

122

INVITATION

THE CHALLENGE AND BLESSING
OF LIVING LIKE JESUS

Hebrews 12:2

December 3, 2023

*"We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the author who
initiates and perfects our faith."*

Hebrews 12:2

WE GATHER TO GLORIFY GOD

PRELUDE

Voluntary in D Major

Dorothy Fine
William Goodwin

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stephanie Templin Ashford

(Please sign and pass the fellowship pads at the end of the pew)

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Criscuolo Family

Today, we light this candle as a reminder that God invites us to hold on to hope. When the night is long and the path is unclear, God invites us to hope because, those who hope in the Lord will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint (Isaiah 40:31)

We can hope by planting seeds, dreaming dreams and trusting that God will make all things right. There are a million ways to practice hope. So today we light the candle of hope as a reminder and a charge. With God's help, may we bring hope into a weary world. Amen.

We Lift the Light of Hope (A sung response.)

**We lift the light of hope, O God,
Your presence burning bright.
In praise we sing the gift You bring:
Our hope complete in Christ.
In praise we sing the gift You bring:
Our hope complete in Christ.**

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN NO. 82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

WE ARE RENEWED THROUGH GOD'S GRACE

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Julie Lalonde

Forgive us, O Lord, for our hurried impatience. Take away the chaos and white noise of life that distracts us from you. Pry our doubt from our white-knuckled grasp and replace it with a longing for your presence.

Remind us that the truth of your words, work, and promises are no less true in the waiting. Let us embrace moments of quiet to meditate on the hope we are offered by you alone. We confess these things to you, O Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Julie Lalonde

Even now—yes, even in this very moment,
God comes to us, bringing hope, forgiveness, and grace. These gifts are freely offered to us because God loves us.

**May we open our hearts to the God who is with us,
and receive the gifts which have been offered to us.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*GLORIA PATRI NO. 581

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.***

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

ANTHEM

A Song for Advent

ADULT CHOIR
arr. by Jon Paige

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Bailey Heckman
(Place prayer cards in the basket as the deacons come forward.)

WE HEAR GOD'S POWERFUL WORD

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:5-25 (NT p. 56)

Stephanie Templin Ashford

SERMON

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Andante

Dorothy Fine
Charles Wesley

*DOXOLOGY HYMN NO. 606

OLD HUNDREDTH

***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

*HYMN OF PREPARATION NO. 504

WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

We Come as Guests Invited

WE GATHER AT THE TABLE OF THE LORD JESUS

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, our creator. You have given us life and a second birth in your Spirit.

Once we were no people, but now we are your people.

You claimed us as your beloved children and raised up the church as a witness to the resurrection, breathing into it your life and power.

From worlds apart, you gathered us together.

When we go astray, you welcome us home.

Always, your love has been steadfast. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the choirs of heaven and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ.

Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the one crucified and risen.

Great is the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

O God, today you have called us together to be the church. Unite us now at your table, and in one loaf and a common cup, make us one in Christ Jesus. Let your Spirit empower the life we share and ignite our witness in the world. With all who have gone before us, keep us faithful to the gospel teachings and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Give us strength to serve you until the promised day of the resurrection, when with the redeemed of all the ages we will feast with you at your table in glory. Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever.

Together, aware of our brothers and sisters in need of food, justice, healing, and mercy, we pray the prayer that Jesus taught us:

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

(Eat the bread as you are served. Hold the cup until all have been served.)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER COMMUNION

WE ARE SENT OUT TO BE THE CHURCH

*BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Allegretto

Dorothy Fine
Samuel Wesley

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

***This Sunday's flowers are in honor of the Tuesday Mornings
Men's Group.***

SUNDAY CALENDAR

Sun 12/03	9:00	TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE	Sanctuary
	9:00-10:00	Nursery (Infant – 4 years)	Nursery
	9:20–10:00	Sunday School (Pre-K – 5 th Grade)	Room 122-124
	10:00	COMMON HOUR/COFFEE HOUR	Fellowship Hall
	10:00	Grief Share	Room 125
	10:00	Invitation Station (card writing activity)	Fellowship Hall
	10:00	Choir Rehearsals	Choir Room
	11:00	CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP SERVICE	Fellowship Hall
	11:00-12:00	Nursery (Infant – 4 years)	Nursery
	11:20-12:00	Sunday School (Pre-K – 5 th Grade)	Rooms 122-125
	6:00 – 8:00	TSM/Youth Group	Fellowship Hall

Join us today for the Invitation Station at 10 am in Fellowship Hall Join us to write cards to invite our friends and neighbors to celebrate Christmas with us. Cards and stamps provided.

DECEMBER & JANUARY CALENDAR

December 3 – First Sunday of Advent with Advent Invitation Station & Communion
December 10 – Community Meal & Christmas Caroling in New Hope
December 17 – Children's Christmas Musical – 10 am Worship Service Only in Fellowship Hall
December 24 – 9 am & (4)Christmas Eve Services (see schedule for all Worship Services)
December 25 – Christmas Day Brunch at 11 am in Fellowship Hall
December 31 – 9 am & 11 am Worship Services
January 7 – 9 am & 11 am Worship Services - Epiphany and Communion
January 14 – Services & January 15 – MLK DAY OF SERVICE 9 am – 1 pm
January 28 – Jazz Worship Service - 9 am Worship Service Only in Fellowship Hall

UPCOMING EVENTS AT TMPC

CHRISTMAS GIFT BAGS FOR URBAN PROMISE TRENTON In support of Urban Promise Trenton, please take a Christmas Gift Bag from the Table of Well Wishing. See list of items to purchase and return the filled bag to the Table of Well Wishing by **December 18**. If you have any questions, contact Melissa Mantz at njmojas@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING IN NEW HOPE Join members and friends of TMPC on **December 10** at **4:30 pm** to sing Christmas Carols around New Hope. Our first stop will be the bed and breakfast, the lighted tree at the Logan Inn, a stop near Havanna's and back to the Italian Cucina. We will **assemble at 4:30 pm** at the Begley Carlin lot, 123 West Bridge Street (free parking for 20 cars with additional parking at the high school). Help bring good cheer to all.

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT Drop off your kids and enjoy some time to yourself! On **December 15** from 5:30 – 8:00 pm. We will provide dinner, games, Christmas activities, and more. Have your kids come for the whole time or drop off and pick up at any point during the event. Don't forget to wear your favorite Christmas Jammies! Click on the link to RSVP in e-news or on the website tmpc.org/kids and please let us know if your child has any dietary restrictions or allergies.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL On Sunday, **December 17**, we will celebrate our worship with one service at 10 am featuring our children who will perform/lead our annual Christmas Musical: 'Silent Night - The Birth of a Carol' in Fellowship Hall lead by our Music Directory, Tricia Murphy.

MLK DAY OF SERVICE Join us on Monday, **January 15** from 9 am – 1 pm for a day of service, music and learning. Sean McFadden, the new director of Urban Promise will be our keynote speaker. The team would like to purchase t-shirts for our participants. If you would like to help defray that expense let Melissa Mantz or Pastor Stephanie know.

CHURCH LIFE & MEMBER CARE

PRAYERS FOR HEALING AT HOME George Brandenburg, Pat Castiglione, Marlene Clark, John Donahue, Frank Gatto, Laurel Krauss, Pam Mills, Josh Nemzoff, Lisa Palise, Bucky Pope, Meredith Power, Nancy Quanstrom, Elinor Raike, Brenda Redfield, Jim and Susan Revie, Tom Thatcher, Bob Tomlinson, Holly Tomkovitz, JoAnn Weiskopf, Doris Wessner *If you have someone to add to our prayer chain, please send your request to Alison Yearley at apybobba@aol.com.*

TMPC MEMBERS CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS Please wish Happy Birthday to a few of our members who celebrate their birthday between *December 2 – December 9: Ed Burger, Christine Rampe, Melissa Michael, Barbara Pope, Bob Sagolla, Laura Kaspro, Monica O'Donnell, Carole Davis, Kim Hrynko, Brad Michael, John Sager, Rebecca Gorgol, Frederic Haubrich, Joanne Clark, Aaron Hafner, Bob Stoner, Margi Hurst, Nancy Murray, James Daily, Melissa Bottelier*

FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY Anyone can order altar flowers in general or "in memory of" or "in honor of" or "in celebration of" a loved one for \$45. Please use our link on our website tmpc.org/giving. Simply select the "Order Flowers" button or "Donate to the Flower Fund" button or make your check payable to TMPC and write "flower fund" on the memo line.

USHERS NEEDED Would you like to serve by greeting people in worship? Contact Sandy Barford, sandbar1535@gmail.com. See the sign up link in e-news or our website.

ONGOING OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES

MEALS FOR FISHERMAN'S MARK Our next meal for Fisherman's Mark will be on Tuesday, **December 5** at 8:30 am in Fellowship Hall. Please sign up by using the Signup Genius to donate food items, to help prepare the meal, or to donate funds to cover the increased costs of the main dish. See the sign up link in e-news and on our website.

TMPC FOOD DRIVE Your contributions are a blessing to our needy neighbors in Lambertville, Trenton, and Morrisville. **WE NEED YOUR DONATIONS NOW MORE THAN EVER!** Our monthly food drive is on **December 20** from 10:00 to 10:30 am. You can bring items in ahead of time. The sign up is available in our e-news or www.tmpc.org/events.

TRENTON AREA SOUP KITCHEN (TASK) TMPC will be going to TASK on **December 28** to give out gifts to those served at the facility in Trenton from 9:45 am -1:00 pm and meet at TMPC parking lot to carpool at 9:15 am. Email Chuck Green for more information.



Christmas Eve Worship

9:00 AM THE BLESSING OF CHRISTMAS
(SPECIAL DRAMATIC STORYTELLING EVENT) - SANCTUARY

3:30 FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE
(POP-UP PAGEANT AND CHILDREN'S CHOIRS) - FELLOWSHIP HALL

6:00 CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP
(CONTEMPORARY CHOIR AND MULTIMEDIA EXPERIENCE) - FELLOWSHIP HALL

7:00 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
(LESSONS AND CAROLS WITH CANDLELIGHT) - SANCTUARY

9:30 TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
(COMMUNION, CANDLELIGHT AND THE RINGING IN OF CHRISTMAS) - SANCTUARY



Scan here for one time giving,
link to our website, for upcoming events or
subscribe to our weekly e-news.



Venmo to: [egive2tmpc](https://venmo.com/egive2tmpc)
This will be treated like a cash donation
unless we can easily match your venmo
name with a name in our donation database.