

May Memorial Baptist Church



The First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2020
11:00 a.m.

This is the House of God, All Are Welcome!

The Community Gathers for Worship

Prelude Sandra Parker

Greeting/Announcements Michael Edwards

*Congregational Call to Worship Anna Edwards

All around us days shorten and nights lengthen,
but we are told that the night is almost over, and a light is drawing near.

We wait on God's light together

Chaos surrounds us as the business of the season approaches,
but we are called along pathways of peace

We wait on God's peace together

In this season of friends and family,
we dearly miss the faces that are absent this year

We wait on God's comfort together

Though the world can seem dark and chaotic both within and without
we are told that God will build a house among us

We wait on God's presence together

Lighting of the Advent Candle of Hope

Solo

Les Miller

O, Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Reading

Gary Cowles

Solo

Les Miller

When God is a Child

Congregational Prayer

Loving God, we open ourselves to you, trusting that this is how you made us: you created us for joy-filled hearts and lives. Show us the creative power of hope. Teach us the peace that comes from justice. Fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained, but must be shared. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you, that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Ashley Edwards

Prayer of the People

Sharing of Joys and Prayer Concerns

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Michael Edwards

The Lord's Prayer

The Community Proclaims and Hears God's Word

Hebrew Scripture Reading
Isaiah 64:1-9

Michael Edwards

Solo
Be Still for the Presence

Les Miller

*Gospel Reading
Mark 13:24-37

Michael Edwards

Sermon
Tear Open and Come Down!

Michael Edwards

The Community Responds to God's Word

Solo
How Excellent Your Name

Les Miller

The Community Departs for Ministry

* Benediction

Michael Edwards

* Postlude

Sandra Parker

* Please stand as you are able

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the sanctuary are placed by Gerald and Gwen Hagen
to celebrate their wedding anniversary.

Ashley Edwards, Youth/Children's Minister
Sandra Parker, Interim Music Minister
Michael Edwards, Pastor (804) 922-0101
Church office (804) 598-3098
Church email: maymem@verizon.net

Announcements:

Poinsettias – A deacon will be happy to deliver your poinsettia if you need it delivered. Let the church office know at (804) 598-3098 or maymem@verizon.net.

Advent and Christmas for the May Memorial Family

Advent Hospitality: A Gift from the Home... (of name)

November 30 – December 25

Consisting of artwork, music, Christmas symbols and decorations, and readings, these gifts will come from members of the May Memorial family and will be sent out each morning during Advent.

Advent Wednesdays, Noon until 1:00 p.m., December 2, 9, 16, and 23

Come for a few minutes, or the entire hour. You will hear music from the May Memorial Carillon and guest musicians. This is not a concert, but a time to enjoy the peace and beauty of the May Memorial Sanctuary during the Advent Season. The Advent Wreath will be “re-lit” each Wednesday so those who gather can hear words of hope, joy, love, and peace as we wait for the Coming Messiah.

Sunday, December 20 - YouTube Premiere Children’s Christmas Pageant

The pageant will premiere on YouTube and in our sanctuary (video presentation) at 3:00. The sanctuary premiere is offered for those who do not have access to YouTube, although anyone can attend.

Thursday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

11:00 a.m., YouTube Premiere Service in the MMBC Sanctuary, made available especially for those without a computer or access to YouTube, although anyone can attend.

4:00 p.m., MMBC Christmas Eve Worship on YouTube Premiere. This will be an online worship service much like our worship services while in early pandemic weeks.

Handbells and Choir Ensembles Practices – Beginner Handbell Practice is Mondays from 6 to 7 p.m. Advanced Handbells meet on Tuesday from 6-7 p.m. Adult Choir Ensembles, Group B, will practice Monday at 7 p.m.

Sunday School on Zoom - During the four Sundays of Advent this year, November 29 through December 20 we will begin this new study *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes* (Westminster John Knox Press, 2019). Copies of this book are available in the church office and from online booksellers.