

The Messenger

ADVENT, CHRISTMASTIDE, EPIPHANY, 2024

The Church of the Messiah

114 North Third Street at Madison

Pulaski, Tennessee 38478

The Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee

John C. Bauerschmidt, Bishop

*The mission of the Church of the Messiah is to be a growing witness of
our Faith in Jesus Christ in the midst of the community
through worship and sacrament in the Episcopal tradition.*

Our leadership:

- ✘ The Rev. Justin Taliaferro, Priest in charge
- ✘ Pat Woolard, Music Director
- ✘ Secretary to the Parish, Marquenda Forrester
- ✘ Andy Hoover, Senior Warden ('25)
- ✘ Junior Warden, Dan Lavacot ('24)
- ✘ Clerk of the Vestry, Dr. Cathy Roberts ('23)
- ✘ Treasurer, Kristi Watson ('23)
- ✘ Vestry members: David Bell ('25), Cynthia Low ('25), Mary Dubberley ('24)

A Message from the Rev. Justin L. Taliaferro

Greetings, Church of the Messiah family!

As the days are getting shorter, and busier, we are quickly turning towards the season of Advent. This is a season of anticipation, hope, and contemplation. We anticipate the coming of Christ into the world. We anticipate the coming of his light into our darkness.

We also anticipate Christ's second coming. When his great plan of redemption and transformation will be complete. When all things will be made new. And so, as the church, we live in a kind of perpetual Advent. An in-between season of "already, and not yet." And so, we wait. We enter a season of stillness and quiet, as we wait in hope for the coming of Christ, our Immanuel, our God with Us.

But stillness and quiet don't easily fit into the world around us, especially this time of year. This can be a season of over-burdened schedules and being spread too thin. There are seemingly endless task lists, planning and preparing, traveling, work deadlines, parties, school events, and church activities. Not to mention shopping for the perfect gifts.

In the middle of the pressures and demands of this time of year, it can be hard to find stillness and quiet. It can be hard to slow down. It can be hard to find the space to contemplate, and to wait in hope.

Something that can help is to be intentional. Carve out a little time in each day for stillness. Even if it's just five minutes, take a brief pause, and sit. Or walk. The point is not necessarily physical stillness, although that may help. The point here is to practice an inner stillness that comes from a little slower pace, and a slightly less cluttered mind. And then, in those few moments, pray, or read, or just breathe. And rest in the promise and hope of Christ's coming. And wait.

"For God alone my soul in silence waits;
from him comes my salvation.

For God alone my soul in silence waits;
truly, my hope is in him." Psalm 62:1, 6

MESSIAH MINISTRIES
Sunday, Holy Eucharist, 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, Holy Eucharist, 7:00 p.m.
Morning Prayer, Monday – Saturday, 7:00 a.m.
Vestry Meeting, Second Monday of the month, 4:30 p.m.

DECEMBER 24, CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

CAROLING 10:30 PM

HOLY EUCHARIST 11:00 PM.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE WITHOUT MUSIC

MONDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2023, 10:30 A.M.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

FEBRUARY 14, 2024

Parish Birthdays....

December:

9 Ann T. Hays

January:

2 Judy Hines

13 Rich Woolard

21 Teresa Hughes

February:

3 Pat Woolard

21 Justin Taliaferro

23 Samantha Muth

RECURRING MONTHLY:

COMMUNITY RURAL FOOD DISTRIBUTION is prepared monthly in the **third** week of each month, Thursday nights packing food boxes at 216 North Third Street. The distribution of food is the following Saturday, at the AG Park, 2030 Elkton Highway. Volunteers are always welcome and needed.

Serving our Worship ----- The Church of the Messiah:

NOTE: WE WOULD PREFER TO FIND SUBSTITUTES. PLEASE DO NOT MANAGE YOUR OWN REPLACEMENT.



December 3: ADVENT I: Chalice bearer/reader: Lou Foster; Acolytes: Gus Hosay & Calum Lavacot; Altar Guild: Tabitha/Dan Lavacot.

December 10: ADVENT II: Chalice bearer/reader: Catherine Dunnivant ; Acolytes: Calum Lavacot & Catherine Dunnivant; Altar Guild: Tabitha/Dan Lavacot.

December 17: ADVENT III: Chalice bearer/reader: John Hughes; Acolytes: William Taliaferro & Calum Lavacot; Altar Guild: Connie Baker.

December 24: ADVENT IV: Chalice bearer/reader: Mary Dubberley; Acolytes: TBA; Altar Guild: Catherine Dunnivant.

December 23, Christ Eve Service: Chalice bearer/reader: Andy Hoover; Acolytes: All Available; Altar Guild: Catherine Dunnivant and Marqueda Forrester.

December 31: Chalice bearer/reader: Lou Foster; Acolytes: Calum Lavacot & William Taliaferro; Altar Guild: Marqueda Forrester.



January 7: Chalice bearer/reader: Andy Hoover; Acolytes: Graham Hoover & Calum Lavacot; Altar Guild: Tabitha/Dan Lavacot.

January 14: Chalice bearer/reader: John Hughes; Acolytes: William Taliaferro & Calum Lavacot; Altar Guild: Catherine Dunnivant & Corrie Taliaferro.

January 21: Chalice bearer/reader: Cynthia Low; Acolytes: Bella Muth & Colton Muth; Altar Guild: Samantha/Donny Muth.

January 28: Chalice bearer/reader: Mary Dubberley; Acolytes: Calum Lavacot & Gus Hosay; Altar Guild: Connie Baker.



February 4:Chalice bearer/reader: Cathy Roberts; Acolytes: Calum Lavacot & Graham Hoover; Altar Guild: Tabitha/ Dan Lavacot

February 11: Chalice bearer/reader: Lou Foster; Acolytes: Calum Lavacot & William Taliaferro; Altar Guild: Catherine Dunnivant/Corrie Taliaferro.

February 14: Ash Wednesday: Chalice bearer/reader: Cynthia Low; Acolyte: Graham Hoover; Altar Guild: Catherine Dunnivant.

February 18: Lent I: Chalice bearer/reader: John Hughes; Acolytes: Bella Muth & Colton Muth; Altar Guild: Samantha/Donny Muth.

February 25: Lent II: Chalice bearer/reader: Mary Dubberley; Acolytes: Gus Hosay & Calum Lavacot; Altar Guild: Connie Baker.