
THE ORDER OF WORSHIP SERVICE

First Sunday in Advent - Hope

December 3, 2023 - Pastor: Rev. John Bright

Liturgist: Jenny Nelson Organist: Pam Wilson Acolyte: Nancy Henry

Greeters: Dale Dixon & Connie Madison/ Charles Clay & Barry Deal

Ushers: Ann Via and Kirby Miller Music Leader: Tyrone Franklin

Prelude: "Once In Royal City David" – by Henry J. Garntlett
Organ/Piano Duet by Pam Wilson and Pam Johnson

Bringing In the Light of Christ: Nancy Henry

Welcome & Announcements: Jenny Nelson

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Reader/Ann Ragland

After the reading and the candle is lit, please join us to read...

"Almighty God, as the Advent season begins, we cry out to You in hope. In a world of darkness and death our only hope is in You. Wherever we find ourselves this season, Loving God, remind us that our hope is in You. Be with us on this Advent journey. Amen."

Greeting Our Brothers and Sisters

*Opening Hymn: "O come, O Come Emmanuel" (UMH 211)

Service of Holy Baptism: Fia Hays Day/Rev. Tom Austin

Joys & Concerns: Jenny Nelson

Silent Prayer & Pastoral Prayer/Lord's Prayer: Rev. John Bright

Anthem: "Christmas Comes Alive"

Children's Message: Rev. John Bright

Collection of Tithes and Offerings: Ann Via and Kirby Miller

*Doxology – "My Tribute" (UMH 99)

*Offertory Prayer: Rev. John Bright

*Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed (UMH 881)

Scripture Lesson: Mark 13:32-37 Rev. John Bright

Sermon: "Ready or Not-Here I Come" Rev. John Bright

Holy Communion – (UMH 15-16)

Closing Hymn – "There's a Song In the Air" (UMH 249)

* Benediction: Rev. John Bright

* Postlude: "While Shepherds Watch" – by George Blake

(*Please stand if you are able.)

OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS

Gail Dagenhart, Ann Hechler, Kim Davis, Jean Miller, Mary Hicks, Mary Ann and Clyde Howard, Evelyn Steele, Geneva Olgers, Phyllis and Sara Nelson, Regina Humphrey, John Brockman, Becky Torrence, Dot Gay, and ML Yuhas.

KEEP IN OUR PRAYERS

- Our Weekday School – Margo Keeles (Director), our teachers, students and families.
- Our community of Varina and all the residents, our churches in our neighborhoods, schools, students, teachers, administrators and all employees.
- Our state of Virginia, our residents and leaders.
- The United States of America, our citizens and leaders, the countries of the world, their people and leaders. May God bless us all and His will be done.
- The citizens and leaders of Ukraine, for their safety and for the end of the war.
- People in Turkey and Syria. The people of Maui, Hawaii.
- The Jewish people in Israel and around the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TO OUR VISITORS: We welcome you to Laurel Hill and hope that you feel at home. We invite you to join Laurel Hill if you do not have a church home. Please call our church office at 804-795-2772. You will find our Laurel Hill family both warm and eager to welcome you into our fellowship.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of Almighty God, His Son, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit. They are given, in loving memory of John Tate, Jr. in remembrance of his birthday on December 7, 1949. The flowers are given by his daughter, Dale, and son-in-law, Ron.

FIA HAYS DAY, infant daughter of Elizabeth Day and great-granddaughter of Rev. Tom and Barbara Austin, will receive Holy Baptism this morning. May God richly bless Fia and her entire family as she grows in her relationship with the Lord.

SIGN MAKING FOR THE PARADE...If you are available to help make signs for our bus and float any time this week, please come by church to help. Materials provided.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6TH the ladies are invited to attend the Advent Luncheon at Varina Episcopal Church at 11 A.M. This is a wonderful time of fellowship for our community. There is a devotion, music and delicious food, with your friends.

THE VARINA TOY PARADE will be on Saturday, December 9th beginning at 3 PM on Osborne Turnpike. Come earlier to get a good place to view. Also, we need volunteers to give out hot chocolate at the Osborne Landing following the parade. Hope you can help.

THE LADIES OF LAUREL HILL will meet next **Tuesday, December 12th at 10:30 AM** to prepare poinsettias/plants for our shut-ins. This will be followed by lunch at Longhorn's Steak House.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday	10:30 AM New Life House Church (804-303-4828) 7:00 PM Bible Study (In Person & On Line)
Wednesday	9:00 AM Prayer in Sanctuary with Holy Communion 10:30 AM Bible Study 6:45 PM Handbell Rehearsal 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday	7:00 PM PTL House Church.
Friday	10:00 AM Thankful Hearts House Church (804-737-7450) 6:00 PM Varina Christmas Tree Lighting-C&F Bank
Saturday	3:00 PM Varina Toy Parade
Sunday	10:00 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Worship – also available online

WEEKDAY SCHOOL

Margo Keeles, Director

Mon.-Fri.	7:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.	Before and After Preschool Care (Ages 2-4)
Tue./Thurs.	9:00 A.M. to 12 Noon Preschool (Age 2)
Mon./Wed./Fri.	9:00 A.M. to 12 Noon Preschool (Age 3)
M/Tu./Th./Fri.	9:00 A.M. to 12 Noon Preschool (Age 4)
Fri Mon.-.	2:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M School Age (K-12 Years)
Mon.-Fri.	7:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.Summer Program (Ages 2-12 Years)



Some thoughts on giving...

These come from "The 33 Laws of Stewardship; Principles for a Life of True Fulfillment" by Dave Sutherland & Kirk Nowery.

- THE LAW OF ABSOLUTE HARVEST – Sow sparingly, reap sparingly; sow bountifully, reap bountifully.
- THE LAW OF CHanneled RESOURCES – Good Stewards are "pipe-lines"; not storage tanks.
- THE LAW OF LOVING COMPLIANCE – Pure obedience, prompted by pure love, produces pure stewardship.

How can you give at Laurel Hill GMC?

1 – Cash and checks may be placed in the offering plate. Please contact the church office for offering envelopes.

2 - You may also give online. The QR code below will take you to our website's giving page: <https://app.easytith.com/App/Giving/laurelhillgiving>



3 – Planned giving – including the LHGMC in your will is a wonderful way to ensure the ministries we are called to provide for Varina will continue into the future.



Laurel Hill Global Methodist Church

Worship Passionately . Love Extravagantly . Witness Boldly

1919 New Market Rd on Highway 5 in Varina
Henrico, Va. 23231

Website: laurelhillchurch.org/ E-mail: laurelhillchurch.varina@gmail.com
Church: (804) 795-2772 - Pastor's Cell: (804) 437-0937

OUR SERVANTS

Pastor: Rev. John Bright Organist/Choir Director: Pamela Wilson

Secretary: Barbara Wendel School Director: Margo Keeles

Custodians: Kathy and Robert Charles

ENTER TO WORSHIP . DEPART TO SERVE

