

## OUR PURPOSE



*Loving God  
Welcoming All  
Serving Neighbors  
Together through  
Jesus Christ*

## DAILY DEVOTIONALS

Mon., Dec 9 - **LAMENTATIONS 3:22-25** *A Song in the Storm*  
 Tue., Dec 10 - **MATTHEW 25:31-46** *A Living Example*  
 Wed., Dec 11 - **PSALM 104:24-35** *Celebrate the Moment*  
 Thu., Dec 12 - **1 TIMOTHY 6:6-12** *Room for the Manger*  
 Fri., Dec 13 - **PSALM 112:1-10** *Trusting God*  
 Sat., Dec 14 - **JOHN 10:1-10** *The Gate*  
 Sun., Dec 15 - **ISAIAH 9:1-7** *The Joy of Christmas*

Visit [www.upperroom.com](http://www.upperroom.com) for more information.

## OFFICE INFORMATION

### GENERAL QUESTIONS & PASTORAL APPOINTMENTS

Please contact the office at 301-349-2010, [office@pmumc.org](mailto:office@pmumc.org), or visit [www.pmumc.org](http://www.pmumc.org)

### PHONE MESSAGES

Voicemails are sent electronically to designated email accounts.

### EMERGENCIES

For immediate pastoral care, please email [PastorTim@PMUMC.org](mailto:PastorTim@PMUMC.org)

## CHURCH GIVING

**AVERAGE WEEKLY GIVING** *(last 8 weeks)*  
\$8,780.96

### WAYS TO GIVE:

- **PLACE** in Offering Plate when entering/exiting Worship Service
- **MAIL** to Memorial's PO Box 358
- **DROP** in Memorial's secured mailbox next to main entrance on side of building
- **ELECTRONICALLY** via [PMUMC.org](http://PMUMC.org)

## CHURCH PERSONNEL & CONTRIBUTORS TO WORSHIP

**PASTOR** - Rev. Timothy A. Dowell

**MUSIC DIRECTOR** - Janet Hartz

**ORGANIST** - Linda Custer

**BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR** - Becky Smalley

**HEAD USHER** - Dr. Robert Spiker

**ALTAR GUILD/SACRAMENT STEWARD** - Janet Spiker, Jenny Rivenbark (alternate)

**WORSHIP CMTE CHAIR** - Priscilla Lyon

**VISUAL ARTS** - Dianna McGrew, Jenny Rivenbark, Janet Spiker,

**ACOLYTE COORDINATOR** - Roy Melton

**HEAD ACOLYTE** - Sam L.

**AUDIO/VIDEO** - Tim Melton, Kevin Schramm

**NURSERY** - Stephanie Parker, Cynthia Cook

**CHURCH COORDINATOR** - Shirley Prasada-Rao

**CUSTODIAN** - Ximena "Patricia" Murdock

**ACOLYTES** - Knox H., Nicole L., Sam L., Addison S., Aubrey S., Evie S., Isabel S.

**BELL CHOIR** - Jennifer Fielder, Janet Hartz, Cindy Heivilin, Kirsten Lewis, Nicole Lewis, Priscilla Lyon, Michelle Palmer, Beth Parker, Kevin Schramm, Corrine Selby, Isabel Smalley

**CHANCEL CHOIR** - Eleanor Bateman, Tim Dowell, Chris Giarratano, Betty King, Steve Krasner, Priscilla Lyon, David Melton, Tim Melton, Walter Moskwa, Marty Pauley, Roger Powers, Betty Jean Selby, Becky Smalley, Erin Smeller,



**Poolesville Memorial United Methodist Church**  
17821 Elgin Rd. / PO Box 358, Poolesville MD 20837  
301-349-2010 | [office@pmumc.org](mailto:office@pmumc.org)

*Seepnd Sunday of Advent—December 8, 2024*  
Sunday Worship Service—10:30 am



*"Prepare"*



A special welcome to our guests today! Your visit is a blessing and we are glad you are here! As we gather, take time to relax and prepare your heart to listen for God through today's time of prayer, song, and scripture study.

\* = Please stand in your heart or posture.

UMH = United Methodist Hymnal. TFWS = The Faith We Sing.

**GREETER**—Cindy McCraith and Steve McCraith

**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

*Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

Linda Custer  
by Larry Shackley

**WORSHIP SERVICE**

**ACOLYTE**—Knox H.

**WELCOME**—Introductions and Prayer

Rev. Timothy Dowell

**PRELUDE MUSIC**

*People, Look East*

Linda Custer  
by Mary McDonald

**ADVENT READING AND CANDLE LIGHTING CEREMONY**

*Love Has Come (Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella)*

Pam Flick  
by Ken Bible/Pr. Jack Glasgow

**WEEK-TWO SCRIPTURE**—*Isaiah 40:1-5*

- 40 Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.  
 2 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.  
 3 A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.  
 4 Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.  
 5 Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

**WEEK-TWO DEVOTIONAL**

Our lists are long, even in this strange mess where we live these days. And we want to do it right, we want to be safe, but we want to be able to enjoy the season. We've got work to do to put right what has gone wrong, to heal what is broken, to mend the relationships, and to prepare for the company that will come.

The prophet Isaiah reminded us that there is work to be done. "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God." When God comes in, then healing is to be found, but we need to make the way; we need to open the door into our lives.

**ADVENT READING/CANDLE LIGHTING-CONTINUED**

Pam Flick

**CONGREGATIONAL CHORAL RESPONSE AND CANDLE LIGHTING**

(Choral Response to be sung to the tune of *Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella*)

*Peace shall enter our noise and confusion.  
 Peace arrives with the birth of the Child.  
 Peace to all of God's children and family.  
 Peace to bring calm to troubled spirits.  
 Peace! Peace! Peace is the gift we cherish,  
 Peace! Peace! Peace over all the earth.*

**OPENING PRAYER**

*We light these candles as a sign of our faith that the God we worship is not far from us and that we can clear the way for that God to come and dwell with us.  
 We light these candles in faith that company is coming.*

**\*OPENING HYMN**—*Blessed Be the God of Israel*

UMH 209

**FIRST READING**—*Malachi 3:1-4*

Pam Flick

This is the word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

**ANTHEM**—**CHANCEL CHOIR**

*Blessed Is The Lord (Benedictus)*

Janet Hartz/Linda Custer  
by Sproul/Forrest

**SECOND READING**—*Luke 3:1-6*

Rev. Timothy Dowell

This is the word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

**MESSAGE**—*Prepare*

Rev. Timothy Dowell

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE**—*O Come and Dwell in Me*

UMH 388

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

Rev. Timothy Dowell

**OFFERING** (Offering Plates in Spurrier Hall)

Rev. Timothy Dowell

**\*DOXOLOGY**—*In the Bleak Midwinter*

UMH 221, verse 4

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

UMH 895

**\*CLOSING HYMN**—*Heralds of Christ*

UMH 567

**\*BENEDICTION**

Rev. Timothy Dowell

**POSTLUDE MUSIC**

*Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*

Linda Custer  
by Paul Manz

## UPCOMING HAPPENINGS

<b>SUN - DEC 8</b> <i>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>	9:15 - 10:15 am 9:15 - 10:15 am 10:15 - 11:45 am 10:30 - 11:30 am 11:30 am - 1:30 pm	Sunday School- PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> <b>Rms 2-4</b> ; Adult <b>Rm 6/Zoom</b> Chancel Choir Rehearsal- <b>Room 8/Sanctuary</b> Nursery- <b>Room 5</b> Worship Service- <b>Sanctuary/YouTube</b> Potluck and Christmas Program- <b>Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>MON - DEC 9</b>	7 - 8:30 pm 7 - 8:30pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal- <b>Sanctuary</b> Grief Group- <b>Room 6</b>
<b>TUE -DEC 10</b>	10:30 - 11:30 am 7 - 9 pm	Tai Chi—Poolesville Seniors- <b>Fellowship Hall</b> Church Council Meeting- <b>Room 6/Zoom</b>
<b>WED - DEC 11</b>	5:45 - 7 pm 7:30 pm - 9 pm	Girl Scout Troop #32066 Meeting- <b>Room 1</b> Chancel Choir Rehearsal- <b>Room 8</b>
<b>THU - DEC 12</b>	7 - 8 pm 7 - 8 pm 7 - 8:30pm	Review/Preview with Pastor Tim- <b>Online via Zoom</b> Zumba Class- <b>Fellowship Hall</b> IOOF #97 Meeting- <b>Room 6</b>
<b>FRI - DEC 13</b>	2 - 8 pm 8 - 9 pm	Little Learners Family Holiday Party (event 4-6pm)- <b>FH</b> Set-Up for IOOF Christmas Party- <b>FH</b>
<b>SAT - DEC 14</b>	10 am - 4 pm 1 - 4 pm 4 - 6 pm 6 - 7:30pm	OOOF #97 Christmas Luncheon for Srs (starts 12:30pm)- <b>FH</b> The Friendly Thrift Shop- <b>On Location</b> Set-Up for Live Nativity- <b>Front Lawn/FH/Kitchen</b> Live Nativity- <b>Front Lawn/Fellowship Hall/Kitchen</b>
<b>SUN - DEC 15</b> <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>	9:15 - 10:15 am 9:15 - 10:15 am 10:15 - 11:45 am 10:30 - 11:30 am 11:30 am - 12:30 pm 11:30 am - 2:30 pm	Sunday School- PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> <b>Rms 2-4</b> ; Adult <b>Rm 6/Zoom</b> Chancel Choir Rehearsal- <b>Room 8/Sanctuary</b> Nursery- <b>Room 5</b> Worship Service- <b>Sanctuary/YouTube</b> Fellowship Time- <b>Fellowship Hall/Kitchen</b> Youth Fellowship-Shop for WUMCO- <b>Off-Site</b>
<b>MON - DEC 16</b>	4:15 - 6 pm 7 - 8:30 pm 7 - 8:30pm	Girl Scout Troop #32009 Meeting- <b>Room 1</b> Bell Choir Rehearsal- <b>Sanctuary</b> Grief Group- <b>Room 6</b>
<b>TUE -DEC 17</b>	10:30 - 11:30 am 7 - 8 pm	Tai Chi—Poolesville Seniors- <b>Fellowship Hall</b> Men's Group Meeting- <b>Room 6/Zoom</b>
<b>WED - DEC 18</b>	5:45 - 7 pm 6 - 8:30 pm 7:30 pm - 9 pm	Girl Scout Troop #32066 Meeting- <b>Room 1</b> Poolesville Community Band Sing-A-Long-All Welcome- <b>Sanctuary</b> Chancel Choir Rehearsal- <b>Room 8</b>
<b>THU - DEC 19</b>	10 am - 6 pm 7 - 8 pm 7 - 8 pm	WUMCO-LCSW Therapy Sessions- <b>Noah's Ark Room</b> Review/Preview with Pastor Tim- <b>Online via Zoom</b> Zumba Class- <b>Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>FRI - DEC 20</b>	7 - 9 pm	Line Dancing -Poolesville Seniors- <b>Fellowship Hall</b>
<b>SAT - DEC 21</b>	1 - 4 pm	The Friendly Thrift Shop- <b>On Location</b>
<b>SUN - DEC 22</b> <i>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>	9:15 - 10:15 am 9:15 - 10:15 am 10:15 - 11:45 am 10:30 - 11:30 am	Sunday School- PreK-12 <sup>th</sup> <b>Rms 2-4</b> ; Adult <b>Rm 6/Zoom</b> Chancel Choir Rehearsal- <b>Room 8/Sanctuary</b> Nursery- <b>Room 5</b> Worship Service- <b>Sanctuary/YouTube</b>

Anthem Song Lyrics, *Blessed is the Lord (Benedictus)* by Sproul/Forrest

Benedictus, Benedictus,  
Blessed is our Lord.  
Benedictus, Benedictus,  
Welcome His incarnate Word.

Chosen first among the priests  
to serve within the temple walls,  
Zacharias stood in awe  
when he heard the angel call.

Benedictus, Benedictus,  
Blessed is our Lord.  
Benedictus, Benedictus,  
Welcome His incarnate Word.

Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God,  
will come to raise salvation's horn.  
God incarnate, Word made flesh,  
to a virgin shall be born.

Benedictus, Benedictus,  
Blessed is our Lord.  
Benedictus, Benedictus,  
Welcome His incarnate Word.

Christ brings light to sin's dark night:  
Our Dayspring, Jesus from on high,  
Saints and angels sing God's praise.  
All the earth and Heav'ns reply.

Benedictus, Benedictus,  
Blessed is our Lord.  
Benedictus, Benedictus,  
Welcome His incarnate,

Benedictus, Benedictus,  
Blessed is our Lord.  
Benedictus, Benedictus,  
Welcome His incarnate Word.

Benedictus, Benedictus,  
Welcome His incarnate Word.



— ALL ARE INVITED —  
TODAY, right after church

Sunday School Children perform...

# C.H.R.I.S.T.M.A.S.

at our Christmas Program & Potluck

Please bring a main dish to share. Desserts and drinks will be provided! Enjoy some Christmas Carols too!



Tuesday,  
December 24<sup>th</sup>  
7pm

*Let us  
celebrate the  
birth of Jesus  
together.*


**Christmas Cards**—Some church members and their families are not currently able to join us due to health and/or relocation.

If they're not already on your list, please consider adding them.

- **Sandi, Mike & Sam Baggett**, 19 Walling Grove Rd, Beaufort, SC 29907
- **Jan Deloriea**, 17648 Kohlhoss Rd, Poolesville, MD 20837
- **Keith & Mary Beth Patton**, 20321 Whites Ferry Rd, Poolesville, MD 20837
- **Betty Ritorto**, Room 112, Montgomery Village Healthcare Center, 19301 Watkins Mill Rd, Montgomery Village, MD 20886
- **Philomena Roy**, c/o Don Roy, 6613 Davis Ford Rd, Manassas, VA 20111



**Review/Preview with Pastor Tim**  
 No prep needed!  
 Study Sundays' scriptures  
 Thursdays @ 7pm  
 on Zoom.




**THANK YOU!**  
 to all that made our  
 Community Dinner  
 another huge success!



**All Men are Invited!**  
 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays, 7pm in Room 6 & Zoom.  
 Email Scott.McGrew@aol.com for link



**Youth Connections**  
 After worship on December 15, 2024  
 Christmas Shop for WUMCO & then get Pizza  
 Questions-email Betty at BKing21710@gmail.com.



**Next Week's Scriptures**  
 Zeph 3:14-20 • Isa 12:2-6 • Phil 4:4-7 • Luke 3:7-18



**TRUSTEE UPDATE**

The Trustees recently reviewed proposals on two interconnected projects and recommended the Church Council approve funding for both totaling \$49,007.87. It includes:

- campus-wide exterior and interior lighting upgrade,
- ceiling tile upgrade in the public areas, and
- replacement of damaged or stained tiles in the classrooms, admin offices and kitchen (health department requirement).

These are another major undertaking by our congregation to:


- reduce utility costs,
- add another layer of safety for after dark activities, and
- improve overall appearance.

The actual cost of this package is \$95,856.87; however, incentives from Potomac Edison and a Scott Foundation grant totaling \$46,849.00 results in our share noted above.

**Your second level giving would be much appreciated.**




**Sunday School - 9:15 to 10:15am**  
 3 yrs-K, Rm 3; 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>, Rm 4  
 5<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, Rm 2; Adults, Rm 6 & Zoom



**Engage in the church's ministries**  
 by scanning this QR code with your  
 phone's camera to see all your options!



**Nursery in Rm 5**  
 10:15 to 11:45 am



**Send Prayer Requests**  
[prayers@pmumc.org](mailto:prayers@pmumc.org)



**Need a Ride to church**  
 Email  
[Scott.McGrew@aol.com](mailto:Scott.McGrew@aol.com)



SCHEDULE	DEC 15 <i>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>	DEC 22 <i>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</i>	DEC 24 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	DEC 29 <i>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas</i>
LITURGIST	Betty Jean Selby Gary Hartz	Eleanor Bateman Ralph Hitchens	Pam Flick Ray Hoewing	Bob Bachman Kirsten Lewis
ACOLYTE	Isabel S.	Sam L.	Nicole L.	Sam L.
GREETERS	Suzanne Shorts	Cindy McCraith Steve McCraith	Cindy McCraith Steve McCraith	<i>Available</i>


**LIVE NATIVITY—December 14<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30 pm**  
 Spread the word with family and friends so everyone can experience this moving  
 portrayal of the story of Jesus' birth.

**In addition to coming to experience the meaning of  
 Christmas, there are several ways to get involved...**

- **HELP SET-UP STABLE** (Saturday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, 10am)
- **BE A CAST MEMBER:** Shepherd, Wiseman, Mary, Joseph, Angel
- **PROVIDE FOOD FOR THE CAST:** Soup, Breads, Sides, Desserts, Drinks
- **PROVIDE COOKIES FOR ATTENDEES:** Cookies, Brownies, Cupcakes

Questions? Email Ellie at EleanorGBateman@gmail.com


We are excited to be able to provide cookies and hot chocolate to all that come to enjoy our Live Nativity. This tradition had been on pause since the pandemic and we are thrilled to bring it back.



**Decorate our Sock and Mitten Tree**  
 All these much needed essentials  
 that we collect will  
 be donated to an  
 organization helping  
 those in need.



**Help Bring Christmas Joy to Ten Local Families**  
 Please browse the sign-up sheets to see if there is anything that you  
 would like to provide our neighbors that have hit on  
 hard times. What is signed up for after worship today  
 will be uploaded to SignUpGenius.com tomorrow.  
 If you need help, please contact the office at  
 301-349-2010 or [office@pmumc.org](mailto:office@pmumc.org).



**Memorial**  
 United Methodist Church


Dear Sisters and Brothers of the Poolesville Memorial  
 United Methodist Church Family,

We are blessed to be served by a compassionate pastor with great  
 spiritual strength and a dedicated and caring staff. Traditionally we at Memorial have expressed our  
 gratitude to the pastor with a Christmas purse. Several years ago, we expanded that tradition to  
 include our Church's staff.

At year end based on recommendations from SPRC, the Church Council determines a monetary gift  
 to be provided to our pastor and the Church staff. If you would like to provide a second level gift to  
 support the Church Council's decision to show staff our appreciation, you may place your gift in the  
 offering basket during the Worship Service the next three (3) Sundays or mail your gift to the Church  
 Office. Please mark on the check or envelope "Staff Appreciation."

Even more important than a monetary gift, we would ask that you continue to lift Pastor Tim and  
 our Memorial Staff in prayer as they lead and serve us in sharing the Light of Christ's Love with our  
 neighbors.

Blessed to Serve with You,  
 Jim Hardter, SPRC Chair  
 Scott McGrew, Church Council Chair





But who can endure the day of His coming? Who can stand when He appears?

Circle the picture of fire.

Draw a square around the picture of soap.



For He will be like a fire that makes things pure. He will be like soap that makes things clean.

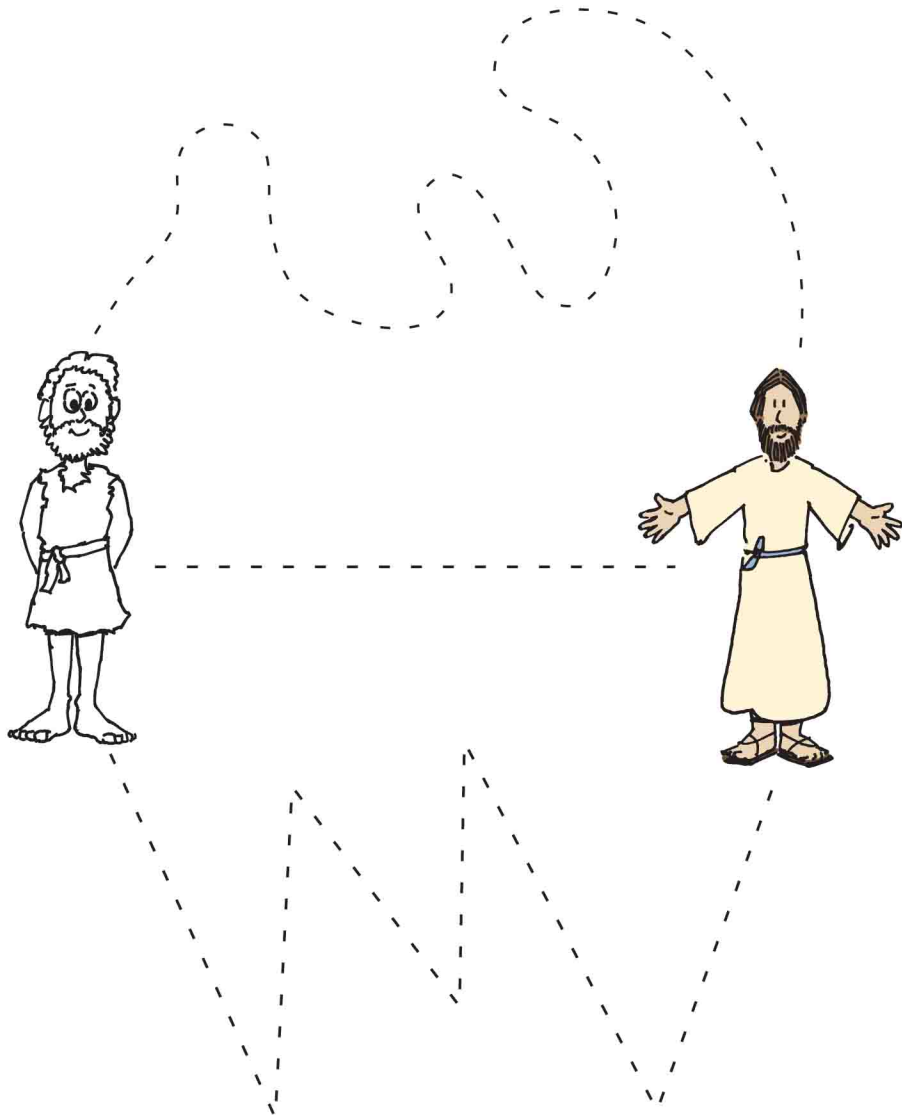
He will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver.

Draw an X over the picture that is different.



The book of Isaiah said, "Prepare the way for the Lord. Make straight paths for Him."

Follow the path that has a straight line.

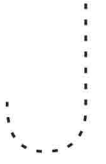


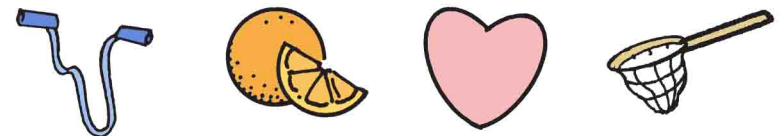
John Tells People to Repent

The Word of God came to John.



Write the beginning sound for each picture.

			
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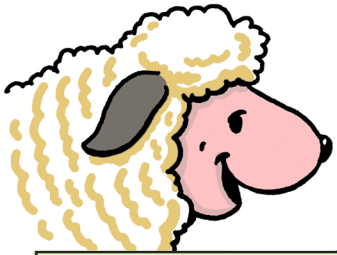


John went into the country around the Jordan preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

Circle these items:    







Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, ...

Help the man bring his offering.

**START**

**END**

... and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by.

# Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+



December 8, 2024 • Malachi 3:1-4

## Prepare the Way

The prophet Malachi told of God's message: "I will send My messenger, who will prepare the way before Me. ..."

Add and subtract words and letters to form a new word. Write the new words in order on the blanks to finish the verse.

1.  - RN +  - OUS = \_\_\_\_\_

2.  - NT +  - LA +  - APP = \_\_\_\_\_

...Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> to His \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup>; ..." says the LORD Almighty.



Enter your **SECRET CODE** to unlock games @ [games.childrensbulletins.com](http://games.childrensbulletins.com) **SECRET CODE**  
**VYWN01**

## But who can endure the day of His coming?

Follow the instructions to change one word to another. Write the new words in order on the blanks below to finish the verse.

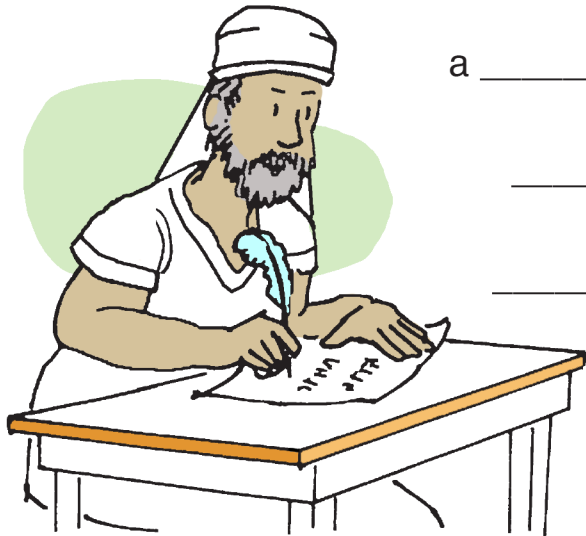
WHY	Change Y to O =	WHO
STARE	Change RE to ND =	
TEN	Change T to WH =	
APPLE	Change LE to EARS =	
WHIRL	Change HIR to IL =	
LAKE	Change A to I =	
PARTNER'S	Change PART to REFI =	
CARE	Change CA to FI =	
WANDERER'S	Change WA to LAU =	
SOUP	Change U to A =	

Who can \_\_\_\_\_ He

\_\_\_\_\_? For He \_\_\_\_\_ be \_\_\_\_\_

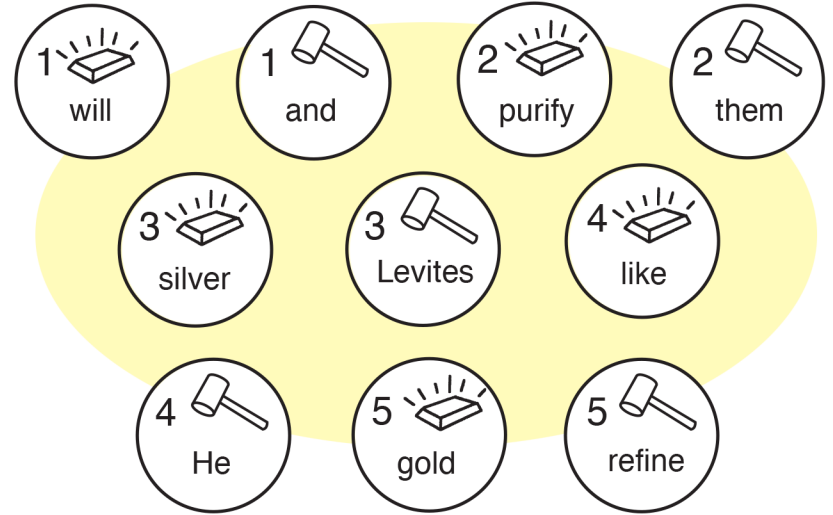
a \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ or a \_\_\_\_\_



## What did the prophet then say about God?

Use the code to write the words on the blanks.



He \_\_\_\_\_ the

4 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_

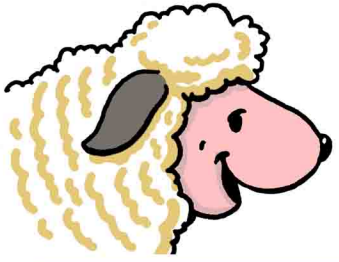
3 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_

5 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_

4 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_

1 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_





And what will the people see?

Supply the missing letter to spell out the words to fill in the blanks below.

JE\_\_US

TE\_\_CHER

TEMP\_\_E

HEA\_\_EN

BO\_\_T

BAP\_\_ISM

F\_\_SH

PR\_\_PHECY

MOUNTAI\_\_



And all humankind will see God's \_\_\_\_\_.

# Children's Worship Bulletin™

Ages 7+

December 8, 2024 • Luke 3:1-6

## John Tells People to Repent



The Word of God came to John in the wilderness. What did John do then?

Find the correct path through the maze to read the answer.

**START**

		went		earth		gathered	
	went			The	worked	When	
He						laborers	
	storm	trees		into		of	
	the		found		baptism	also	
			all		path		morning
		owners		a	wind		you
	to	angry	the		go	repentance	
	among	thirsty	robbed	away.		the	
			country		preaching		
shepherd	sandal		strolled		rocks		
			around	lost	rain		
	sun		the		Jordan,		for
	forgiveness			the	us		
			birds	ruined		and	
As		lame	mountain				the
	of						sins.

**FINISH**

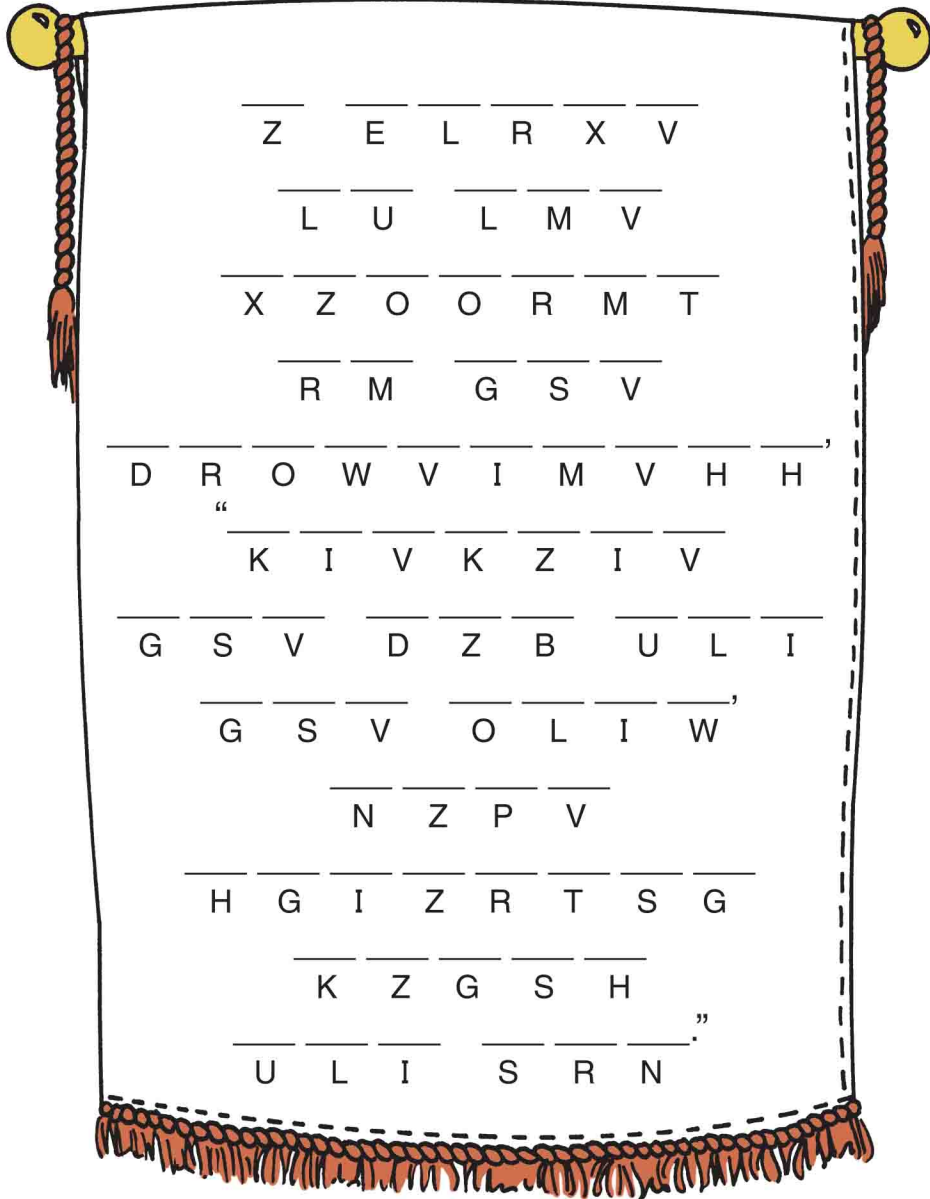
Enter your **SECRET CODE** to unlock games @ [games.childrensbulletins.com](http://games.childrensbulletins.com)



What was written in the book of Isaiah that was like what John did?

Use this code to fill in the blanks below.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
Z Y X W V U T S R Q P O N M L K J I H G F E D C B A



What else did Isaiah say would take place?

Use this code to fill in the blanks.

