

light of Christ at Christmas. Help us to turn toward that light in our lives. We rejoice at the gift of your Son who taught us to love in your name. May we be people of peace and justice all the days of our lives. Your kingdom come and your will be done now and forever. Amen.

†**BENEDICTION (to be sung)**      **“In the Bleak Midwinter”**      **#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.

†**POSTLUDE**      **“Noel ”**      **- Dana Moody**



*Today’s service is being broadcast on Facebook Live at 11:00 am. You can access the service through the Oaklette Church Group on Facebook. You must be a member of that group page to see it however. Please send Dr. Tim a Facebook request to join the group if you are not already a member of the group. You can also access the sermon through the Oaklette UMC Facebook page. If you are unable to use Facebook Live a link can be sent to you by email after the Facebook Live Worship has been recorded, but we will need your email address to do this. The Facebook Live service will also be downloaded to our website on Monday morning.*

*The flowers on the altar today are presented to the glory of God by Len Carter in honor of Len’s and Carole’s anniversary.*

*The Food Basket on the altar is presented to the glory of God.*

**PARTNERS IN MINISTRY TODAY**

- Members of the Church**
- Nursery Care Providers:** Deborah & Ron Repko
- Lay Reader:** Brenda Swoope
- Organist/Director of Music:** Dana Moody
- Prayer Partner:** Brenda Swoope
- Audio-Visual Operator:** Julian Baker
- Facebook Live Recorder:** Bright Tsevi
- Greeter:** Joanne Rooks
- Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Timothy D. Hazlett
- Administrative Assistant:** Eileen Ballance
- Financial Secretary:** Edna Bess
- Coastal Virginia Dist. Superintendent:** Rev. Dr. Cecelia R. Brooks
- Resident Bishop, Richmond Area:** Bishop Sharma D. Lewis



***Oaklette United Methodist Church***

***"God's Body in this Community"***

*“Oaklette United Methodist Church through worship, education, and outreach, seeks to make the gospel of Jesus Christ real, as we minister to all people.”*

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***December 4, 2022 ~ 11:00 A.M.***

***Second Sunday of Advent***

***“Be Born in Us Today”***



*Welcome in the name of our Lord. A nurturing and well-supervised nursery is available for infants and young children. A Crying Room is also available. Please ask the greeter for further assistance and direction to these rooms.*  
[†] = Invites persons to stand as they are able.

**PRELUDE**      **“Away in a Manger”**      **- Dana Moody**

**THE MORNING WELCOME**      **- Dr. Tim Hazlett**

**CENTERING PRAYER AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH (responsively)**

Pastor: We light the second candle on the Advent wreath to celebrate the renewal of our lives through faith in Christ Jesus. The apostle Paul writes, “We were buried therefore with [Christ] by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life” (Romans 6:4).

People: **Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. You were born among us bring us new life.**

Pastor: “Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect” (Romans 12:2).

People: **Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. Renew our hearts and minds in the power of the Holy Spirit so that we might serve you by serving others.**

†OPENING HYMN“Angels from the Realms of Glory”#220

1. Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o’er all the earth;  
ye who sang creation’s story now proclaim Messiah’s birth:  
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new born King.

2. Shepherds in the field abiding, watching o’er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light.  
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new born King.

3. Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star:  
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new born King.

4. Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear;  
suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear:  
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new born King.

A CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER FOR ADVENT (in unison)

During this holy season of waiting, O God, grace us with the presence of mind to be attuned to what this season is all about, and just what it is we are celebrating. Let us walk slowly into Advent and wait as Mary did, and ponder this wondrous birth.

Instead of racing to the store and becoming engulfed in mall madness, let us walk slowly into Advent, and watch for the holy happenings that come to us as we journey to Bethlehem. In the midst of December darkness, open our eyes to the gift of light in our lives ... the smile of a child ... the hug of a friend ... our family gathered here, in this place ... the delight of music ... the aroma of good things baking and the wind in our faces as we walk toward the warmth of home.

Let us walk slowly into Advent that we might take note "whenever and wherever God comes ... even to a godforsaken place like a stable." Let us watch where we are going as we walk slowly into Advent so that we might kneel and greet the babe with ready and restful hearts. We offer our prayers in the name of the one for whom we wait, who walks with us even in our darkest times, Jesus the Christ who taught us to say when we pray ...

THE LORD’S PRAYER (in unison)

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.

ANTHEM“Holy Child, Jesus Child”- Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING- Psalm 31:1-5 (NIV)

In you, LORD, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness. Turn your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue; be my rock of refuge, a strong fortress to save me. Since you are my rock and my fortress, for the sake of your name lead and guide me. Keep me free from the trap that is set for me, for you are my refuge. Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, LORD, my faithful God.

THE SUNG RESPONSE TO THE SCRIPTURE READING#230

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in. Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

SERMON“Bringing Guidance”- Dr. Tim Hazlett

†HYMN OF RESPONSE“Sing We Now of Christmas”#237

1. Sing we now of Christmas, Noel, sing we here!  
Hear our grateful praises to the babe so dear.  
Sing we Noel, The King is born, Noel!  
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

2. Angels called to shepherds, “Leave your flocks at rest,  
journey forth to Bethlehem, find the child so blest.”  
Sing we Noel, The King is born, Noel!  
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

3. In Bethlehem they found him; Joseph and Mary mild,  
seated by the manglers, watching the holy child.  
Sing we Noel, The King is born, Noel!  
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER

(As the music begins you are invited to come forward to receive the elements.  
Baskets have been placed in the front to receive your CAP offering.)  
[Casting Crowns’ music video “Make Room”]

†CLOSING PRAYER (in unison)

Loving God, we give you thanks for the blessings of this holy Advent season. You are the source of life, of hope, and of all good things. We look forward to the coming of the