, followed by a reception recognizing her more than 20 years working with the youth, 10 of which as the Youth Director. We invite you to express your appreciation and best wishes for Loriann by bringing a card to the reception or sending it to the church office in her name. Additionally, CUMC will make a donation to The Children's Home in honor of Loriann's service. If you would like to contribute to that, please make a check to CUMC with the Children's Home written in the memo line. Questions - contact Mary Coates or Christine Call.

The Brass Reflections will be here at the 10 a.m. service next Sunday.

Greeters and Ushers are needed for the Christmas Eve Services. The Children's Service is at 5 p.m., a Traditional Service is at 7 p.m. and the Candlelight Service starts at 10:45 p.m. Please call or email the church office if you can help.

Saturday morning men's Bible study is in Room 211, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Light breakfast is provided.

Holidays are a time of joyful celebration, and also a time to reflect on the bounty and blessings in your own life. CUMC will once again partner with CEA to provide holiday assistance to Catonsville families in need. CEA hopes to provide Walmart gift cards for families to purchase food, gifts and necessities for their children. Your donation will make the holidays merry and bright for local families. You can donate Walmart gift cards in \$25 or \$50 increments or cash/check donations marked "Holiday Missions" and leave them in the church office or the locked mailbox outside by the elevator entrance or donate through the website by selecting the "Holiday Missions" fund.

Scouts BSA will be selling freshly made wreaths and greens from the CUMC parking lot on Saturday, December 9th, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. 18" wreaths are \$20, 12" wreaths are \$12, and pine roping is \$1.25 per foot. Pre-orders can be made by emailing holidaygreens@troop307b.us. Thank you for your support and making scouting possible.

Paint for Hope, Steps of Hope-Guatemala, that is. Let out your inner Van Gogh, paint under the direction of Ed Johnson on December 10th from 3:00 – 5:00. There will be numerous nature photos from which you can choose or bring your own. You will be provided with an 11" x 14" canvas, acrylic paints, brushes, and a tabletop easel. Wear old clothes, the paint is permanent. Beginners are welcome – no talent required. For ages 9 – adult, (under 16 with an adult). The price is \$30, however additional donations are appreciated. Pay at the door with exact cash or check made out to Steps of Hope. Reservations are required by emailing mascoates@rocketmail.com.

The church office operates remotely Monday and Wednesday, and in person on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Emails and phone messages are checked regularly.

Please Join Us for an Advent Gathering



○ come · ○ come · Emmanuel

Sunday, December, 3rd

5:00* – 7:00 PM

*Includes dinner

Catonsville UMC Social Hall

One large craft per household
as well as many other crafts to make.

RSVP to mistytroll@catonsvilleumc.org by 11/30.

Plan to stay to worship
at the evening service at 7:00 PM.

Hope to see you!

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
once for favored sinners slain;
thousand, thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
God appears on earth to reign.

Every eye shall now behold him,
robed in dreadful majesty;
those who set at naught and sold him,
pierced and nailed him to the tree,
deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
shall the true Messiah see.

The dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears;
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshipers;
with what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture,
gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, Amen! Let all adore thee,
high on thy eternal throne;
Savior, take the power and glory,
claim the kingdom for thine own.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Everlasting God, come down!

Awake, O Sleeper

Awake, O sleeper,
rise from death,
and Christ shall give you light,
so learn his love—
its length and breadth,
its fullness, depth, and height.

To us on earth he came to bring
from sin and fear release,
to give the Spirit's unity,
the very bond of peace.

There is one Body and one hope,
one Spirit and one call,

one Lord, on Faith, and one Baptism,
one Father of us all.

Then walk in love as
Christ has loved,
who died that he might save;
with kind and gentle hearts forgive
as God in Christ forgave.

For us Christ lived,
for us he died
and conquered in the strife.
Awake, arise, go forth in faith,
and Christ shall give you life.

O Day of God, Draw Nigh

O Day of God, draw nigh
In beauty and in power;
Come with thy timeless judgment now
To match our present hour.

Bring to our troubled minds,
Uncertain and afraid,
The quiet of a steadfast faith,
Calm of a call obeyed.

Bring justice to our land,
That all may dwell secure,
And finely build for days to come
Foundations that endure.

Bring to our world of strife
Thy sovereign Word of peace,
That war may haunt the earth no more,
And desolation cease.

O day of God, draw nigh,
As at creation's birth,
Let there be light again, and set
Thy judgements on the earth.