

# *The Chapel in the Pines*

**December 22, 2024**

**Serving our Community by Preaching, Teaching,  
and Living the Gospel of Jesus Christ**

## *The Fourth Sunday of Advent*



**The flowers on the Communion table this week  
are given to the Glory of God by Alice McPheeters  
in loving memory of Terry McPheeters.**

**And also**

**Flowers on the Communion table are given to  
The Glory of God and Congregation by Sharon Hacker.**

**Gathering Music**

**The Chiming of the Trinity**

**The Prelude**

**The Concerns, Celebrations, and Prayers of our Chapel Family**

## The Invocation

**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 and ever...Amen.**

### \*The Call to Worship

Adapted from Micah 5 and Luke 1

God has done great things for us!

**God's love is heralded in the promise of Christ.**

Holy is God's name!

**God's promises are fulfilled in the coming of Christ.**

God's mercy extends from generation to generation.

**God's salvation is offered in the gift of Christ.**

### \*Hymn

#505 *Love Lifted Me*

**1** I was sinking deep in sin,  
Far from the peaceful shore,  
Very deeply stained within,  
Sinking to rise no more;  
But the Master of the sea  
Heard my despairing cry,  
From the waters lifted me,  
Now safe am I.

#### **Refrain:**

Love lifted me! Love lifted me!  
When nothing else could help,  
Love lifted me!  
Love lifted me! Love lifted me!  
When nothing else could help,  
Love lifted me!

**2** All my heart to Him I give,  
Ever to Him I'll cling,  
In His blessed presence live,  
Ever His praises sing;  
Love so mighty and so true,  
Merits my soul's best songs;  
Faithful loving service, too,  
To Him belongs. **[Refrain]**

**3** Souls in danger, look above;  
Jesus completely saves;  
He will lift you by His love  
Out of the angry waves;  
He's the Master of the sea,  
Billows His will obey;  
He your Savior wants to be,  
Be saved today. **[Refrain]**

The grace and peace of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ be with you all...  
**and, also with you!**

## **The Passing of the Welcome Pads**

### **The Prayer of Illumination**

#### **A Reading from the Old Testament** Micah 5:2-5

*But you, O Bethlehem...from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.*

#### **The Lighting of the Advent Candle of Love** Adapted from Luke 1 "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior..."

\***Hymn** #120 *The Advent of Our God*

**The Ad-vent of our God with ea-ger hearts we greet.  
And we must praise Him in this hour  
with hymns and an-thems sweet.**

**All glo-ry to the Son, who comes to set us free.  
With Fa-ther, Spir-it, ev-er One  
through all e-ter-ni-ty.**

#### **\*The Response to the Word**

Not in the mighty places of power,  
but in little Bethlehem, in a room out back;  
**the Messiah is coming!**

Not born in nobility and wealth,  
but of Mary who pondered and Joseph who planed wood;  
**the Messiah is coming!**

Not announced by prophets, priests, and kings,  
but by two women, who were the first to know;  
**the Messiah is coming!**

Nothing will be impossible for God,  
but when and where we least expect it, look among the straw and the stars;  
**the Messiah is coming!**

### **The Choir's Anthem**

**Homily** Mary Magnifies

**Special Music** My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord Alyssa Blake

### **The Prayers of the People**

#### **The Call to the Offering**

#### **The Offertory**

#### **\*The Doxology**

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

#### **\*The Prayer of Dedication**

**\*Hymn** #61 Lavish Love, Abundant Beauty

- 1** Lavish love, abundant beauty,  
Gracious gifts for heart and hand,  
Life that fills the soul and senses?  
All burst forth at Your command.  
Lord, our Lord, Eternal Father,  
Great Creator, God and Friend,  
Boundless power gave full expression  
To Your love which knows no end.
- 2** Who am I that You should love me,  
Meet my every need from birth?  
Why invest Yourself so fully  
In a creature made of earth?  
In Your loving heart You planned me,  
Fashioned me with greatest care;  
Through my soul You breathed Your Spirit,  
Planted Your own image there.
- 3** I am Yours, Eternal Father,  
All my body, mind, and heart.  
Take and use me to Your glory,  
Form Yourself in every part.  
Lord, Your love brings joy and gladness  
Flowing forth within my soul.  
May my very breath and being  
Rise to You, their source and goal.

Words by Ken Bible  
Music by Rowland H. Prichard  
Words © 1986 by LNWhymns.com. CCLI Song #2286460.

**\*A Litany for the Fourth Sunday of Advent**

God promised to save God's world.  
**And the people believed.**

God sent the prophets to remind them of the covenant of trust and love.  
**And the people believed.**

In the fullness of time, God's promise became incarnate in the life of Mary.  
**And Mary believed.**

Those who were the least and the lost received good news.  
**And they believed.**

We are called to open our hearts, spirits, and minds to God's Good News.  
**That believing, we may be witnesses to God's unimaginable love.**

**\*The Charge and Benediction**

**\*The Choir's Choral Benediction**

**\*The Postlude**



### Prayers for Chapel Friends:



Patty and Jack Madden, Judy Karp, Phil Westerman, Nancy Cecchini, Phyllis Mahin, Gerry Crow, Holli Schweyher, Rev. Gary Sawtelle, David Tourt, Baby Owen Daniels, Roger Racster, Walter Hundley, Janet Hege- man, Jean Schmidt, Rev. Bill and Marty Bruner, Dick Barry, Jackie White, Paul Infuso, Noah Presley, Tom Early, Cindy Hess, Lyn Garbarino, Jim Robinson, Carol Dunn, Mary Faas, Dapte Jay Kirit, Dwight and Faye Jessup, Baby Kendrick Goins, George Restrepo, Cathy Pope, Gary McCaskill, Rev. Bill Cain, and Maggie Craft.

### Prayers for Chapel Family:

Rev. Charles Hinson, Bud Holzerland, Dave Westerman, Butch & Mary Kay Allen, Glenda and Jo Clendenin, Mary Tuft, Phil Thingstad, Marilyn & Jimmy McCaskill, Ma- ma Dot, Mary Willetts, Bob Tourt, Lee Connelly, Kathy Steele, Shirley Percival, Jane and Jeff Lowe, Peggy Olson, Sue Van Horne, and Bart Reuter.

### December Announcements

#### *Looking Ahead!*

|                              |          |   |
|------------------------------|----------|---|
| <b>Sunday-December 22</b>    | 9:00 am  | The Fourth Sunday of Advent Love            |
|                              | 3:00 pm  | Advent Afternoons—The Redemption of Scrooge |
| <b>Sunday-December 22</b>    | 6:00 pm  | Christmas Cantata @ Bensalem Presbyterian   |
| <b>Tuesday-December 24</b>   | 4:00 pm  | Carols, Candles & Communion                 |
| <b>Wednesday-December 25</b> |          | <b>Merry Christmas!</b>                     |
| <b>Sunday-December 29</b>    | 9:00 am  | Lessons and Carols                          |
| <b>Wednesday-January 1</b>   |          | <b>Happy New Year! Welcome 2025</b>         |
| <b>Sunday-January 5</b>      | 9:00 am  | Epiphany Sunday                             |
| <b>Wednesday-January 8</b>   | 2:30 pm  | Fran's Friends                              |
|                              | 4:30 pm  | Chapel Choir                                |
| <b>Friday-January 10</b>     | 10:00 am | Mission Team                                |
| <b>Saturday-January 11</b>   | 7:45 am  | Men's Fellowship                            |
| <b>Sunday-January 12</b>     | 9:00 am  | Baptism of the Lord Sunday                  |

#### Coffee Fellowship

##### December

**12-22** Katy Swaim & Sue Dell'Acqua

**12-29** Chris Beck

##### January

**1 - 5 Volunteer Needed**

**1-12** Sue Dell'Acqua



#### Altar Flowers

##### December

**12-22** Alice McPheeters

Sharon Hacker

**12-24** Amy Collins

Sandi Keyser

**12-29** Shirley Madison

##### January

**1-01 Volunteer Needed**

**1-12** Bill & Peggy Ussery



#### Anniversaries

##### December

**Wednesday—18**

Dave & Mimi Giannini



#### Birthdays

##### December

**Monday—23**

**Friday—27**

**Sunday—29**

Kathy Golzio

Amie Collins

Mary Kay Allen



## **Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines Special Christmas Eve Offering**

The Seven Lakes Chapel in the Pines Board of Directors would like to invite you to contribute to our Special Christmas Eve Offering in support of the Black Mountain Home, who sustained the loss of two of their buildings during hurricane Helene this past October. Please see the following information from their website:

*Whether you've been part of our Black Mountain Home family for years or are a new friend, we invite you to join us in caring for the ~170 children who are relying on us this year—children who have endured neglect, abuse, abandonment, and other unimaginable hardships. Seeing the fear they experienced during Hurricane Helene strengthened our resolve to protect, nurture, and love children who have not had the chance to feel wanted, protected, and cherished. Your support will help ensure what matters most: being a loving, Christian home for children in need.*

*Your season of giving donation means more than a warm bed and a full tummy—it means healing and hope. It is the gift of childhood, of family, and of having a place to belong. During this holiday season, your kindness offers a lasting message of hope, showing them they are never alone, no matter the storms they face.*

*To help continue caring for children through this storm, generous donors who understand our urgent needs have pledged to double your gift up to \$500,000. Thank you for helping provide our children with the security and love of family. This is their home, and with your help, we can continue strong.*

If you would like to give to this Special Christmas Eve Offering, you may do so by placing your check written out to Chapel in the Pines with the memo of "Christmas Eve Offering" in our offering plate on Sunday or during our Christmas Eve Service. Any donations given through the end of the year designated for "Christmas Eve Offering" will be given to the Children's Home in Black Mountain, NC.



Thank you for supporting our kids through life's storms.