



~ *A Remembrance Service* ~

**December 14, 2024**

**10:00 a.m.**

**New Hackensack Reformed Church**

**Wappingers Falls, New York**

**845-462-0810**

**Pastor: Rev. Keith W. Tamlyn**



PRELUDE

Gabriella Fryer

WELCOME

Rev. Keith Tamlyn

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, joy, lighten our spirits.

**Come, hope, lift us from despair.**

Come, peace, ease our frantic worry.

**Come, love, shine in all we do.**

Come, Jesus, be born in us.

**Come, Lord, set us free.**

**All: Come, God, ease our pain.**

**Comfort us with Your boundless grace.**

HYMN

**“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”**

**#135**

OPENING PRAYER

*Lord, Jesus Christ,*

*Thou Son of the Most High, Prince of Peace, be born again into our world. Wherever there is war in this world, wherever there is pain, wherever there is loneliness, wherever there is no hope, come, thou long-expected one, with healing in thy wings.*

*Holy Child, whom the shepherds and the kings and the dumb beasts adored, be born again. Wherever there is boredom, wherever there is fear of failure, wherever there is temptation too strong to resist, wherever there is bitterness of heart, come, thou blessed one, with healing in thy wings. Amen.*

-Fredrick Buechner



***Lighting of the Advent Candles***  
***~ A Holiday Memorial ~***

A holiday wreath is a traditional part of Christmas in most homes. It is a simple wreath, usually made of fresh greens in which you can place four candles. In the center of our wreath is the Christ candle, which represents the love and light of God that is always there for us.

As you light each candle this year, you may create a new ritual which will become a lasting tradition for Christmas. We hope this memorial will help you include your loved ones in your celebrations.

As we now light these four candles in memory of our loved ones who have died, we light one for our grief, one for our courage, one for our memories, and one for our love.

\*Our first candle represents our grief. The pain of losing them is intense. It reminds us of the depth of our love for them.

\*Our second candle represents our courage - to confront our sorrow - to comfort each other, to change our lives.

\*This candle represents the memories of our loved ones - the times we laughed together, the times we cried, the times we were angry with one another, the silly things they did, the caring and joy they gave us in this life.

\* This candle represents the light of love. As we enter this holiday season, day by day we cherish the special place in our hearts that will always be reserved for them. We thank them for the gift their living brought to each of us. We will always love them, as they will love us.

Let us pray:

**Help us to remember Lord, that love never dies. Open us to your comforting eternal love for us as we also remember them each day. Amen**

PRAYER

Deacon Peggy Long

God of our life, there are days when the burdens we carry chafe our shoulders and weigh us down; when the road seems dreary and endless, the skies gray and threatening; when our lives have no music in them, and our hearts are lonely, and our souls have lost their courage.

Flood the path with light, we beseech Thee; turn our eyes to where the skies are full of promise; tune our hearts to brave music; give us the sense of comradeship with heroes and saints of every age; and so quicken our spirits that we may be able to encourage the souls of all who journey with us on the road to life, to Thy honor and glory. Amen.

-Saint Augustine, North Africa (354-430)

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 43: 1-5

REFLECTION

Rev. Keith Tamlyn

HYMN

“Emmanuel, Emmanuel”

#140

READING

Elder Sherry Seney

As we grow older, we have more and more people to remember, people who have died before us. It is very important to remember those who have loved us and those we have loved. Remembering them means letting their spirits inspire us in our daily lives. They can become part of our spiritual communities and gently help us as we make decisions on our journeys. Parents, spouses, children, and friends can become true spiritual companions after they have died. Sometimes they can become even more intimate to us after death than when they were with us in life. Remembering the dead is choosing their ongoing companionship.

- Father Henri Nouwen

SCRIPTURE

John 1: 1-5

CANDLE LIGHTING *~~ Please pass the Lighted Candle*

Leader: O God, our Creator, in you alone are the riches of life.

**People: We come from the east and we come from the west, knowing we follow, on our different roads, the same star to the same place.**

Leader: May we share what we know of its light, and learn from each other the way to the stable.

**All: May the light of Christ go with us today and tomorrow and all of our tomorrows, as we remember our loved ones.**

**HYMN**

**“Away in a Manger”**

**(vs 1,3) #149**

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
the stars in the sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

*Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.*

(After hymn, please extinguish candles.)

**PASTOR’S PRAYER**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive  
our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**HYMN**

**“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”**

**#169**

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

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Please join us for a time of fellowship, coffee, and light refreshments in the Gathering Area immediately after the service. Be sure to take a carnation home with you.