



The shiny additions to our Advent and Christmas visuals remind us we are called to reflect the sacred each and every day. “Incarnation” is a word meaning God’s presence came to dwell among all people, and we believe this happened in a special way in the birth of Jesus. All creation has always been imbued with the Creator’s brilliance. This season, we will remember the call to shine with this holy light.

GATHERING

Prelude

“’Twas in the Moon of Wintertime”
French Folk Carol, arr. by Cathy Moglebust
Joyful Noise Ringers

Welcome and announcements

*Passing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Advent Song (stanza 4)

TFWS# 2080

**Light the Advent candle, four:
Think of joy forever more;
Christ Child in a stable born,
gift of love that Christmas morn.**

**Candle, candle, burning bright,
shining in the cold winter night;
candle, candle, burning bright,
fill our hearts with Christmas light.**

Lighting the Advent Candles

The candles are lit this morning by the John Wesley Room class.

*Hymn

“Savior of the Nations, Come”

UMH #214

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Holy God, come quickly and lighten our darkness. Lift us from mindless repetition of well-known carols. Enliven our reading of the familiar story. Prepare us for your coming. Holy Child, your coming will disturb us. It will expose our failure to love, our lack of concern for others, our pride in things we have earned and bought. Come quickly so we do not forget that you give us our life, our security, our peace. Open our eyes to the ways your grace and mercy is at work. Open our imagination to witness to your wonders. Open our hearts that your Child may find a place to dwell in us. Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest. Amen.

Silent prayer

Words of Assurance and Pardon

May almighty God, who caused light to shine out of darkness, shine in our hearts, cleansing us from all our sins, and restoring to us the light of the knowledge of God’s glory in the face of Jesus Christ, our Savior and King. **Amen.**

PROCLAIMING

First Lesson

Isaiah 7: 10-16

Beth Strakonsky

Anthem

Choral Fantasy on “Creator of the Stars of Night”
By Michael Larkin
Sanctuary Choir, Joyce Summers, pianist

*Gospel Lesson

Matthew 1: 18-25

Beth Strakonsky

*Response

The word of God for the people of God.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

Special Music

“The First Noel/Pachelbel’s Canon” setting by Michael Clawson
Lainey and William Davy, soloists
Dr. Adela Peeva, pianist

Time With the Children

Following the Time with the Children, all children in K-3rd grade are invited to Children's Church either in the Chapel or in the Nursery for the remainder of the worship service. Parents are asked to walk their children to narthex/lobby where they will find the children's church leader.

*Hymn "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks" UMH #236
Sermon Ordinary Joe Rev. Steve Larsen

RESPONDING

Anthem "He Shall Feed His Flock Like a Shepherd"
Aria from Handel's Messiah
Karen Dobbs and Julia Lancione, soloists
Dr. Adela Peeva, pianist

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**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 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, and the power and the glory, forever.
Amen**

Offertory "Gesù Bambino"
Music by Pietro Von, words by Frederick H. Martens, arr. by Mark Hayes
Lainey Davy, soloist, Joyce Summers, pianist

When we pass the offering plate in the worship service we are linking our giving with other ways we worship God.

*Checks can also be sent to the church office at 131 West 2nd St, Frederick, MD 21701.
Online payments can be made easily and securely by going to www.Calvaryumc.org/give/. (See QR code on the back of this bulletin) You can make a one-time gift or set up ongoing electronic payments.*

Please use this time to register your attendance here today in the red folders found in the pews.

*Doxology UMH #211

**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.**

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH

- *Hymn “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming” UMH# 216
- *Dismissal with Blessing
- *Postlude “From Heaven Above to Earth I Come” Johann Pachelbel
- *Going Forth
-

Material for the worship service today and throughout this month are adapted from a series called “ Reflecting the Sacred” from Worship Design Studio.

www.worshipdesignstudio.com/sacred.

Eleanor Bowersox will turn 95 on December 21; if you would like to send her a birthday greeting, please mail it to Eleanor Bowersox, 1910 Rosemont Ave. #227, Frederick, Maryland 21701.

Ushers: Dave Mills, Fran Haller, Paul Nelson, Susan Baggette, Mitch Reading

Altar Flowers: If you are interested in being a flower sponsor, please sign up by calling the church office or at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080d4faaa72fa75-altar1> to sign up for altar flowers, pulpit, or communion table. Many dates are available.

Become an usher, help pass the offering plate, communion, distribute bulletins and direct seating, if interested sign up at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080d4faaa72fa75-monthly> or see Dave Mills at dacmills78@gmail.com

Acolytes Needed! Calvary is seeking youth members (ages 8 and up) to serve as acolytes during Sunday morning worship. If your child may be interested, please contact Stefanie Harris at 301-639-7376 or jujubee820@yahoo.com for more information and training.

The Church Nursery is open for children up to 5 years of age. Look for our **Children's Worship Bags** in the narthex, filled with activities to keep little hands busy during worship!

Our **Nursery** policies and procedures require two adults over the age of 18 be always present when our nursery is in use. We just need a second adult to be on our rotating schedule. Contact Cathleen Gough, in the nursery on Sunday mornings.

Children's Church is for ages 5 - 3rd grade and meets either in the Chapel or in the Nursery during our worship service, immediately following our *Time with The Children*. We are in need of adult volunteers to be in the Chapel from 10:15 a.m.-11:00 a.m. on a rotating basis for Children's Church. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Amy Stone.

AmyStone@calvaryumc.org or sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0949acad2fabfbc61-childrens>

Our Women's Ministry Gratitude Group on Facebook is another place you can join us. We share daily gratitude and joys, daily prayer requests, and share inspirational messages. All are welcome. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/783900735353923/>

We need hosts for our **2023 Coffee and Donut time** in the Parish Hall on Sunday mornings. To sign up go to: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080d4faaa72fa75-coffee2> and chose a date. Contact Margie Wilde at skywilde@comcast.net for more information, or contact the Church office.



Use this code to learn how to give online, or visit <https://calvaryumc.org/give/>

Please help our community's homeless youth: Homeless for the Holidays!

From mid-November through December, Calvary is collaborating with SHIP of Frederick (Student Homelessness Initiative Partnership), by collecting *personal hygiene articles* for middle and high school age youth who do not have permanent homes. Toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorants and shaving items for boys and girls, shampoo, hairbrushes, feminine hygiene products, and soaps are examples of the types of items needed. For a complete list of needed items, see:

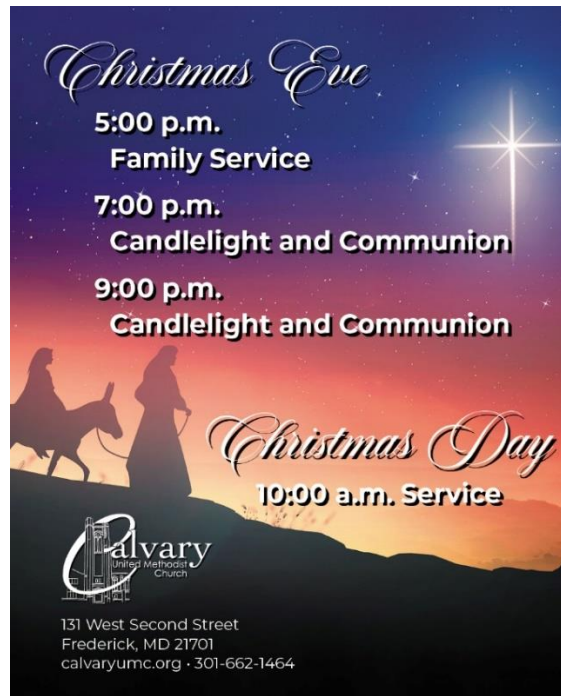
<https://shipfrederick.com/events/homeless-for-the-holidays>

In Parish Hall by the coat racks, each Sunday from November 13 through December, there will be a box decorated with Christmas wrappings and marked HOMELESS-FOR-THE-HOLIDAYS. At this time of year when we give thanks for the many blessings bestowed upon us through God's grace, and prepare our hearts spiritually for the birth of Jesus, let us be generous in helping our community's youth in need. If in addition to or in lieu of giving the items above you wish to make a financial contribution to SHIP of Frederick, you may do so through that organization's website or the offering plate in our church narthex, with a check made out to Calvary UMC noting SHIP in the lower left memo line.

*** ATTENTION!!!!** It is not too late for gifting. There are still cheeseballs for sale in the kitchen freezer. We have both Holiday and Port Wine in both pounds and half pounds. \$8 for a pound and \$6.50 for a half pound. These stay good for months. Please think about your co-workers, hosts for the holiday and even for yourselves, if you are hosting. Do not miss this opportunity to give a delicious treat.

Dear Congregation,

It is with great joy that I announce that the 2022 Bazaar will officially close on Wednesday, December 21. What a wonderful event it was. Many, many thanks need to go out to everyone who made it such a success. Thanks to crafters, vendors, bakers, soup makers, recipe jar makers, cheeseball makers and those who donated the ingredients, those who donated items for the Silent Auction and White Elephant Room, the musicians with their lovely music, workers on the day of the bazaar, those who helped set up the bazaar and clean up afterward. Without all of you, this event would not have been possible. It was a step out in faith that, after almost three years, we worked to resurrect this bazaar. KUDOS to all of you that made it possible. May God bless you all this Christmas time. My wish is for you to enjoy the peace and love of family and friends and best of all, wonder in the greatest gift of all - our Lord Jesus. With love, Becky Isaacs



Tour of Churches - 4 - 8 p.m. Monday, December 26! We are looking for volunteers - sign-up sheets can be found at the Welcome Center in the Parish Hall.

To all Church soup, makers- We need help to prepare Calvary's World famous chicken corn soup for the Tour of Churches on Dec. 26. We need four men (and wives) at 10:20 a.m. Saturday, December 24 debone chicken, and at 9 a.m. Monday, December 26 cut and peel potatoes. If you can help, please contact Roy Schwarzenberg at 240-626-6872.

Prayer Concerns:

Members of Calvary: Nancy Huffman, Lou Finneyfrock, Todd Main, Shauna Main, Anna Stroh, Donna Loeb, Scott English, Bruce Caruthers, Betty Brewer, Rita Sharpe, Nancy Dobbs, Beth Richards, JoAn Ehlers, Steve Ehlers, Ann Crum, Nancy Crum, Fannie Johnson, Judy Allen, Lois Pacheco, Kitty and Nathan Robinson, Charlotte Elliott, Leo Giambarresi, Lynn Schumacher, Jack Heller, Art Fennington, Nancy Crum, Becky Acklin

Friends of Calvary: Steve Twiss (Brother of Margie Wilde), Marie Smith (Friend of Susan Baggette), Jerry Black (Son-in-law of Betsy Bryant), Allan Huffman (Son of Nancy Huffman), Brian Jones (Friend of the Linda and Scott English), Bev Hitchins (Friend of Paul Nelson), Erik Karl (Son of Cathy Karl), Janet Stone (Mother of Jeff Stone), Barbara Crutchley (Friend of Jan Cline), Hope Patterson and Cathy Short (Sisters of Charlotte Pasquerette), Ken Kessel (Brother of Susan Baggette), Audrey Cash (Friend of Helen Sheppard), Vivian Warner (Mother of Jan Cline), Kitty Cooley (Sister of Connie Scoggins), Ellie (Friend of Gloria Orrison), Suzanne Simpson and Adam Shake (Sister & brother-in-law to Christy Mossburg), John and Lynn Mills (Friends of Charles Geisbert) Linda Horinie Henke (Niece of Charles Geisbert), Lillian Mingola (Mother of Maria Calcagni), Wendy Koch (Niece of Helen Sheppard), Gay Ann Mazac (Niece of Steve and JoAn Ehlers), Alice Woodward, sister, Jeremy Winn, nephew, Louise Bricto, cousin of Rita Sharpe, Virginia Painter Floyd, Tracy Sizemore, Jamie Marable and daughter Cheryl, Anne Hovis and Bob Ray, friends of Rita Sharp

This Week at Calvary- December 18~December 25

Today, December 18

- 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
- 10:00 a.m. Worship
- 11:15 a.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 5:30 p.m. Youth Group

Tuesday, December 20

- 10:00 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study
- 6:00 p.m. AGAPE
- 6:30 p.m. Joyful Noise Bells
- 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

Wednesday, December 21

- 6:30 p.m. Men's Bible Study

Saturday, December 24

- 5:00 p.m. Family Christmas Eve Service
- 7:00 p.m. Candlelight/Communion Service
- 9:00 p.m. Candlelight/Communion Service

Next Sunday, December 25

- 10:00 a.m. Worship

CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

131 West Second Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701

301-662-1464 • www.calvaryumc.org

Calvary United Methodist Church seeks and invites all to become disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our community and our world.

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Steve Larsen, Lead Pastor
revsteve@calvaryumc.org or 301-848-8216

Rev. Ken Humbert, Visitation Pastor
revhumbert@calvaryumc.org

Dr. Adela Peeva, Director of Music Ministries
adela@calvaryumc.org

Jenn Duthoy, Director of Youth Ministries
calvaryyouth@calvaryumc.org

Amy Stone, Director of Children's Ministry
AmyStone@calvaryumc.org

Cathy Baker, Office Manager
cathybaker@calvaryumc.org

Bob Jacobs, Financial Secretary
bobjacobs@calvaryumc.org

Paul Metcalf, Custodian
paulmetcalf@calvaryumc.org

Joyce Summers, pianist

Calvary Weekday School

133 West Second Street, Frederick MD 21701

301-662-6783 ~ www.calvaryweekdayschool.com

Patricia Lockard, Director
director@calvaryweekdayschool.com

Olivia Watkins, Administrative Assistant
calvaryweekdayschool@calvaryweekdayschool.com