

Round Hill Presbyterian Church

A caring community in Christ. Making Disciples for Christ.

Equipped for ministry by Christ.

Organized 1778

2150 Round Hill Church Road, Elizabeth, PA 15037

Church email address: roundhillpc@gmail.com

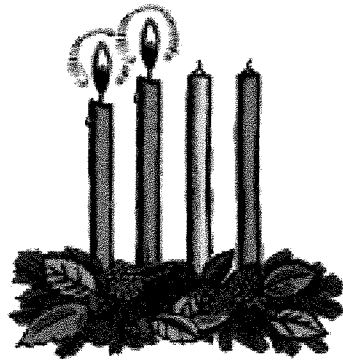
Rev. Stith's email address: rhpcmatt@comcast.net

Facebook: www.facebook.com/RoundHillChurch

Website: roundhillchurch.org

(412) 384-5889

Assisted listening devices are available for those who have difficulty hearing. Ask an usher for assistance.



Second Sunday in Advent

December 10, 2023

Verse for Meditation:

Psalm 132:17

“There I will cause a horn to sprout up for David; I have prepared a lamp
for my anointed one.”

WELCOME

INTROIT

* INVOCATION

Pastor Matt Stith

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

HYMN

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

No. 169

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

God of Glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; We ignore cries for justice; We do not strive for peace.

In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and baptize us once again with your spirit, that, forgiven and renewed we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

(Now follows a brief time for silent, personal confession.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* PRAISE: *“Gloria Patri”*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, World without end, Amen, Amen.

* RESPONSIVE SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 89:19-24

Leader: Then you spoke in a vision to your faithful one, and said: “I have set the crown on one who is mighty, I have exalted one chosen from the people.

People: I have found my servant David; with my holy oil I have anointed him;

Leader: my hand shall always remain with him; my arm also shall strengthen him.

People: The enemy shall not outwit him, the wicked shall not humble him.

Leader: I will crush his foes before him and strike down those who hate him.

People: My faithfulness and steadfast love shall be with him; and in my name his horn shall be exalted.

* GREETING - PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

“We Wait”

Chancel Choir

The Lord said to Samuel, 'How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' ² Samuel said, 'How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.' And the Lord said, 'Take a heifer with you, and say, "I have come to sacrifice to the Lord."' ³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.' ⁴ Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, 'Do you come peaceably?' ⁵ He said, 'Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.' And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the Lord.'^[a] ⁷ But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, 'Neither has the Lord chosen this one.' ¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen any of these.' ¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.' ¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The Lord said, 'Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.' ¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' ⁶ (He said this not because he cared

about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, ‘Leave her alone. She bought it^[e] so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.’

⁹ When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came not only because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ¹⁰ So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death as well, ¹¹ since it was on account of him that many of the Jews were deserting and were believing in Jesus.

SERMON

“Anointed”

Pastor Matt Stith

* Confession of Faith: Westminster Larger Catechism, question 42

Q. Why was our mediator called Christ?

A. Our mediator was called Christ, because he was anointed with the Holy Spirit beyond all measure. Consequently, he was set apart and completely equipped with all authority and power to execute the offices of prophet, priest, and king of his church, in both his humiliation and his exaltation.

* APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.

* HYMN:

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

No. 174

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING OF SELF AND SERVICE

* Doxology:

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

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

* HYMN: “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” No. 197

BENEDICTION

* RESPONSE: *God be with you 'til we meet again,
if life's trials should confound you,
God will put His arms around you:
God be with you 'til we meet again.*

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Behold, a virgin shall . . . bear a Son and shall call His name Immanuel.

— Isaiah 7:14

Latin: c. 9th Century

Tr. by John M. Neale, stanzas 1, 2, alt.

Tr. by Henry S. Coffin, stanzas 3, 4, alt.

VENI EMMANUEL

Adapted from Plainsong, Mode I

Thomas Helmore

Unison

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive
2 O come, Thou Day - spring, come and cheer Our spir - its by Thine
3 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, And or - der all things,
4 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In one the hearts of

1 Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here,
2 ad - vent here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night,
3 far and nigh; To us the path of knowl - edge show,
4 all man - kind; Bid Thou our sad di - vi - sions cease,

1 Un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
2 And death's dark shad - ows put to flight. to go. of peace. man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el! A - men.
3 And cause us in her ways to go. of peace. man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el! A - men.
4 And be Thy - self our King of peace. man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el! A - men.

man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el! A - men.

Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming

I am the rose of Sharon, the lily of the valley. — Song of Solomon 2:1

German Carol

Tr. by Theodore Baker, stanzas 1,2

Tr. by Harriet Krauth Spaeth, stanza 3

ES IST EIN ROS'

Geistliche Kirchengesäng

Harmonized by Michael Praetorius

1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing From ten-der stem hath sprung!
 2 *I - sa-iah 'twas fore-told it, The rose I have in mind;*
 3 This flower, whose fra-grance ten-der With sweet-ness fills the air,

1 Of Jes-se's lin-eage com-ing As men of old have sung.
 2 *With Mar-y we be-hold it, The vir-gin moth-er kind.*
 3 Dis-pels with glo-rious splen-dor The dark-ness ev-ery-where.

1 It came, a flow-er bright, A-mid the cold of
 2 *To show God's love a-right She bore to men a*
 3 True man, yet ver-y God, From sin and death He

1 win-ter, When half-gone was the night.
 2 *Sav-ior, When half-gone was the night.*
 3 saves us And light-ens ev-ery load.

Through the tender mercies of our God . . . the dayspring from on high hath visited us. — Luke 1:78

Edmund H. Sears

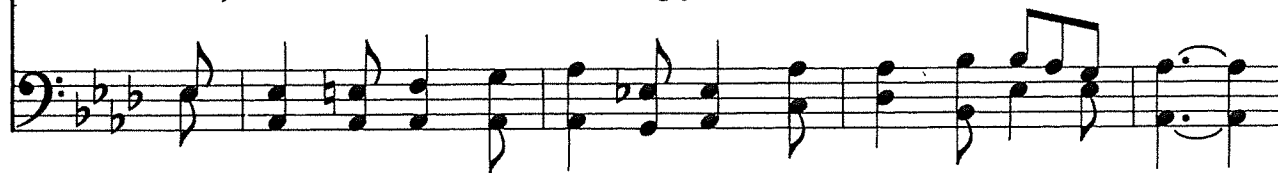
CAROL
Richard S. Willis



- 1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, That glo-rious song of old,
2 *And ye, be-neath life's crush-ing load, Whose forms are bend-ing low,*
3 For lo, the days are has-tening on, By proph-et seen of old,



- 1 From an-gels bend-ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
2 *Who toil a-long the climb-ing way With pain-ful steps and slow,*
3 When, with the ev-er-cir-cling years, Shall come the time fore-told,



- 1 "Peace on the earth, good-will to men, From heaven's all-gra-cious King":
2 *Look now! for glad and gold-en hours Come swift-ly on the wing:*
3 When the new heaven and earth shall own The Prince of Peace their King,



- 1 The world in sol-emn still-ness lay To hear the an-gels sing.
2 *O rest be-side the wea-ry load, And hear the an-gels sing.*
3 And the whole world send back the song Which now the an-gels sing.



Liturgist – Janice Sherman Greeter – John Turek

STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Dr. D. Matthew Stith
Choir Director/Interim Music Director	Mayim Stith
Accompanist	Nancy Jo Demolin
Nursery Director	Karen Simon
Custodian	Tim Guffey
Secretary	Mary Beth Katonik

SESSION ELDERS

Instruction / Laurie Conley 412-841-3193	Instruction / Diana Hicks 412-384-3675
Outreach / Bonnie Craig 412-400-9284	Outreach / John Turek 412-508-1749
Worship / Tom Russell 724-797-1499	Worship / Janice Turek 412-477-6962
Fellowship / Gayle Larcinese 412-860-4659	Fellowship / Lisa Wagner 412-650-5482
Personnel / Chuck Weber 412-655-3215	Clerk of Session / Bob Leggett 412-384-4175

TRUSTEES

Finance / Jackie Karnes	Support / Dianne Chontos
Physical Property / Fran Hicks	Corporate Secretary / Toni Stith
President / Jackie Karnes	

DEACONS

<i>Class of 2023</i>	<i>Class of 2024</i>	<i>Class of 2025</i>
Linda Leggett	Alyssa Coleman	Tina Branik
Eileen Russell	Barb Gaylord	Laurie Ferraton
Leslee Schwirian	Lois Lawson	Tanya Jackson
Janice Sherman	Julius Simon	Mayim Stith

Moderator of Deacons / Alyssa Coleman

NOVEMBER 2023

	Monthly Income	Monthly Expenses	Fund Balance Available for Use
General Funds	\$9,754.25	\$11,279.41	\$131,154.45
Dedicated Funds	\$2,251.50	\$12,628.93	\$49,445.83

2023 Budget Income	\$189,000.00
2023 Income Received	\$138,637.00
2023 Income Needed	\$50,363.00
2023 Shortfall	\$50,363.00
Per Capita (EPC & POA)	\$30.50



Electronic Giving Code



December 10, 2023

Intercessory Prayer Group - gathers in the C.E. building on Tuesday at 10:00 AM; open to all. We are praying for weekly prayer requests along with other concerns as led by God's Spirit.

Prayer Requests: Email dreamstogo2@gmail.com or fill in a prayer request form and place it in the offering plate. **Prayer requests for the following were received this past week; please include them in your prayers:**

**Debbie, Lisa Dunlap, Mike Esposito, Bill & Bev Harchelroad,
Joan & Byron Harris, Ron & Sue Minkus, Cassie Reynolds,
Sandy & Chris Ross**

On-Going Requests: Barry Branik, Barb Cant, Steven Evans, Caleb Fritz, Frank & Sandy Hayden, New Life Options, Round Hill Home Church, Round Hill Leaders, Pastor Matt & Support Staff, Growth of the congregation of Round Hill Church, Children & Teens at RHPC, President Biden & Governing Leaders

Military: Aaron Baumann, Kat Gower, Corey Hobaugh, Noah Reed, Aerion Salas, Joram Stith, Carter Williams, Grayson Wonsettler, Samuel Wonsettler, and all those serving in the Armed Services

College Students: Kate Baron, Cody Danto, Ava Karnes, Audra Morgan, Luke Napoli, Hailey Russell, Morgan Winwood, Autumn Wright

Prayers for POA Churches: Slickville Presbyterian Church (Rev. Tirpak)

Prayers for EPC Missionaries: Alison (Middle East/South Asia),
Portia (Europe)

Always pray and never give up. – Luke 18:1



RHPC
Announcements
December 10, 2023

December



This Week at Round Hill Church

Mon. Dec. 11	Session Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Tues. Dec. 12	Intercessory Prayer	10:00 a.m.
	Thriving Survivors Lunch	1:00 p.m.
	Christmas Cantata	6:30 p.m.
Thurs. Dec. 14	Men's Breakfast	8:30 a.m.
	Clothes Closet	10:00 a.m.
	Joy Circle Christmas Dinner	6:00 p.m.
Fri. Dec. 15	Newsletter Deadline	
Sat. Dec. 16	Breakfast in Bethlehem	9:00 a.m.
Sun. Dec. 17	Congregational Meeting	11:45 p.m.

RHPC CALENDARS AVAILABLE FOR THE NEW YEAR

Pick one up from the box in the vestibule if you'd like one!

CHRISTMAS STORE



Elizabeth Forward Clothes Closet will be hosting a Christmas Store to help those in need. If you have any small gift items – Christmas or not – that you'd like to contribute, please bring them to Room #9 (right next to Pastor Matt's office) in the CE building by **TODAY!**

THRIVING SURVIVORS

THIS Tuesday, December 12th, at 1:00 p.m., we will be dining at the Carriage Inn (1601 Lovedale Road, Elizabeth) for our Thriving Survivors lunch/Christmas Party. Those in need of a ride should meet in the church parking lot by 12:30. Bring a \$3 or \$5 gift for our fun gift exchange! If you are interested in joining us in our adventure, **please let Bonnie Craig know by Monday, December 11th (412-400-9284) and she will reserve a seat for you.**





CANDLES & CAROLS CHRISTMAS CANTATA

The Choir is having their annual Christmas Cantata! Come enjoy the beloved music of Christmas, and even sing along to your favorite hymns. The concert is in the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. **this Tuesday, December 12th**, and is free and open to all. See you there!



JOY CIRCLE CHRISTMAS DINNER

All women are invited to the Joy Circle Christmas Dinner/Party **this Thursday, December 14th**, at R-Place in Elizabeth (102 Enterprise Street) at 6 p.m. Please sign-up by tomorrow, December 11th (see the sign-up sheet in the narthex).

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL/CORPORATION MEETING



The annual Congregational/Corporation meeting will be held **NEXT Sunday, December 17th** after the worship service. The business will include a vote on an amendment to the bylaws to reduce the number of Deacons, the pastor's 2024 terms of call, election of officers, and review of the 2024 budget. All active members are encouraged to attend.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS



The Food Pantry is requesting **baking supplies for the month of December**. Please place these either in the basket in the vestibule or drop them off in front of the **Food Pantry door** in the CE building.

Thank you for helping those in need!

2024 CALENDARS NEEDED



If you have any extra 2024 calendars, please bring them in and place them on the velvet chair in the narthex or give them to Marilyn Christensen – she is collecting them for the food pantry clients.

Thank you!

