Upcoming Events and Information Sun. Dec 17 Choir Practice for S Christmas Eve S 12:15PM Thu. Dec 21: Christmas Chosen Episode WC 10AM Sat. Dec 23: Choir Practice for S Christmas Eve 3:30PM Sat. Dec 23: Christmas Chosen Episode S 5PM Sun. Dec 24: Christmas Eve Sunday Schedule:

Flint Hill 8:45AM

Willis Chapel 10:15AM

Sperryville 8:00PM

**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS** 

**FLINT HILL:** 5 Shelby Welch, 13 Helen Corbin, 30 Stefanie Johnson

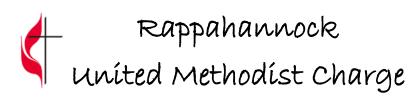
SPERRYVILLE:12 Camron Wayland, Carrington Wayland

**WILLIS CHAPEL:** 13 Jim Costello, 17 Alyson Fox Flint, 23 Marrley Brown, 26 Bruce Monismith, 27 Richard Burke, 28 Judy Costello, 29 Alan Fox

Pastor Jeff Thompson E: jeffthompson@vaumc.org Cell: 434-260-2484 Parsonage: 540-675-3370

ADVENT WREATH SUNDAY THEMES AND READINGS

Isaiah 60:1-3 **HOPE** Zechariah 9:9-10 **PEACE** Isaiah 35:10 **JOY** 





# Third Sunday of Advent

## **Sunday Morning Worship** 8:45 AM: Flint Hill

9:55 AM: Willis Chapel 11:15 AM: Sperryville



PO BOX 97 Flint Hill, VA 22627 www.rappumc.com

## RAPPAHANNOCK CHARGE 3rd Sunday of Advent December 17, 2023

\*Standing (either literally or in spirit remaining seated)

PRELUDE

#### ENTER LIGHT OF CHRIST ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING** 

\*MUSICAL CALL TO WORSHIP

\*HYMN 234 O Come, All Ye Faithful (vv 1,2,3)

#### **\*OPENING PRAYER**

God of all creation, you have done great things for your people. From times of old, you awaken the faithful to the dawn of your glory. Fill us with joy and gladness, as we come to worship you today. Amen.

# \*HYMN 218 It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

## PRAYER OF YEARNING AND PETITION

Merciful God, we hear John's fervent cry: "Make straight the way for the Lord," but seldom know what we should do. Our lives carry on as they have before. Nothing in the world seems to change. We yearn to hear the voices of angels and to be caught up in the resolve and visions of the prophets. Tune our ears to the harmonious melody of your voice, the Shepherd calling to the flock. Give us your peace and sanctify us. We know you are faithful. Help us to feel the joy in being faithful. Sanctify us, so that our souls may be blameless through repentance, and help us to taste your salvation through your forgiveness. Amen.

#### HYMN 211 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vv 6,7)

# PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION P6 SCRIPTURE: Isaiah 61:1-6 PSALTER: Psalm 126 P847 SCRIPTURE: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 SCRIPTURE: John 1:6-8, 19-28 SERMON "The Messenger" RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Merciful God, you sent your messengers, the prophets, to preach repentance and to prepare the way for our salvation. Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Christ Jesus, our Redeemer who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### CONCERNS AND PRAYERS LORD'S PRAYER

**OFFERING** \*95 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

#### **SENDING FORTH**

#### \*HYMN 246 Joy to the World!

#### **\*BENEDICTION**

Go forth, sanctified in the love of God.

God turns our weeping into joy.

Go forth, clothed in the garments of salvation.

Christ turns our sorrow into joy.

Go in the hope, peace, and joy of our eternal Savior, Christ the Lord. Amen.

#### \*HYMN Shalom to You