

## You Have Been our Dwelling Place

One: Come, family of faith, give thanks!

**All: For God is our dwelling place, our home.**

One: When we are afraid or troubled,

**All: When we are joyful or excited,**

One: God unlocks the door and welcomes us in.

**All: This is a home of safety and security, of comfort and familiarity.**

One: This is also a home of growth and new life, of challenge and change.

**All: Here we can be who we are,**

One: And continually seek out who we might become.

**All: Come, family of faith, give thanks!**

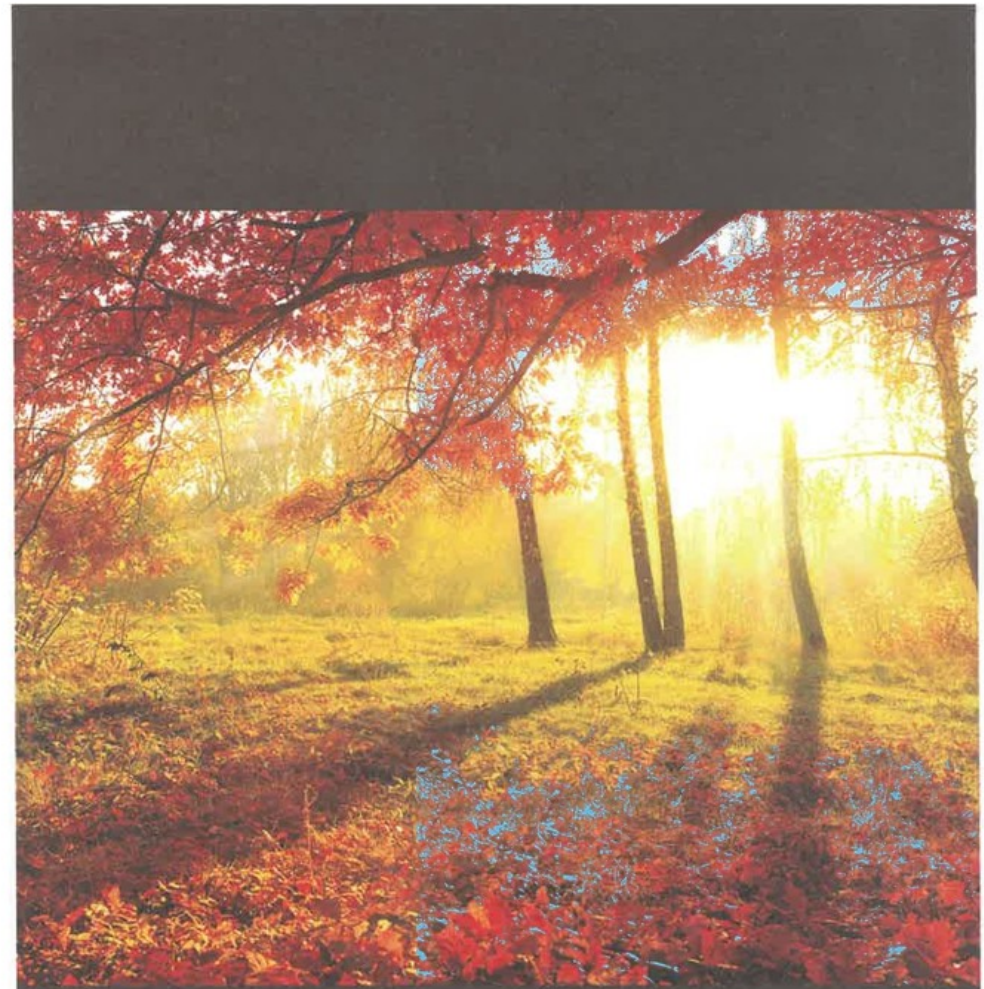
One: For God has been -

**All: God is—**

One: God will always be—our home.

Hymn Suggestion: *In the Lord I'll be Ever Thankful* (Hymnal Supplement #1025)

—Cindy Laprade Lattimer  
Huntingdon, PA



You have been our dwelling place

*"Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations"* (Psalm 90:1, NRSVue).  
Today's Bible readings from the lectionary: Judges 4:1-7 and Psalm 123; Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 and Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30.

November 19, 2023, Thanksgiving.

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CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN  
Hagerstown, Maryland

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**MORNING WORSHIP**

**10:45AM**

**November 19, 2023**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**      Worship Leader: Brenda Shane

**WHERE DID YOU SEE GOD THIS WEEK?**

**PRELUDE**                      "Thanksgiving Praise"                      (Callender)

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** *(based on portions of Psalms 92, 95, 100)*

One: It is good to praise the LORD and make music  
to your name, O Most High,

**All: to proclaim your love in the morning and  
your faithfulness at night.**

One: For you make me glad by your deeds, O LORD;  
I sing for joy at the works of your hands.

**All: Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD;  
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.**

One: Let us come before him with thanksgiving  
and extol him with music and song.

**All: For the LORD is the great God, the great King above all gods.**

One: Worship the LORD with gladness; come  
before him with joyful songs.

**All: Know that the LORD is God. It is he who made us,  
and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.**

One: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise;

**All: give thanks to him and praise his name.**

**\*HYMN #89**                      "For the beauty of the earth"

[Verse 1]

*For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

[Verse 2]

*For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flow'r, sun and moon, and stars of light:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

[Verse 3]

*For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony, linking sense to sound and sight:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

[Verse 4]

*For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth  
and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

[Verse 5]

*For thy church that evermore lifteth holy hands above,  
off'ring up on ev'ry shore her pure sacrifice of love:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

**\*RESPONSIVE OPENING PRAYER**

One: Come to us, God, source of every blessing, and tune our lips to sing  
your praise. Not because we have to but because we sincerely want  
to. Not because we are afraid, but because we are full of gratitude.

**All: Come to us, God, source of every blessing, and tune our lips to  
sing your praise.**

One: Not so that we might gain some advantage over other people, not  
so that we might try and buy our way into heavenly favors. Not  
because you need our praise to keep you happy, not because our  
songs are sweeter than any other sinners.

**All: Come to us, God, source of every blessing, and tune our lips to  
sing your praise.**

One: Not in order that we may prove more righteous than our  
neighbors, not in order to make our church appear more worthy  
than any other. Not because our words will impress you by their  
wisdom, not because we might be condemned if we fail to get it  
right:

**All: Come to us, God, source of every blessing, and tune our lips to  
sing your praise. Come to us, God, source of every blessing  
and tune our whole lives to sing your praise! Amen!**

**BRETHREN BELLS**      "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"      (Elvey)



**\*BENEDICTION**

*After the Choral Benediction, you may be seated.*

*Please continue in a spirit of worship as we listen to the Postlude music.*

**POSTLUDE**

“Now Thank We All Our God” (Ashdown)

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

\*Please rise — in body or spirit — as an act of worship

Thank you for joining us in worship today.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

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**DEACON COMMISSIONING**

**Congregation's Response:** *We, the members of this body of Christ,  
in the spirit of joy and in renewed loyalty to our Lord, acknowledge  
and receive you as deacons. We promise to pray for you and support  
you in confidence, encouragement, cooperation, and prayers that  
together we may increase in the knowledge and the love of God,  
manifested to us in Jesus Christ.*

**A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE CHILDREN**

**SERVICE OF GIVING**

**CALL TO GIVE**

**Offertory**                      "We Gather Together"                      (Bradshaw)

**\*Doxology #119**                      "Praise God from whom"

**\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**SHARING OUR JOYS, CONCERNS, AND HOPES**

*Please remember our worship is also on Facebook Live and our website.  
Please do not share any personal information you do not want to be made public.  
An usher will hold the microphone for you while you share.*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**TEMPLE CHOIR ANTHEM**      "Give Thanks to God"                      (Larson)

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Luke 18:9-14                      NT 81

**MESSAGE**      "Really? You're Thankful for That?"      Pastor Twyla Rowe

**\*HYMN #505**                      "I am thine, O Lord"

**\*BENEDICTION**      *After the Choral Benediction, you may be seated.*

*Please continue in a spirit of worship as we listen to the Postlude music.*

**POSTLUDE**                      "Now Thank We All Our God"                      (Ashdown)

~~~~~  
\*Please rise — in body or spirit — as an act of worship  
Thank you for joining us in worship today.  
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Hagerstown  
Church of the Brethren  
15 S. Mulberry Street,  
Hagerstown, Maryland  
21740

301-733-3565  
Fax: 301-733-3598

Office: Tuesday—Friday  
Flexible hours  
(appointments welcome/  
call ahead)

Morning Praise Worship  
at 8:30 AM  
Sunday School at 9:30 AM  
Worship and Facebook Live  
at 10:45 AM

[www.hagerstowncob.org](http://www.hagerstowncob.org)

[www.facebook.com/  
hagerstowncob](http://www.facebook.com/hagerstowncob)

Twyla Rowe  
Pastor

Allyson McPeak  
Administrative Assistant

Burton Young  
Director of  
Music Ministries

Don Rowe  
Interior Esthetics  
Technician

*We welcome you to our church and  
Rejoice in your participation with us in  
worship. It is our prayer that you will  
experience the presence of God's Spirit and  
that it will equip you for service and ministry  
in the week ahead. Our Pastor, Deacons, and  
Cluster Leaders are available after worship  
and during the week to listen and assist you in  
your Christian pilgrimage.*

### **THE ANNOUNCER November 19, 2023**

**If you placed someone** on the prayer list and they are now celebrating a recovery and would like their name taken off the list, please contact the church office.

**If you or a loved one** has surgery scheduled, is hospitalized, or would like a visit from the pastor, please notify the church.

**“Take a Moment”** Let this be our "Take a Moment" prayer beginning Sunday, November 19 - O God, as I take a moment now to reflect on who you are, a feeling of gratitude fills my soul. You...Creator and Sovereign God...seek me out to be in a relationship like none other to be found on earth. I am humbled as I come before you with gratitude for your love that receives me as I am, and pursues me when my sin is great. With unfathomable grace and forgiveness, you renew my soul, replacing that which separates me from you and draws me back to your glory and joy. When pain and sorrow knock me down, you are there with your caring and loving presence, to pick me up and carry me through the darkness. When the path before me is riddled with insecurity, illness, and questions...you are there to help me heal and guide me. When life seems to be going-by without a care...you break through the nonchalant movements of my journey with your glory to remind me that I am precious to you and deeply loved by you. For these things, and so much more...I give you my heartfelt thanksgiving. Amen.

**Our thanks** to Brenda Shane for being our worship leader today, and to our Temple Choir and Brethren Bells for worshipful music.

**Attendance.** Please sign the attendance rosters found at the end of your pew, or possibly in the hymnal rack, and pass it down the row so everyone can sign.

**It's time to place orders for Christmas Eve poinsettias.** Please see the insert in the bulletin.

**Junior Church will be next Sunday** for children ages Kindergarten through the sixth grade. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall for a special time together. (Parents may, of course, opt to keep their child in worship with them especially if the child is uncertain about going.) If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Diana Shepherd.

**Save the Date**—Our Advent Congregational Christmas Dinner will be held on Sunday, December 3rd following worship. There will be no Morning Praise Worship Service. Sunday School will start at 9:30am and Worship will start at 10:45am.

**Advent Dinner.** Please sign up for the Advent Christmas dinner which will be held on December 3rd in Fellowship Hall following the morning worship. There are sign up sheets on the table in the west entrance. Spiritual Nurture will bring the chicken, paper products and drinks. Please remember the kitchen is under construction. Bring your covered dish in a crock pot or casserole or salads and deserts.

**The Hanging of the Greens** will be Sunday November 26th, directly following the late service. We will be decorating the Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary. Please join us for some fun fellowship as we decorate our worship space at this meaningful Advent Season. Lunch will be provided, so please let Heather Kees know that you will be attending, by text, call or email. Her information is in the Church Directory.

**Our annual Stewardship emphasis is underway.** You should have received a letter with a pledge card, and a copy of the Gifts for the Body of Christ survey. We ask that you prayerfully consider making a pledge to church. All pledges are private. You may mail your pledge card or place it in the Offering. Thank you for your financial support of the church and its ministries.

**The Service & Outreach Ministry Team** needs a volunteer for one morning a month, to take door hangers to our community, about our outreaches. It is usually on a Thursday morning. If you can help, please call Suzie Wolfe for more information.

**Fellowship Time.** We're in need of volunteers to provide goodies for Fellowship Time, held the first Sunday of each month from 10:20 am—10:40 am. Goodies may be your favorite recipe or a delicious store bought treat. Suggestions include cookies, muffins, or doughnuts (3-4 dozen of whatever you choose) and may be dropped off in the Mullendore Room (the room behind the wing of the sanctuary) that morning. Beverages and paper products are provided. Please sign up on the sheet located in the west entrance, or contact Kristal Bricker or Amy Hardy. Thank you for helping to make Fellowship Time possible!

**Christmas Ministry**—The Service & Outreach Team will not be giving out Salvation Army stockings this year to fill, and not asking for filled Thanksgiving boxes, but instead, we are partnering with Mt. Hope Prison Ministries to purchase Christmas gifts for the children of prisoners who have been left behind in the care of aunts, uncles, grandparents, etc. We will have cards to give out for each child with a number to identify the child, and there will be a toy listed, they want and a clothing item and size, which will cost about \$50. If you are able to purchase one of the items for \$25, you may partner with someone else to reach the \$50 goal. All gifts need to be brought to the church unwrapped by Sunday, November 26th as their Christmas party is Friday, December 2nd where they will pack their car with wrapped gifts to take home to save for Christmas day. The cards will be distributed today in the west entrance. Please consider making these children feel special.

**Save the Date!** Our service week at the REACH Cold Weather Shelter is March 10-17, 2024. For all those who have volunteered in the past or plan on volunteering in 2024, please add this week to your calendar. Please note, it is a different month than in the past. Thank you for your continued support!

**CPR classes will be taught in January by Dennis Browne.** The cost is \$20.00. Sign up sheet is in the lobby or contact if you have any questions. Class time can not be scheduled until interested parties sign up and class placement is arranged. -*Mary Means*

**Do you like to get notes from your friends?** Notes From Jesus is a little book for children with playful illustrations that is written in kid language from their friend Jesus. The book is written as Jesus would answer questions about himself. As the subtitle says, “What your new best friend wants you to know.” The Christian Education ministry team thinks this would be an excellent book for grandparents, uncles, aunts or anyone to give to a child who is just learning to know Jesus or who wants to know more. If you would like to check out this great little book, please see Ann Platon or Deb Long. The cost of this gift for your favorite child is \$6.

**Cash for Causes/Martin’s Gift Card Program.** Purchase Martin’s gift cards to take to the store to pay for your groceries or gas, and 5% of the face value of the gift card is a donation to the church and goes toward your yearly charitable contribution. To purchase a card, please contact Larry Kees, Jr. (301-331-0107). We can make arrangements to leave cards in your church mailbox or mail them to you.

## CALENDAR

### Monday, November 20

Church Office Closed

### Tuesday, November 21

10:00am Parish Nurse meeting/Pastor’s Annex  
12:00pm Mary Martha Group/ Altruistic Room  
5:30pm Property & Finance/ Mullendore Room  
7:00 pm Hag. Choral Arts/Fellowship Hall

### Wednesday, November 22

12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

### Thursday, November 23

Thanksgiving Day

### Friday, November 24

8:00 am Bulletin preparation time/Church office  
1:00 pm Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot

### Saturday, November 25

Pastor Twyla's day off

### Sunday, November 26

Hanging of the Greens  
Junior Church  
8:30am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall  
9:30am Sunday School, individual classrooms  
10:45am Worship, Sanctuary & Facebook Live  
(facebook.com/hagerstowncob)

*Remember our weekday schedule is subject to rapid change.*

You may mail your offering to  
15 S. Mulberry Street,  
Hagerstown MD 21740  
OR  
you can make a secure offering  
donation on our website using  
PayPal [www.hagerstowncob.org](http://www.hagerstowncob.org)

The church calendar is online at  
[www.hagerstowncob.org](http://www.hagerstowncob.org).  
Click the calendar tab.



***It's Time to Place Your Poinsettia Order***

You are invited again this year to purchase a poinsettia to be placed in the church on Christmas Eve.

Poinsettias are **\$9.00 each** and may be purchased as a memorial, tribute, or as a thank you. Please return this completed form and your check made out to Hagerstown Church of the Brethren no later than November 26, 2023. Your order may be placed in the offering or mailed to the Church Office: Hagerstown Church of the Brethren, 15 S. Mulberry St. Hagerstown MD 21740.

**DEADLINE TO PLACE YOUR ORDER IS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2023**

**Payment must accompany this form.**

**If you order a poinsettia, please make sure either you or the person you gave it to removes it from the church at the proper time. Thank you!**

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of plants (6 inch)

- Red
- White
- Marble (white edge and pink center)
- Glitter (splattered look with pink and white)

Total plants: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount attached at \$9.00 each: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.  
USE ADDITIONAL FREE SLIPS IF NECESSARY.**

\_\_\_ **IN MEMORY OF:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **IN TRIBUTE TO:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_ **IN THANKS TO:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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