



Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Traditional ~ 11AM

We are called by Jesus Christ to worship, make disciples, and serve.

Welcome

Rev. Carol L. Pazdersky

Centering our Hearts on God (Psalm 34:14)

"Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it."
How are you doing good and seeking peace this Advent?

Prelude

Gary Lushbaugh – Music Director

\*Call to Worship

Lula Gray

In this season of stress and hurry,

God welcomes us to rest and be at peace.

In this time when people hesitate to be kind because others see it as weakness, Jesus whispers of hope for broken hearts and peace for fearful hearts.

In these days dominated by devices that steal our joy,

The Spirit embraces us with peace that comforts and love that lasts.

On this day of worship,

We come worship the God of our peace, hope, and love!

\*Hymn of Anticipation "God Almighty, We Are Waiting"

\* Please refer to the last pages of bulletin for Hymn

\*W&S 3047

Lighting the Advent Wreath

The Gaskin Family ~ Peter, Angela, Ryan & Maya

Will you answer the call to peace?

Today, we choose to live the story of peace, believing that true peace comes when we seek the flourishing of all God's creation.

Special Music

"Come, O Redeemer, Come"

Chancel Choir

Prayer of Honesty and Hope

Holy One, we come before you aware of how we have fallen short of your glory.

You created us with a deep longing for you, yet at times we denied our better selves. We refused your invitation to change and become the people

you created us to be. (All reflect in silence.) Forgive our weakness, Lord. We need you to show us the way. Abide with us and help us.

Here the good news: The Lord God is merciful and gracious, endlessly patient, loving, and true. Through Jesus Christ, our iniquity, transgressions, and sins are forgiven! **Thanks be to God! Amen.** 

#### Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow<sup>[a]</sup> out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Anthem

"Awaken Us, O Lord"

Chancel Choir

M. Hayes

## \*Gospel Lesson

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and

Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with [c] water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Message

Gifts of Peace

Offertory

\*Doxology "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" UMH 94

\*Prayer of Dedication

Let us pray: Gracious God, you call us to prepare the way for Jesus – not with empty words or hollow gestures but with changed minds, hearts, and lives. We offer our time, our treasure, and our talents as visible signs of our longing to live with you, in you, and for you. Use our offering clear a path for hope and make a way for peace. In the name of the one who is coming and is already among us—Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## Sharing our Lives

*Communion Hymn	"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"	UMH 626
*Communion		UMH 15
*Hymn of Anticipation	"Blessed Be the God of Israel"	UMH 209

\*Blessing (Romans 15:13)

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

We go forth in hope and peace to serve the Lord. Amen.

#### **Postlude**

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

UMH – United Methodist Hymnal (hardcover)

TFWS – The Faith We Sing hymnal supplement (black softcover)

W&S – Worship & Song hymnal supplement (green softcover)

#### Also serving the community today:

Ushers – Marge Brown & Allen Zink

Acolytes – Luke McDonold & Ella Burgess

Communion Stewards - Cheryl Stephens, Mary Smith, and Karen Knauer Tech Support – Jacob Smith (XP), Hannah Warren (11:00), Cheryl Kempler (ZOOM)

Counting Team – Cheryl Kempler, Joyce Kraft, Anita Obinger

Children's Sunday School Facilitator – Karen Warren

Adult Studies Facilitator – Sue Garrison

#### KNOWN PRAYER CONCERNS WITHIN THE CONGREGATION

<b>Hospitalized</b>	<u>Insiders</u>	Recovering	<u>Special</u>	Recently Bereaved
Douglas Fringo  Cheryl Welsh	Shirley Curtain Dottie DeCarlo Helen Fringo Mary Lynn Lentz Robert Lentz Jackie Potter, Mary Foster	Cheryl Stephens Pat Ryan	Concerns  Marvin Gyr  Dave Kalendek  Florence Littletor  Dave Whitson  Edna Halcott	The Daubert Family

Use this space to note requests made during service for your personal prayer time.

We want to know about the gift of your presence with us today. Please take a moment to sign the friendship pad found in each pew.

Visiting today? We are so happy that you chose to worship with us. If you have any questions about our missions, ministries, or outreach opportunities, any of our members would be glad to answer them! If you did not receive a Welcome Packet when you came in, please ask for one as you leave today to learn more about our church.

*Interested in membership?* If the Spirit is moving you to make a commitment to Camp Chapel with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness, please contact the church office: 410-256-5561 or office@campchapel.org.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SPRC CHAIR - 2025 STAFF HOLIDAY BONUS

With thoughts of the holidays approaching, and thankfulness on our minds, please consider donating to the *2025 Staff Holiday Bonus*. We certainly appreciate everything Gary & Courtnee do for our congregation throughout the year, so please consider donating to say *THANK YOU*.

Donations may be made out to Camp Chapel UMC Reference "2025 Staff Holiday Bonus" in the memo line and mail to: Camp Chapel UMC - PO Box 15 White Marsh, MD 21162.

You may also use the envelopes provided in the Bulletin or in the Baskets in the Narthex & side entrance to be placed in the Offering Plate.

#### Correction for December's Acorn:

The Gingerbread Event on **Saturday, December 15th**, is from **2:00 PM to 4:00 PM**, not 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM as previously listed in the newsletter. We apologize, again, for any confusion this may have caused.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

## <u>CAMP CHAPEL'S</u> GREEN/CREATION CARE TEAM

Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup> • 3–5 PM
Please join our *Faith by Pizza series*Reflection, Planning & Celebration session on Thursday, December 11th, 3-5pm in the Fellowship Hall. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP to <a href="kathymartin@comcast.net">kathymartin@comcast.net</a> if you can attend. At 3pm, we'll be recapping our 2025 series & planning for 2026. At 4pm, we'll watch the celebration ceremony for the <a href="Blessed Tomorrow">Blessed Tomorrow</a> Grantees, which includes our *Faith By Pizza* Series. We hope you can join us for some or all.

Blessings ~Frank Long & Kathy Martin

#### GINGERBREAD HOUSE EVENT Saturday, December 13 • 2-4 PM

*Cost:* \$20 for one house or \$18 per house for two or more! Enjoy light seasonal refreshments, Elf Punch, festive photo stations for Christmas photos & joyful



holiday music to welcome the Christmas spirit. Register online or scan QR code. campchapel.org/event/gingerbread-house-fundraiser/

CHRISTMAS MUSIC CONCERT Sunday, December 14 • 4 PM Featuring Tenor Ryan Wilson

#### LIVE NATIVITY

#### Saturday, December 20 • 6-8 PM

Experience Camp Chapel's Second Annual Live Nativity, a moving presentation of the birth of our Savior. Volunteers are needed. Contact Jackie Brawn at 410-652-2776 or jackiebrawn@gmail.com

#### **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> • 4 PM & 9 PM (prelude music starting at 8:30 PM)

## CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE

Christmas 2025 is rapidly approaching, and it's time to think about sending cards to our church friends. Once again, a "Christmas Card Box" will be available at the front entrance of the main church & the chapel for those who'd like to send Christmas cards to other members of Camp Chapel. Simply write the name on the envelope & place the card in the box.

The cards will be sorted, alphabetized & bundled. The bundles will be placed next to the box for the recipients to pick up. Last day to send cards is Christmas Eve.

We ask that you donate money you would've spent on postage to Camp Chapel's mission projects. There'll be envelopes marked "Mission Projects" by the box for your check (made payable to Camp Chapel) or for cash donation. Please, place the envelope in the card box.

DON'T FORGET TO PICK UP YOUR CARDS!

## **HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS**

Camp Chapel will again collaborate with Perry Hall United Methodist Church's Community Food Pantry to provide holiday baskets for families in need. The goal of this two-decade tradition is to provide a Christmas holiday dinner for at least 50 families! Each dinner basket will include one each of the following items (you do NOT need to provide all the items):

Boxed mashed potatoes ~ Canned gravy ~ Boxed muffin mix Canned jellied cranberry sauce ~ Canned peas or carrots Canned sweet potatoes ~ Canned green beans ~ Canned corn Boxed stuffing mix ~ Boxed brownie or cake mix w/icing

Each basket will contain a \$15 Walmart gift card for the family to purchase their choice of meat. We recognize that prices are higher, and budgets might be tighter, so any donations made are truly appreciated. Boxes for food collection will be at the front of the sanctuary and chapel. You may choose to make a monetary donation instead. Your donation in any amount can be made by Bill Pay or submitted in the offering plate. Whichever way you choose, please mark your donation "Holiday Baskets."

# The deadline for food collection for Christmas baskets is Sunday, December 14th.

If you would like to help with the basket distribution, please contact Mike Ryan at 410-303-0517.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

#### RECOGNITION TREE

As of October 1st, we have started selling leaves from our *Recognition Tree* in the back of the Narthex. This is a special opportunity to honor, remember, or recognize loved ones. The fundraiser will continue through the end of November, at which time all dedication forms will be sent in for engraving. Each leaf can hold up to 20 characters per line, including letters, spaces, and punctuation. Dedications are available for \$250 per leaf. Forms are now available at the church entrances and in the church office.

Please make all checks payable to **Camp Chapel UMC**. Turnaround time is approximately 2–3 weeks from the time the engraving company receives the forms.

Once engraved, the new leaf will replace a blank one, so the tree always looks complete.

**Dedication Tree Form** One dedication per leaf. 20 characters per line including letters, spaces & punctuation. Leaf- \$250 each (2-3 line limit) Dedication (please print) Make checks payable to: Camp Chapel UMC **Engraving Samples** To the right are samples of what the engraving on the leaves might look like. All Camp Chapel's plates are gold in color. We are accepting only one dedication per leaf. The dedication may include more than one person if it is a Mr & Mrs. Doe or John & Jane Doe, or The Doe family (1st line) - Jhon, Jane, AUDREY PALMER The limit is 20 characters per line and 2-3 line limit to keep the print at a readable size. Characters include letters, spaces, and punctuation. You will be asked to sign for your dedications to confirm the spelling & wording. Please print The engraving takes approximately two weeks once the company Church Office or mail to:

PO Box 15, White Marsh, 21162

100% of the proceeds will go directly back into church funds. We invite you to consider purchasing a leaf in honor of someone who has made a lasting impact in your life.

THIS WEEK AT CCUMC								
Sunday 12/7	Monday 12/8	Tuesday 12/9	Wednesday 12/10	Thursday 12/11	Friday 12/12	Saturday 12/13	Sunday 12/14	
9:30a	11:00a	7p	7pm	3-6p		2-4p	9:30a	
Sunday	Bible	Finance	Circle of	Creation		Gingerbread	Sunday	
School	study	Meeting (zoom)	Sisters	Care		House Event	School	
9:30a	7:30p						9:30a	
Bible	Bell						Bible	
Study	Choir						Study	
	Rehearsal						-	

## 3047 God Almighty, We Are Waiting



WORDS: Ann Bell Worley
MUSIC: Rowland Prichard; harm. from The English Hymnal, 1906
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