

Welcome! Warm greetings and love in Christ are extended to all members and guests.

*If you presently have no church home,  
we hope you will consider making Loch Raven Church your home.*

Thank you for signing the pew registration book.

*(Addresses, phone numbers, & email addresses help us to personally thank you for your visit.)*

Please call the Church Office if you have any questions or if we can be of assistance to you.

**WE APPRECIATE THE SERVICES TODAY OF:**

**Greeters:** Nancy Gillotti

**Acolyte:** Usher

**Liturgist:** Melvin Miles

**Advent Candle Lighter:** Gillotti, Price and Webster Families

**Ushers:** Richard Neumann, Joycelyn Williams, Amanda Brown

**Children's Bulletins** are available in the Narthex for children ages 3 - 12.

**Large print bulletins are available. See an usher.**

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

The flower bowl is given by Jim Harvill in thankfulness for his wife Nancy.

The vases are given by the Akerele and Olufidipe families  
in celebration of Noah Olufidipe's birthday.

**MINISTRIES OF LOCH RAVEN CHURCH**

**PRAYERS:** Please pray daily for our brothers and sisters in Christ and those on the Prayer List. The member to remember this week is Mrs. Norma Jones, c/o Patricia Jones, 8216 Bon Air Road, Baltimore, MD 21234.

**PRESENCE: December 16, 2018: 95**

**Offering: \$5979.19**

**LRUMC MISSION STATEMENT**

*"Loch Raven United Methodist Church is a multicultural community of faith, called by God to be a living witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ by serving as stewards of God's gifts and blessings. We minister through worship, learning, fellowship and mission to the community."*

**MINISTERS & EVANGELISTS:** The People of Loch Raven United Methodist Church

**LEAD PASTOR:** Rev. George Winkfield, 301-379-4616 cell, PastorWinkfield@gmail.com

**PASTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL CARE:** Rev. Wayne Harting, 443-966-0244 cell

**ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY:** Myra Wagner office@lrumc.org

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:** Samuel Chin

**ORGANIST:** Patricia Gould

**CHILD CARE PROVIDER:** Amy Price

# Fourth Sunday of Advent

*December 23, 2018*



## Loch Raven United Methodist Church

6622 Loch Raven Boulevard

Baltimore, Maryland 21239

www.LRUMC.org

410-825-0900

info@LRUMC.org

# The Order of Worship

**CENTERING WORDS:** Our past knowledge and present encounter with God ground our confidence that the future will be both like and unlike the present – like the present in the encounter with God, and unlike it in the fullness of liberation as a reality.  
- James Cone, *A Black Theology of Liberation*

## GATHERING

**Gathering Music** *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child* arr. Ritter  
*with Sheep May Safely Graze*

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* Ryan  
LRUMC Memorial Handbell Choir

**Lighting of the Altar Candles**

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

*Leader:* Can you feel something powerful at work in the world?  
*People:* **We can catch glimpses here and there.**  
*Leader:* We need to look beyond the hustle and bustle of Christmas to see what's coming:  
*People:* **Faithful women giving birth to freedom; a babe who will transform the world. The birth quakes are almost here. We can feel it.**  
*All:* **Come, let us prepare ourselves in this time of worship, that we may be ready when our world is turned upside down.**

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

**CHORAL INTROIT** *Carols of the British Isles (Part 1)* Hayes

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *Traditional Version* UMH 881

## OPENING PRAYER *(seated and in unison)*

**In-breaking God, as Christmas draws near, it's hard for us to settle down; it's difficult for us to focus on your word. Come to us this morning and shock us out of our Christmas complacency. Open us to the transforming love of the one for whom we are waiting. Grant us the faithfulness of Mary and Elizabeth, that we may respond with a full-throated "Yes!" to all that is coming. We come this morning in expectation, in joy, and in more than a bit of fear, for what all of this will mean for us. But we are here, God. Give us ears to hear and hearts to receive your message of transforming grace. Amen.**

## ADVENT CANDLE-LIGHTING *(Join in the Candle-Lighting Liturgy)*

*Leader:* The Mighty One has done great things! Holy is God's Name! The Light of the World is coming.  
*People:* **With Mary, our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.**  
*[The first 3 Advent candles are relit.]*

*Leader:* God's mercy endures from generation to generation for those who are in awe of God.  
*People:* **The proud, the rich, the mighty no longer have power over us.**  
*Leader:* The lowly are lifted up, and the hungry are satisfied.  
*People:* **We see the light of God shining over the land.**  
*Leader:* We light a fourth candle in anticipation of the wondrous birth.  
*[The fourth Advent candle is lit.]*

*All:* **We will open our hearts that Love may have a place to dwell.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Myra Wagner

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**FIRST LESSON** *Micah 5:2-5a* Pew Bible, p. 756-757

## SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS AND 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.**

## PRESENTATION OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

**OFFERTORY** *Advent Tidings* Akers  
LRUMC Memorial Handbell Choir

## \*THE DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessing flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

UMH 94

## \*OFFERING PRAYER

**We offer you, O God, not what we have left over after our Christmas spending; we offer our whole selves and our resources for the work of transforming our world. May what we offer make a difference, not only in our community and the world, but in our church and in ourselves. Amen.**

**SECOND LESSON** *Luke 1:39-45* Pew Bible p. 831

**\*HYMN OF PREPARATION** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* UMH 230

**SERMON** Rev. George Winkfield

**\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT** *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* UMH 240

## \*CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

## \*DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

**CHORAL RESPONSE** *Carols of the British Isles (Part 2)* arr. Hayes

**\*POSTLUDE** *Christmas Rhapsody* Wilson

## \*GOING FORTH

*\*Please rise in posture or spirit*

**Bold print: in unison**

*TFWS: The Faith We Sing*

*UMH: U.M. Hymnal*

*W&S: Worship and Song*

## Sharing, Caring, and Studying Opportunities

**JOIN THE BECOMERS ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS FOR AN ADVENT STUDY, "ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS," BY JAMES MOORE. Sundays through December 30 at 9:00 AM in Room 202.**

**SEND YOUR CHURCH FAMILY A GROUP CHRISTMAS CARD AND DONATE THE MONEY YOU WOULD HAVE SPENT ON MORE CARDS TO LIFEWATER CANADA.** Post your card on the big board in the arcade. Make your donation by using the envelope in your pew marked "Christmas Cards." Checks should be made out to LRUMC, memo "Missions." Thanks for being a blessing to others.

**THE CHRISTMAS CARD RACK** is in the Arcade for all those who would like to exchange Christmas greetings within the LRUMC Family. **Please check for cards for a homebound person who lives near you. Your assistance in delivering these greeting to others would be truly appreciated.**

**THE RED CHRISTMAS STOCKINGS FOR THE BOARD OF CHILD CARE ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX.** Thank you for supporting the children at the Board of Child Care.

**YOUR 2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are available in the Arcade. Please pick up your envelopes. **If you see envelopes for a homebound member(s) who lives close to you, please take their envelopes to them.** Thanking you and Blessings.

**THE 2019 FLOWER CHART IS POSTED IN THE ARCADE.** Same prices as 2018. Contact Judy Zahren (410-933-0936) with any questions.

**DECEMBER COLLECTION FOR ACTC: Jars of Pasta Sauce**  
Please place your items in the box labeled "Missions Collections" outside Fellowship Hall.

### **LECTIONARY READINGS:**

**For Christmas Eve, December 24, 2018:**

Isaiah 9:2-7; Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-20

**For December 30, 2018**

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52

# *Prayer List*

## Church Calendar for the Week of December 23

Today	<b>9:00 AM</b> <b>10:00 AM</b> <b>Following Worship</b> 12:30 PM	<b>Sunday School</b> <b>Worship Service</b> <b>Fellowship Time</b> St. Paul's Ghana Methodist Church	<b>Sanctuary</b> <b>Fellowship Hall</b> Sanctuary
Monday – Tuesday	<b>Office Closed</b>		
Monday	<b>4:00 PM</b> <b>10:30 PM</b> <b>11:00 PM</b>	<b>Christmas Eve Family Service</b> <b>Festival of Music</b> <b>Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</b>	<b>Sanctuary</b> <b>Sanctuary</b> <b>Sanctuary</b>
Wednesday – Friday	<b>Office Open, 9 – 12</b>		
Friday	10:30 AM 6:30 PM	Al-Anon IMPROVE Dance Class	Fellowship Hall Auditorium
Saturday	10:00 AM 12:00 Noon 4:00 PM	St. Paul's Choir Rehearsal St. Paul's Prayer Meeting Birthday Party	Room 210 Room 210 Fellowship Hall

### Upcoming Events

December 31	<b>Office Open</b>		
January 1	<b>New Year's Day</b> <b>Office Closed</b>		
January 2	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>Trustees Meeting</b>	<b>Parlor</b>

## *Prayer Requests from the Week of December 16*

Bob Bartram  
 Charlie Corson (*req. by Helen Blakey*)  
 Leslie Kight and family (*Owen & Nancy Williams' sister-in-law*)  
 Taryn Mackey  
 Seth Thomas  
 Bill Thomas

### *Recent Prayer Requests*

Family of Grace Boner (*12/9*)  
 Harold Gowie (*12/2*)  
 Family of Gugsu Yohannes (*Dereje Gugsu's father – 12/2*)  
 Mary Ellen Brown (*Myra Wagner's aunt – 11/25*)  
 Family of Harriet Cole (*11/25*)  
 Paul Donnelly (*req. by Marcia Smith – 11/25*)  
 Sona Hoisington (*Georgette Sinkler's friend – 11/25*)  
 Danielle, Deonna, and Dakota Oster  
 (*Cheryl Wagner-Koogler's niece and grandnieces – 11/25*)  
 Donald Rickels (*Nancy Lacy's son – 11/25*)  
 Daniel and Verna Roman (*11/25*)  
 Mario Scotto (*req. by Marcia Smith – 11/25*)  
 Bill Thomas (*11/25*)  
 Kathy Rawlings (*req. by Peggy Kelly – 9/16*)  
 Mike Ransom (*req. by Gary & Marcia Smith – 9/9*)

*Prayer requests will be listed for one month unless requested otherwise.*