



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Third Sunday of Advent

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 16, 2018

10:45 a.m.

WORDS OF WELCOME – Welcome to Faith Church; we are glad you are here.
Infant and childcare (through preschool) are provided all morning in the nursery, the second room on the right through the door by the pulpit. Children, through the age of 4, may proceed to the childcare room following the “Moment with Faith Kids” for the remainder of the service.

THE CHURCH GATHERS

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Mary Barrett Speers

Prelude O Come, Little Children

arr. Richard Lind
(b. 1943)

☩ Call to Worship

The Chancel Choir

Lighting the Advent Wreath

One: This Advent, we pray each week for each of the four corners of the earth.-Let us face East. *All persons face East.*

O Spirit, O Guide and Help,

O Christ, Word of God made Flesh,

We give thanks for apples and roses;

for tea and coffee, spices and wine;

For chess, horses, and porcelain; for science, literature, and art.

We pray for the places still wild:

for mountains, seas, forests, rivers, and deserts.

We pray for Europe, Africa, the Middle East;

for Central, South, and East Asia.

We pray for peace. We pray for your peoples living there.

All: O Dayspring, first dawn shining in our hearts: help us to restore your Creation.

All persons return facing center. A leader lights three candles.

All: Come, Lord Jesus!

☩ Hymn 349 "Sleepers, Wake!" A Voice Astounds Us

WACHET AUF

Prayer of Confession

Sandra McWhirter

Christ our Savior, even as we sing your praises, we ask for your mercy. Though we rejoice in the freedom of the Gospel, we avoid the cost of following you. We overlook your little ones every day. We turn away from hungry people, needy people, inconvenient people. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to work for the justice you intend. Make us messengers of the peace you bring. Help us to rejoice always and everywhere. As we wait for you, transform our fears and doubts into acts of love and service, for we pray in the name of the One who showed us your will for our lives: Jesus Christ, Emmanuel, God With Us...

Silent Prayer

Assurance of God's Grace

One: Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

☩ Sung Response 113 *refrain*

GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

☩ The Peace of Christ

One: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you

TO PROCLAIM AND EXPERIENCE GOD'S WORD

Sung Prayer for Illumination 92 *verse 1*

WAITING

**While we are waiting, come; while we are waiting, come;
Jesus our Lord, Emmanuel: while we are waiting, come!**

First Lesson Zephaniah 3:14-20

page 877

Sung Response 90 Wait for the Lord *Taizé*
refrain only

WAIT FOR THE LORD

Second Lesson Luke 1:26-38

page 56

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

2018 Christmas Pageant *Star Light, Star Bright*

Susan G. Johnston
Robin Nemser

Samuel Springer
The Chancel Choir
Mike Shirey, guitar

SCENE 1 (a family in the present)

Carly—**Carly Burd**

Edie—**Eden Bissett**

Mom—**Veronica Herber**

Campbell—**Campbell Burd**

Ivy—**Ivy Seavers-Reale**

Linden—**Linden Seavers-Reale**

Bennett—**Bennett Seavers-Reale**

Jaileel—**Jaileel Tomlinson**

SCENE 2 (shepherd and angels at the time of Jesus's birth)

Jethro—**Hudson Seavers-Reale**

Emma—**Izzie Hills**

Deborah—**Cora Bissett**

Hark—**Renatta Anthony**

Herald—**James Herber**

Glory—**Veronica Herber**

Teller—**Gabriella Anthony**

Angel Choir—The Chancel Choir

Future Scene within Scene 2 (Biblical people during late period of Jesus's ministry)

Zaccheus—**Linden Seavers-Reale**

Jesus—**Bennett Seavers-Reale**

and recognizable others!

SCENE 3 (Nativity)

Narrator—Isabel Aldana

Mary—Peyton Lemon

Joseph—Rashid Holt

♪ **Hymn 138** Who Would Think That What Was Needed

WHITE ROSETTES

Verses 1 & 2



Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.

OFFERING

Offertory Rejoice Greatly *from Messiah*

George Frideric Handel
(1685-1759)

Ayanna Freelor, soprano

♪ **Sung Response 143** *verse 4, adapted*

REGENT SQUARE

**All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising to the glorious Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ who is to come!**

♪ **Dedication of Self and Substance**

Loving God, we thank you for all that draws us close together, all that astounds us as we awake rejoicing. Accept our gifts as songs of praise for what you give us every day: the joy of your life-giving, saving love in our world; for Jesus's sake. Amen.

TO GO FORTH INTO THE WORLD TO SERVE IN CHRIST'S NAME

♪ **Hymn 102** Savior of the Nations, Come

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

♪ **Benediction**

*The service concludes with the postlude.
Please be mindful that all music in the service is an offering to God.*

Postlude Paeon on *Divinam Mysterium*

John Cook
(1918-1984)

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY

Rev. Mary Barrett Speers, *Interim Pastor*
Samuel Springer, *Organist*
Sandra McWhirter, *Liturgist*
The Chancel Choir
Sandra McWhirter, Neil Nemser, Pat Nesbitt, and Natalie Wallace,
Candle Lighters
Faith Kids

Session Meeting *Monday, 7:00 Woodbourne Room*

Please let us know if you cannot attend.

Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship *5:30, Music will begin at 5:10*

Celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper on Christmas Eve during a service of Lessons & Carols designed for a multi-generational congregation.

Stewardship

Remember to return your pledge cards! Please prayerfully consider what you can provide financially and ensure that Faith Endures.

Sunday Adult Forum 9:15 a.m. – Woodmont Room

January 6 - *Hymns that Move the Spirit*. Bring a favorite hymn and be prepared to talk about it. We will meet in the chapel.

2018 Contribution Statements and End of Year

Faith will close out the year on January 9, 2019. The final contributions for 2018 will be due then; checks received after this date will be recorded as 2019.

Please date checks in the year you would like them recorded. Call the office with questions about your pledge or if you would like your 2018 contribution report before mid-January.

Towson Encore Chorale Holiday Concerts

Under the baton of **Stephen Harouff**, several of Faith's musicians sing with the Towson Encore Chorale. Please join us for this free holiday concert. December 26, 6:00 p.m. at the Kennedy Center Concert Hall in D.C.

The DEAR Fund

The DEAR Fund was created by the Board of Deacons to provide financial assistance to any Faith Church member in an emergency situation. A Faith member may contact a committee member, the pastor, or the parish administrator to request assistance. An application is filled out confidentially and the committee lets the member know if the request is approved and the amount. Please consider making a contribution to this important fund.

Habitat for Humanity Updates

On Saturday, January 12th, 2019 there will be a Faith Home Blessing at 747 McCabe Avenue. This is very similar to a Home Dedication, but instead will be specific to just our faith coalition supporters. For now, it would be great if you'd mark your calendars for this truly heartwarming event. The start time will be around noon. More details to come on this. More build dates for Jan., Feb., and

March will be out in early December. Contact Natalie Wallace

Joys and Concerns may be written before the service in a special book in the narthex.
The book will be brought to the minister before the prayer.

Please pray for our homebound members:

Betty Bunce	Nan Pohl	Esmie Stirling
Nancy Stutzer	Betty Lou Tampieri	

Session

Mike Billings, Clerk

2019	2020	2021
Kay Ballard	Mike Billings	Ellsworth Jackson
JoAnn Robey	Scott Bissett	Karen Meyers
Neil Nemser	Bobby Hall	Mike Shirey
	Carl Herber	Audrey Trapp

Deacons

Susan Minor, Moderator

2019	2020	2021
Karen Burd	Chandra Jackson	Gail Poorbaugh
Lauren Hill	Susan Minor	Natalie Wallace
Mary Hodgson	Mozella Williams	Sharon Will
Robin Nemser		

Committee

Christian Education
Church Growth
Fiscal Planning
IPSC
Nominating
Human Resources
Plant & Property
Social & Environmental
Justice (SEJ)
Stewardship
Worship & Arts

Chair

Robin Nemser
Bill Millen
Chris Pope
David Meyers
Kay Ballard
Paula Burger
Mike Shirey

Karen Meyers
Scott Bissett
Carl Herber

Faith Presbyterian Church's Ministry

Interim Pastor: Rev. Mary Barrett Speers – 410-435-4330
maryfaithchurchbalt@gmail.com

Parish Associate: Rev. Doris Cowan -- 410-444-4731
dw.cowan@verizon.net

Parish Associate: Rev. William R. Millen -- 443-632-6047
bill.millen@comcast.net

Minister of Music: Dr. Samuel Springer -- 410-483-0808
widor1@yahoo.com

FAITH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

5400 Loch Raven Blvd, Baltimore, MD 21239
www.faithpcbalt.org 410-435-4330