

## Prayer Corner

### Prayer of the Month:

#### **“For Wisdom and Guidance”-Bible Study Tools**

*Dear Lord, Please give me Your wisdom and Your guidance as I lay my request before You. Show me the direction that I need to go in and the courage to take the steps in faith. Help me not to be led by selfish desires but only by your Holy Spirit in me. Help me to discern Your will so that I may pray with all boldness. In Jesus' name Amen.*

#### **Celebration of Life: Carrie Lewis**

We send our prayers to the Parker and Lewis family on the passing of Carrie Lewis. We will keep you updated with information concerning the Celebration of Life.

#### **Celebration of Life: Charlene McCarty**

We send our prayers to the McCarty family on the passing of Charlene McCarty. A memorial service will be held at Camphor Memorial UMC on Saturday, December 28th. Visitation will begin at 10 a.m., followed by the service at 11 a.m. A repast will take place after the service.

#### **Prayer Requests**

- Gordon Edmond
- William Watkins, Jr.
- Dave Anderson
- Dr. Joi Lewis
- Calvin Morgan
- Karen Morgan
- Willie P. McCoy, Jr.
- Sharon Martin
- Gary Martin
- Clifton Fuller
- Alton Campbell
- Melvin Henderson



#### **Seniors and Homebound**

- Verlene Booker
- Glenice Booker-Butler
- Margaret Carter
- James Cummings
- Ginnie Dennis
- Doris Douglas
- Charlotte Drake
- Johnette Houston
- Pat Jemie
- Barbara Wulf

**December 15, 2024**



### **Come, Let Us Adore Him | Third Sunday of Advent**

#### **Welcome to Camphor!**

*We are an open, welcoming, and affirming congregation, intentional and inclusive of all God's people. Camphor worship services are filmed, recorded, and broadcast online. Whoever you are—you are safe here. You are loved here. You are invited into full participation in our life together.*

- † All stand
- \* Please be Seated

Where indicated, speak or sing the words in **bold**

## Centering Moment: Our Daily Bread

Check out todays passage from  
 “Our Daily Bread” to get centered for Worship



### Prelude

### † Acolyte

### † Processional

### Welcome and Announcements

Trenna Ross-McQuirter

### † Lighting of Third Advent Candle: Joy

The Sylvah Family

Reader 1: We come seeking joy.

Reader 2: This year has robbed us of our joy time and time again. We come with our sadness, grief, despair, and sorrow. We come dismayed by losses in our lives and the world around us, which make it hard for us to go on.

Reader 1: God hears our cries assures us “that weeping may last for the night but joy comes in the morning.”\* And sends joy to the word in Christ Jesus

Reader 2: We have lit a candle for hope and a candle for peace. Today we light a third candle of joy to remind us of the joyful news that Jesus comes into the world and gives us new life and salvation.

Reader 1: As the angel told the shepherds, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ, the Lord.”\*\*

*(Light the first and second advent candle that has been lit. Then light the pink candle. )*

*(\*Psalm 30: 5 \*\*Luke 2:10 | Liturgy is written by Rev. Dr. Theresa Mason)*

## This Week at Camphor UMC

### Tuesday December 17th

6 pm: Admin Council Meeting (Zoom)

### Wednesday December 18th

4 pm: Mass Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

*Camphor Memorial UMC B-Day  
(12/18/1919)*

6 pm Camphor Connects Bible Study (Zoom)

### Saturday December 21st

9 am: Praise Dance Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

12 pm: Birth of Christ Rehearsal (Camphor UMC)

1pm: Mass Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

### Sunday December 22nd

8:45 am: Adult Sunday School (Conf. Room)

9 am: Prep/Final Rehearsal “Birth of Christ” (Sanctuary)

10 am: Worship (Sanctuary & Live-Stream)

## Camphor Bulletin Board

### **Angel Tree Project 2024**

Get ready for the heartwarming 6th Annual Angel Tree Giving event by United Women in Faith!

The Angel Tree Ministry provides thoughtful gifts to bring Christmas joy to children whose parents are incarcerated.

**Today is the last Sunday to select an angel off the tree!**

Once you choose your Angel, please register it with Evelyn, *A Program of Prison Fellowship* Saran, or Andrea.

**All gifts must be wrapped and returned by Thursday, December 19 at 4pm.**

They will be distributed during a festive celebration on Sunday, December 22, in the Narthex.

Thank you for your generosity in bringing joy to these children this holiday season!  
 Let's make this Christmas unforgettable!



# Sermon Notes

sermon title:

key verses:

Notes

Prayers

## † Opening Prayer (In Unison)

**We ask you to be with those who face sadness and grief this season. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, so that we might find glimpses of joy even in difficult times. Give us joy through the gifts of creation, music, laughter, and communion with one another and you through Jesus, the Joy of our Salvation. Amen.**

*(Young people are dismissed for Advent Series on "The Birth of Christ")*

## † Morning Hymn

**"Joy to the World"**

**AA/HH 197**

[Verse 1]

**Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

[Verse 2]

**Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;  
Let us, our songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains;  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

[Verse 3]

**He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love  
And wonders, wonders of His love.**

*(Worshippers May Enter)*

## Call to Prayer

Trenna Ross-McQuirter

Rejoice, for the Lord is near! As we await the celebration of Christ's birth, let us bring our prayers with thanksgiving, trusting in God's goodness. May our hearts be filled with the joy of the Lord as we intercede for our church, community, and world.

*(Offer Silent Prayers to God)*

## Prayer of Intercession

Rev. Dr. Curtiss DeYoung

## 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, the power, and the glory forever. Amen**

*(Worshippers May Enter)*

## Passing of the Peace

Rev. Dr. Curtiss DeYoung

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation, peace, and love. Saying, to our neighbors, **"the peace of Christ be with you,"** the response is, **"And also with you!"**

*(Worshippers May Enter)*

## Stewardship Moment

Rev. Dr. Curtiss DeYoung

## 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**

*(Worshippers May Enter)*

## Ministry of Music

Sanctuary Choir

## † Scripture Lesson

**Luke 1:76-80 (NIV)**

Trenna Ross-McQuirter

76 And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, 77 to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, 78 because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven 79 to shine on those living in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the path of peace." 80 And the child grew and became strong in spirit; and he lived in the wilderness until he appeared publicly to Israel.

(Leader: The Word of God for the People of God/ **All: Thanks be to God**)

## Ministry of Music

Sanctuary Choir

## Sermon

*"Waiting in Darkness for the Light of Dawn"*  
Rev. Dr. Curtiss DeYoung

## Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Rev. Dr. Curtiss DeYoung

*(Those who want to join the church, desire prayer or be anointed with oil may come at this time.)*

## † Benediction and Blessings

Rev. Dr. Curtiss DeYoung

**Let the Church say Amen.  
Let the Church say Amen  
God has spoken, Let the Church say Amen**

*(Worshippers may depart. Go in Peace)*

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## "The Birth of Christ" Update



There's still room for more children and youth to come and be a puppeteer or a reader for worship and the puppet, play "The Birth of Christ" which they will perform on December 22 in worship. They will be dismissed for worship today to learn about Jesus; birth and rehearse for worship December 22.

There will be a dress rehearsal on Saturday December 21 at noon in the Sanctuary. We'll have food for those rehearsing, prior to the 1:00 choir rehearsals. The final rehearsal will be Sunday December 22 at 9:00 prior to the worship service.

If you have questions, contact Rev. Theresa Mason, [revtmason@live.com](mailto:revtmason@live.com)