

**CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

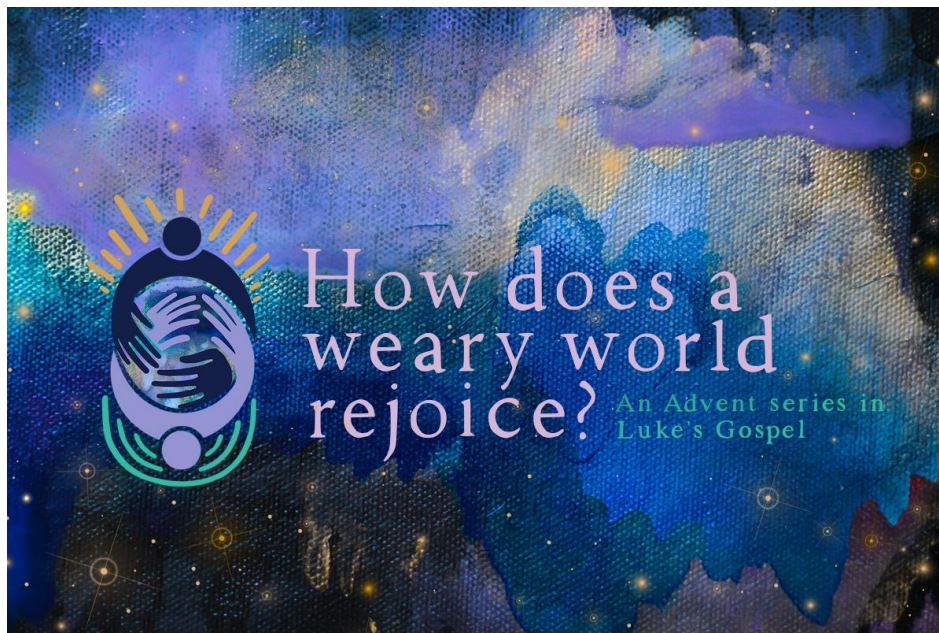
131 West Second Street, Frederick, Maryland 21701

301-662-1464 • [www.calvaryumc.org](http://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.*

December 24, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent 10:00 a.m. Worship Service



Prelude

“Mary, Did You Know”

setting by Dan Coates  
Dr. Adela Peeva, pianist

Welcome and announcements

\*Passing the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

\*Lighting the Advent Candles

How does a weary world practice love?

**By sending cards, and picking up the phone.**

By practicing empathy, and assuming the best in others. By learning people’s stories and finding common ground.

**By advocating for justice, and saving a place at the table.**

There are a million ways to practice love. So today we light the candle of love as a reminder and a charge.

**With God’s help, may we bring love into a weary world. Amen.**

*The candle is lit this morning by Fran Haller.*

\*Hymn

“Blessed Be the God of Israel”

UMH #209

Opening Prayer (unison)

**God of glory, you have met us all in unexpected places, much as you found the shepherds in the field where they worked. Reveal yourself to us in this time of worship. Tune our hearts to your arrival so we will not miss you in all our daily activities. May the prompting of your Spirit move us to leave our ordinary tasks for a time to be present to your extraordinary presence coming into the world. May the prompting of your Spirit move us to come and worship and give you all honor and praise. Amen.**

Anthem

“What Child Is This” Traditional, arr. by Malcolm Archer  
Karen Dobbs and Julia Lancione, soloists  
Sanctuary Choir, Joyce Summers, pianist

\*Gospel Lesson

Luke 1:46-55

David Cline

\*Response

The word of God for the people of God.

**THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Time With the Children

*Following the Time with the Children, all children in K-3<sup>rd</sup> 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

“Away in a Manger”

UMH #217

Sermon

Rev. Steve Larsen

How does a Weary World Rejoice?  
We Sing Songs of Hope

Time for Reflection and Commitment

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

“An English Carol” setting by Charles Callahan

*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 2<sup>nd</sup> St, Frederick, MD 21701. Online payments can be made easily and securely by going to [www.Calvaryumc.org/give/](http://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 #221, verse 4

What can I give him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb,  
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part,  
Yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Hymn

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

UMH #216

\*Dismissal with Blessing

Family of faith, as you leave this place,  
You go into a weary world—so speak tenderly.  
Do the good that is yours to do. Choose connection.  
Hold onto hope. And remember  
That Christ took on flesh for you.  
You are God’s beloved.  
So go rejoicing. The world needs it.  
**Amen.**

\*Postlude

“From Heaven Above to Earth I Come”

by Pachelbel

\*Going Forth

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Our worship theme for Advent and Christmas this year is called, **“How Does a Weary World Rejoice?”** and is based on ideas and materials from A Sanctified Art LLC.

We spend this season looking at how the story of Jesus begins alongside the stories of Elizabeth, Zechariah, and John the Baptist. These stories involve feelings of isolation, fear, and disbelief, as well as trust, joy, and connection. Somehow, all these emotions are part of the larger story of what God is doing in the world. This Advent, we will hold space for our weariness and our joy.

The opening prayer was written by Joanna Harader, and posted on Spacious Faith. <https://spaciousfaith.com/2013/12/17/advent-3-worship-pieces/>.

**Ushers:** Rick Miller, Bill Pasquerette, Susan Baggett, Paul Muehl, Dave Mills

**Acolyte:**

**Coffee Time Hosts:** David Cline

Joy to the World, the Lord has come! The Fellowship Group has sponsored the altar flowers today.

\*\*Poinsettia plants will be available to pick up on Wednesday, December 27 in the Parish Hall.

### 2024 Church Ministry Guide

We are updating our Church Ministry Guide of Groups and Activities and will publish the 2024 edition for distribution in January. If you have any changes or additions, please email Karen Gebhart at [kgebhart1@gmail.com](mailto:kgebhart1@gmail.com)

**Acolytes Needed:** Dates have been added to the sign up list! Please use this link to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b4aa9a82aa4ff2-acolyte/18827003#/> If you have any questions please contact Stefanie Harris at [jujubee820@yahoo.com](mailto:jujubee820@yahoo.com)

**Children's Church** is for children in grades K-3, and takes place in our chapel during the worship service, immediately following the *Time with the Children*. If you would like to volunteer as a Children's Church Adult please sign up at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0949acad2fabfbc61-childrens>

*If there is no adult in the chapel to lead Children's Church, children are welcome to continue down the hall to the Nursery.* For more information, please contact Amy Stone at [AmyStone@calvaryumc.org](mailto:AmyStone@calvaryumc.org)

### New Church Information Cards



Available at the Welcome Center in Parish Hall, we now have business cards with key information for distribution. The card provides a QR code to our website, Sunday church service times, and other details. These are perfect to hand out to anyone visiting our church, or you may take some to give to prospective visitors you may know. We will also hand out to guests during the December 26 Holiday Church Tour event.


### Join the Sanctuary Choir at our 7 p.m. or 9 p.m. Christmas Eve Services

All are invited to join the Sanctuary Choir in singing the famous "O Holy Night" during our Christmas Eve Worship. To learn more and take part, please contact Dr. Adela Peeva at [adela@calvaryumc.org](mailto:adela@calvaryumc.org). Thank you!



# CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

5 p.m. Family Service  
7 p.m. Candelight and Communion  
9 p.m. Candelight and Communion



## **37TH ANNUAL TOUR OF CHURCHES CALVARY UMC EVENTS TUESDAY, DEC. 26TH DOORS OPEN AT 4:00 P.M.**



**CHICKEN CORN SOUP, COOKIES, HOT CHOCOLATE,  
COFFEE, HOT TEA, AND WATER WILL BE SERVICED FROM  
4:00 P.M. UNTIL 9:00 P.M. OR WHEN WE RUN OUT.**

### **MUSICAL LINEUP**

**TRI STATE HARP ENSEMBLE  
4:00 P.M.-6:00 P.M.**

**PEAL BELL RINGING AND DEMONSTRATION  
TRINITY BRASS ENSEMBLE  
7:00 P.M.-8:00 P.M.**

**SEASONAL ORGAN AND PIANO  
MUSIC PLAYED BY DR. ADELA PEEVA  
8:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M.**



## Prayer Concerns:

**Members of Calvary:** Marilyn Moyers, Josie Cottone, Mary Caruthers, Jackie Grimes, Basil Eavey, Peggy Griffiee, Todd Main, Dick Alsmeyer, Ramona Yanike, Betty Brewer, Rita Sharpe, Nancy Dobbs, Nancy Crum, Fannie Johnson, Judy Allen, Lois Pacheco, Kitty and Nathan Robinson, Joyce Dixon, Eleanor Bowersox, Susan Howe, Reed Keirn, Raymond Crum

**Friends of Calvary:** Family of Lois Jean Keirn (Mother of Andy Keirn), John and Dottie Stenner, Donnie Green (former member), Sarah Jenkins (Sister of Mary Crum), Irene Shafer (Friend of Betsy Bryant), Cheryl Christine (Chris) Irving (Wife of Drew Irving), Patty Lockard (Weekday School Director), Steve Twiss (Brother of Margie Wilde), Allan Huffman (Son of Nancy Huffman), Brian Jones (Friend of the Linda & Scott English), Joey Nichols (Friend of Paul Nelson), Erik Karl (Son of Cathy Karl), Janet Stone (Mother of Jeff Stone), Hope Patterson and Cathy Short (Sisters of Charlotte Pasquette), Ken Kessel (Brother of Susan Baggette), Audrey Cash (Friend of Helen Sheppard), Kitty and Jack Cooley (Sister and brother-in-law of Connie Scoggins), 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), Alice, Marion and Becky Woodward, family members of Rita Sharpe, Virginia Painter Floyd, Jill Sizemore, Anne Hovis, Gil Crippen, Rhonda Wills, Ann Kushick, Jim Clark, June Tucker and family, friends of Rita Sharpe

## Week of December 24~December 31

### **Today, Sunday, December 24**

9 a.m. Sunday School  
10 a.m. Worship (Advent Service)  
5 p.m. Family Christmas Eve Service  
7 p.m. Candlelight and  
Communion Service  
9 p.m. Candlelight and  
Communion Service

### **Monday, December 25**

Merry Christmas

### **Tuesday, December 26**

4 p.m. – 9 p.m.  
Tour of Churches

### **Next Sunday, December 31 New Year's Eve**

9 a.m. Sunday School  
10 a.m. Worship





131 West Second Street  
Frederick, Maryland 21701  
301-662-1464 or [office@calvaryumc.org](mailto:office@calvaryumc.org)

## **Church Staff**

Rev. Dr. Steve Larsen, Lead Pastor  
[revsteve@calvaryumc.org](mailto:revsteve@calvaryumc.org) or 301-848-8216

Rev. Ken Humbert, Visitation Pastor  
[revkenh@starpower.net](mailto:revkenh@starpower.net)

Dr. Adela Peeva, Director of Music Ministries  
[adela@calvaryumc.org](mailto:adela@calvaryumc.org)

Jenn Duthoy, Director of Youth Ministries  
[calvaryyouth@calvaryumc.org](mailto:calvaryyouth@calvaryumc.org)

Amy Stone, Director of Children's Ministry  
[AmyStone@calvaryumc.org](mailto:AmyStone@calvaryumc.org)

Cathy Baker, Office Manager  
[cathybaker@calvaryumc.org](mailto:cathybaker@calvaryumc.org)

Bob Jacobs, Financial Secretary  
[bobjacobs@calvaryumc.org](mailto:bobjacobs@calvaryumc.org)

Paul Metcalf, Custodian  
[paulmetcalf@calvaryumc.org](mailto:paulmetcalf@calvaryumc.org)

Joyce Summers, pianist

## **Calvary Weekday School**

133 West Second Street, Frederick MD 21701  
301-662-6783 ~ [www.calvaryweekdayschool.com](http://www.calvaryweekdayschool.com)

Patricia Lockard, Director  
[director@calvaryweekdayschool.com](mailto:director@calvaryweekdayschool.com)

Olivia Watkins, Administrative Assistant  
[calvaryweekdayschool@calvaryweekdayschool.com](mailto:calvaryweekdayschool@calvaryweekdayschool.com)



Use this code to give online,  
or visit our website at [www.calvaryumc.org/give](http://www.calvaryumc.org/give)