

**HYATTSTOWN CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)**

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Music Director Matthew Dohm

December 17, 2023 *Fourth Sunday of Advent (Year B)*



PRELUDE : Matt Dohm
ANNOUNCEMENTS Elder
MISSION STATEMENT

LIGHTING OF 4th ADVENT WREATH CANDLE The Moores
We have lit three candles—for hope, for peace, and for joy. Today we light the fourth candle—the candle of love. With this flame we signify the love of God that surrounds and fills us at all times, but that we recognize in a special way in the Christmas story. There is no greater power than love. It is stronger than rulers and empires, stronger than grief or despair, stronger even than death. We love, because God loves us.

OPENING PRAYER Rev. Banks

***HYMN: “Emmanuel, Emmanuel”** #134 x3
Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel. God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel. (sung three times)

RESPONSIVE READING. Luke 1:46-55 Liturgist
GLORIA PATRI: *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. Amen.

FIRST READING: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 Liturgist

***GOSPEL READING:** Luke 1: 26-38 Liturgist
This is the Word of Our Lord: . . . **Thanks Be To God**

HYMN: “When God is a Child” #132 v4
Love is a flame that burns in our heart. Jesus has come and will never depart. When God is a child there’s joy in our song. The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.

SERMON: “How can this be?” Luke 1: 26-38 Rev. Banks

PRAYER CONCERNS Elder

PASTORAL PRAYER Rev. Banks

The Eucharist—the Giving and Receiving of Gifts

INVITATION AND RECEIVING OF OUR GIFTS Elder

***THE DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below. Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***OFFERTORY PRAYER** Elder

COMMUNION HYMN: “Come to the Table of Grace”

Come to the table of grace. Come to the table of grace.
This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of grace.
(Second verse use ‘Love’)

We practice an Open Table!

INVITATION TO COMMUNION All
WORDS OF INSTITUTION #389
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Elder
PARTAKING OF THE BREAD & THE CUP

THE LORD’S PRAYER (unison) Elder
Our Father, which 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

***HYMN: “A Stable Lamp Is Lighted”** #141 v1,4

A stable lamp is lighted whose glow shall wake the sky; the stars shall bend their voices, and every stone shall cry. And every stone shall cry, and straw like gold shall shine; a barn shall harbor heaven, a stall become a shrine. But now, as at the ending, the low is lifted high; the stars shall bend their voices, and every stone shall cry. And every stone shall cry, in praises of the child by whose descent among us the worlds are reconciled.

BENEDICTION: Rev. Banks

POSTLUDE: Matt Dohm

SUNDAY PRAYER REQUESTS:

December 17, 2023 Beaver Creek Christian Church, Hagerstown, MD
Fiona Kendall, Italy

December 10, 2023 – Joyce asked for prayer for her neighbor, Sylvia - had Covid, but now is in a nursing home. Ann is concerned for Fred, her dear friend. She will be finding out more info, but he's been moved to Hospice Care. Barb has a joy for Shawna & Tom - finally able to enjoy their honeymoon in South Africa. Debbie Blair asks for prayers for the family of Ken Watters who passed away unexpectedly. Pam is grateful to all for the service for Victor, continued prayers as the family mourns. Debbie Flook is so very grateful that our church family is so strong with love & joy – Blessed. Joyce is equally grateful that Debbie & Eddie invited her to join our church family. Pastor Monica's dental procedure was delayed until this week. She is grateful that there were funds that were unexpected that covers some of it. Happy Birthday to Chris!

December 3, 2023 – Pastor Monica has major dental surgery on Thursday – prayers it goes well. Prayers for comfort for Pam and all those who love and mourn Victor. Miranda's friends Catherine and Daniel have decided to divorce. Prayers they each get the support they need. Miranda's friends Tina and Jimmy are expecting their 3rd child.

November 26, 2023 – Prayers for Pam & all those that loved Victor – he passed away on Friday (11/24). Prayers for Diana, Debbie F's sister – chemo continues to be delayed due to other issues. Travel prayers for the Blairs & Sweeneys. Prayers for Jill (Beth met her) hired by school where she teaches, to train staff on all things LGBTQ+. She has hit some barriers with staff/principal. Joy the parsonage roof work starts Monday.

November 19, 2023 – Joyce offered that Victor was home, hoping for a nice Thanksgiving. Barb Lang said it was a great trip to Omaha, even with a support dog that did very well. She's going to be at her daughter's for Thanksgiving. Travel blessings for the Blair family as they travel to Florida to visit with family. Gabrielle's cat is having surgery this week. She's also in the Nutcracker in Westminster. Pastor Monica has more dental work to go, Dec 7th next app't. Gail said that a hi-power bb gun shot went through their sliding glass doors in the back of the house, called the police. Fortunately, no one was hurt, but lots of glass to clean up.

A cure to cancer and those who are living with it: Janice Seaman; Dana Miller; Elaine Silver; Tammy Lynn; Fred Stockum; Ron Chalfant; Eddie's sister.
Also remembering Sharon Turman, David Stickerod, Hoodie Geisbert, Barb Dangler.

December Celebrations:

Birthdays: 12/10, Chris Moore, 12/22 Remembering Hugh Howard, 12/24 Sharon Turman

Anniversaries: None listed



ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

December 17, 2023

During Advent, Pastor Monica is sending out weekly excerpts from a book for devotionals.

The people who clean the church are retiring and donating their time for December. Their last day is Dec. 15. Our congregation's plan is to take on cleaning as a congregation and to budget back up in case external support is needed. Debbie Flook is coordinating.

We are supporting 2 Kemptown Elementary families. Gifts are due today. Thanks to all who helped!

Feed the Hungry dates for 2024: May 11, June 15, July 13 & August 10.
Food Pantry can use food packs you get from grocery stores for the holidays.

**Our Web Site: HyattstownChristianChurch.org
Our Region's Web Site: CCADisciples.org**

CCLI—license numbers 20917473 & 20917480

- - - - - Mission Statement - - - - -

"Hyattstown Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is the little church with the big heart. We are an Open and Affirming welcoming group of individuals seeking to bring God's love and service to our broader community, meeting people where they are."

SERVING SCHEDULE

Servers	Dec 17, 2023	Dec 24, 2023	Dec 31, 2023
Elder:	C. Moore	G. Wagner	S. Wilson
Deacons:	W. Moore	S. Stickerod	B. Sweeney
Liturgist:	M. Barrientos	G. Johnson	M. Barrientos

Attendance for December 10 : 22

Nov —General Fund Collection (w/Zelle)—\$4,230
Northside/Southside—\$3800, DOC grant for roof - \$5000, PDF - \$1,012,
Pastor Support - \$160, Christmas Families - \$25, Staff Gifts - \$50,
Thanksgiving DMF - \$25, Christmas DMF - \$25