

# THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

December 17, 2023

10:45 am

## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Please give any prayer requests to an usher or the pastor before the service.

Prelude Praise Team  
Welcome Praise Team

## WORSHIP THROUGH PRAISE & FELLOWSHIP

Praise Song Adore Praise Team  
Invocation Pastor Russ  
Praise Song Praise Team  
Away in The Manger (Forever Amen)  
Scripture Reading Pastor Russ  
Luke 1:27-2:8

## WORSHIPPING WITH OUR GIFTS

Announcements Pastor Russ  
Offering Our Gifts Pastor Russ

## WORSHIPPING THROUGH ADVENT

Lighting of the 3rd Advent Candle Kumala Family

## WORSHIP THROUGH PRAYER AND TEACHING

Time of Prayer Pastor Russ  
Special Music Praise Team  
Message Pastor Russ  
“The Mess That Mary’s Mission Created”

## WORSHIP THROUGH COMMITMENT

Hymn “The First Noel” #188  
Recessional Praise Team

CLI LICENSE # 9643846



## GETTING TO KNOW US

Rev. Russell Stammer Pastor  
Christine Lovette Minister of Music  
JJ Belle Praise Band  
Harry & Rachel Sink, Ted & Shirley Odenwald  
Laura Belle Praise Team  
Lori Rosenboom, Steve Handy, Christa Hoppe Ushers  
All Members of This Faith Community Ministers

## THIS WEEK

Today 9:30 am Sunday School  
10:40 am Prayer for service in Pastor’s office  
10:45 am Worship Service  
Noon Christmas Cookie Swap

## UPCOMING EVENTS

12/24/23 10:45 am Virtual Worship Service  
12/24/23 6:00 pm Christmas Eve Service  
1/7/24 Noon Coffee Hour  
1/28/24 Noon Annual Meeting

## BIRTHDAYS

Lori Rosenboom 12/25  
Bob Barton 1/2  
Ted MacVicar 1/3  
Ted Odenwald 1/5  
Steve Handy 1/6  
Carl Stevens 1/15  
Joe Alfano 1/26  
Eliora Oswusu-Bekoe 1/29

## ANNIVERSARY

Derek & Tina Oswusu-Bekoe 12/29

## GROWING IN BIBLE KNOWLEDGE

### 2023 BIBLE READINGS

Mon Dec 18 Isaiah 42-44; Revelation 15  
Tues Dec 19 Isaiah 45-48; Revelation 16  
Wed Dec 20 Isaiah 49-52; Revelation 17  
Thur Dec 21 Isaiah 53-55; Psalms 65; Revelation 18  
Fri Dec 22 Isaiah 56-59; Revelation 19  
Sat Dec 23 Isaiah 60-64; Revelation 20  
Sun Dec 24 Isaiah 65-66; Revelation 21-22

## SCRIPTURE MEMORY PROGRAM

This week’s passage is **Matthew 5:15**  
*Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.*

## BIBLE TRIVIA

**Today’s question is:** How were the family warned that someone wanted to kill the baby Jesus?

**Last week’s question and answer:** Which Psalm describes how well the Lord knows man, starting with the line, “O Lord, thou hast searched me, and known me”? **Psalm 139 (Ps 139:1)**

## INSPIRATIONAL QUOTE

“This Advent we look to the Wise Men to teach us where to focus our attention. We set our sights on things above, where God is. We draw closer to Jesus... When our Advent journey ends, and we reach the place where Jesus resides in Bethlehem, may we, like the Wise Men, fall on our knees and adore him as our true and only King.”- **Mark Zimmermann**

## CHRISTMAS DID YOU KNOW?

One of the most notable Christmas symbols representing eternal life and unyielding hope is the Evergreen Christmas Tree. Evergreen Trees are known to stay green all year round. It can keep its thistles on its branches even in the winter season when all other trees lose their leaves. It reminds us of the hope that we have in Jesus that will never fail in great trials and winters of our lives.

## NEW QR CODE FOR EASY GIVING!



## MISSIONS (PUTTING FAITH INTO ACTION)

For the months of November and December, we will be collecting funds to offset the negative balance in our budget.

We are at a critical point in our finances. We need to raise funds and invite new people to come to the church if our church is to survive.



## **DUTIES OF THE CHURCH MEMBER**

- Duty 1: To Pray For The Church.
- Duty 2: To Attend Church.
- Duty 3: To Support The Church Financially.
- Duty 4: To Bring Others To Church.
- Duty 5: To Study The Bible.
- Duty 6: To Guard The Good Name Of The Church.
- Duty 7: To Stand By The Pastor Of The Church.

## PRAYER PAGE

### HEALTH ISSUES

Sandy Christopher – in Hospice care,  
Nancy Monell – (Ted's Sister) – Ongoing health issues  
Dot Nagy – (Ted's cousin) has multiple health issues.  
Tricia Fellner – (JJ's Sister) has bradycardia (Low pulse rate)  
Justin – Grandson of (Donna Stevens' sister) born w/only 2 heart valves  
Betty Wilson – (Friend of the Odenwalds) Neuropathy pain  
Lois Griffith – Health Concerns  
Carl Stevens – Recovering from second knee surgery.  
Ted & Kay MacVicar – Health issues.  
Ruth Barton – Recovering from a fall and wrist surgery.  
Jordan Lovette – Ongoing health issues  
Doug Gipe – recovering from COVID & pneumonia.  
Christine Lovette – ongoing health concerns  
Zeke Stevenson – (Ted & Shirley's great grandson) Blood issues  
Eleanor Stammer – Regaining some hearing.  
Mert Ozer - the Lord would restore his sight.

### HEALTH ISSUES (CANCER)

Joe Alfano – ongoing health issues & Lung Cancer  
Robert Mariano – (JJ's Uncle) prostate cancer  
Joan MacMillan – Pancreatic Cancer monitoring situation  
Kevin Parmeland – Monitoring situation  
Barbara Willemsen – Finished radiation monitoring situation.

### OTHER CONCERNS

Good Shepherd Mission  
Unspoken Requests – People requested prayer for an unspoken request.  
Those dealing with depression, addiction & mental health issues

### NURSING FACILITIES

Ginny Palmer

### OUR TEACHERS

Katie Stammer - HCA

### OUR STUDENTS

TJ Bednarz – Eastern Christian  
Jordan Lovette – Indian Hills  
Kavla Lovette – Ramapo College  
Sarah MacVicar – Ramapo College

### SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Major David Hutsebaut - son of Dave and Shirley - Army  
Sgt. Eduardo Velasquez - son in law of Cheryl Alfano – Marines  
Petty Officer Second Class Faustina Owusu Bekoe - US Navy

Our Church – We need to pray for our church as we need work to bring the Gospel to our communities.



"For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ." -2 Corinthians 4:6 (NIV)



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