

The second coming

Premillennialism, postmillennialism, or amillennialism? Pre-tribulation rapture, mid-tribulation rapture, or post-tribulation rapture? Almost since its creation, the church has debated the specific form and timing of the *Parousia*, the second coming of Christ.

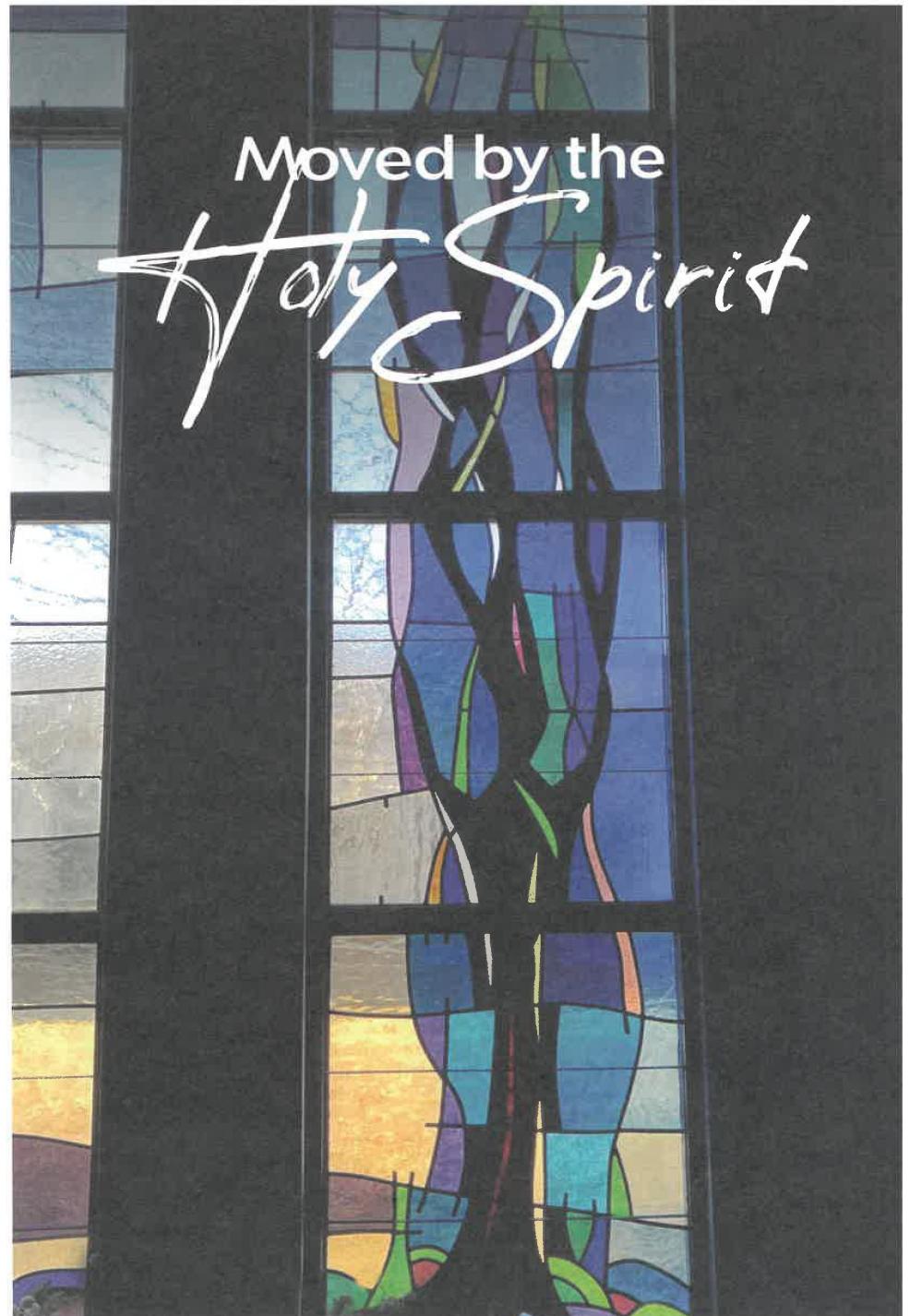
The author of our text (2 Peter 1:16-21) was writing to a church that expected Jesus to return within the first Christian generation, as he seemed to suggest to Peter, James, and John just before his Transfiguration: "Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see that the kingdom of God has come with power" (Mark 9:1). When that failed to happen, some began to doubt Jesus would return at all and the author sought to persuade the church that Jesus would indeed come again. Citing what they had witnessed at the Transfiguration (traditionally understood as a foreshadowing of Christ's second coming), the author claims to have heard God say, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased" (2 Peter 1:17), confirming Jesus' identity as the Son of God who would return in glory to consummate the reign he had inaugurated.

While it's interesting to ponder a future *Parousia*, what if we are the second coming of Christ here and now? If we are "the body of Christ and individually members of it" (1 Corinthians 12:27), are we not his *Parousia* (literally his "presence" or "coming")? And moved by the Holy Spirit, are we not called to consummate the work that Jesus began all those years ago? It's one thing to *debate* the second coming of Jesus and quite another to *be* it. As we continue the work of Jesus, let us do so knowing that whatever the future holds, we are his presence, his coming, his *Parousia* on earth today.

—Robbie Miller
Bridgewater, Virginia

"Because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women *moved by the Holy Spirit* spoke from God" (2 Peter 1:21, NRSVue). Today's Bible readings from the lectionary: Exodus 24:12-18; Psalm 2 or Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9.

February 15, 2026, Transfiguration. Photo © Heidi Gross. Used by permission.
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CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Hagerstown, Maryland

MORNING WORSHIP

10:45 AM

February 15, 2026

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE "I Am With You Always" (Keeny)

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Linda Baker, Worship Leader

One: The God who made the world and everything in it is Lord of heaven and earth and gives to mortals life and breath. All who search for God will find him, for he is not far from us.

All: Thanks be to God for the revelation of himself as God of all peoples

One: Many shall come from the east and the west and will sit down in the kingdom of heaven

All: Thanks be to God for the gift of salvation for all peoples.

One: Jesus announced: The Kingdom of God has come near; repent and believe in the good news." "As the Father has sent me, so I send you."

All: Having received this command, let us witness to the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith.

One: The mission of the church is to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them by word and witness that Jesus is Lord.

All: We believe that life can find fulfillment nowhere except in Christ. Let us proclaim the message of deliverance and live as faithful followers of Jesus Christ until he comes.

***HYMN #110** "Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing"
 [Verse 1]

Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace.

[Verse 2]

*Jesus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease,
'tis music to the sinner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.*

[Verse 3]

He speaks, and list'ning to his voice new life the dead receive, the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.

[Verse 4]

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim, to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

[Verse 5]

Glory to God and praise and love be ever, ever giv'n by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Come, Holy Spirit, come. We rejoice that you are constantly yearning to be in a deeper relationship with us. May those who come with doubts, encounter you in profound ways. May those who come with faithful confidence, encounter you in profound ways. And may we all be empowered to bear witness to the light of the world. Amen.

SERVICE OF GIVING

Call to Giving

We are not only witnesses to the power of God when we see how God sustains us, but also when we give, by faith, what has been given to us without fear that something will be missing in the future. God's infinite grace will take us to high places to experience eternal glory. Lord, we deliver the best we have to you!

As we pass the offering plate here in the sanctuary, we also pass a virtual offering plate to those worshiping with us on YouTube Live. We invite you to give by mailing your offering to the church or dropping it off at the church during the week, or by going to the Hagerstowncob website.

Offertory "The Great Commission" (Livingston)
***Doxology #119** "Praise God from whom"

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Eternal Creator, we want to climb to high places and experience your glory. Empower us to be your witnesses and go out to make more witnesses. Please Lord, lead the way. We give you our heart, our will and these offerings, trusting that they will supply for your mission and works. In your name we pray, Jesus. Amen.

MORNING ANTHEM "Go Ye, Go Ye into the World"
Temple Choir

(Sleeth)

A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE CHILDREN

SHARING OUR JOYS, CONCERNS, AND HOPES

*Please remember our worship is also on YouTube and our website.
Please do not share any personal information you do not want to be made public.
An usher will hold the microphone for you while you share.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN "Lead me to Calvary" (see insert)

SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 28:16-20 NT 34

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him, but they doubted.

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

MESSAGE "What the Church Must Remember"
Pastor Eddie Edmonds

***HYMN #322** "The church's one foundation"

[Verse 1]

*The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord.
She is his new creation by water and the word.
From heav'n he came and sought her to be his holy bride;
with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.*

[Verse 2]

*Elect from ev'ry nation yet one o'er all the earth,
her charter of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with ev'ry grace endued.*

[Verse 3]

*Though with a scornful wonder the world sees her oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,*

*yet saints their watch are keeping, their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.*

[Verse 4]

*'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace forevermore,
till with the vision glorious her longing eyes are bless'd,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.*

[Verse 5]

*Yet she on earth hath union with the God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.*

*Oh, happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.*

*BENEDICTION

*After the Benediction, you may be seated.
Please continue in a spirit of worship as we listen to the Postlude music.*

POSTLUDE "The Great Commission" (Livingston)

(Call to Worship by: Arlene Mark, "Words for Worship, #78; Other worship Resources from "Breakthrough", United Methodists of Greater New Jersey.)

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*\*Please rise — in body or spirit — as an act of worship  
Thank you for joining us in worship today.*

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We welcome you to our church and Rejoice in your participation with us in worship. It is our prayer that you will experience the presence of God's Spirit and that it will equip you for service and ministry in the week ahead. Our Pastor, Deacons, and Cluster Leaders are available after worship and during the week to listen and assist you in your Christian pilgrimage.

THE ANNOUNCER February 15, 2026

If you placed someone on the prayer list and they are now celebrating a recovery and would like their name taken off the list, please contact the church office.

If you or a loved one has surgery scheduled, is hospitalized, or would like a visit from the pastor, please notify the church.

"Take A Moment" Let this be our daily Take a Moment prayer for the week beginning Sunday, February 15 - I long to be bound to you, O Lord, each and every moment of my life. Throughout the day, I look to you...for you fill my heart with joy, and my spirit with assurances that I am loved by you, and that means more to me than anything else. Your love reaches me in spiritual ways that are difficult to describe; and through natural agents like friends, family, nature and experiences. I want everyone in the world to know your love; but unfortunately self-righteousness and animosity has taken over much of our culture. It's heartbreaking, O God. Make me an agent of your love. Use me...along with other brothers and sisters in Christ...to help build love and unity in a world that is otherwise very divided. Help us to show the world that with you and your love at the center of our existence together...we can rise above those things that divide us. It's with hope that I offer this prayer. Amen.

Attendance. Please sign the attendance rosters found at the end of your pew, or possibly in the hymnal rack, and pass it down the row so everyone can sign.

Our thanks to Linda Baker for being our worship leader today and to the Temple Choir for our morning anthem.

Hagerstown
Church of the Brethren
15 S. Mulberry Street,
Hagerstown, Maryland
21740
301-733-3565

Office: Tuesday—Friday
Flexible hours
(appointments welcome/
call ahead)

Morning Praise Worship
at 8:30 AM
Sunday School at 9:30 AM
Worship and YouTube Live at
10:45 AM

www.hagerstowncob.org

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hagerstowncob](http://www.facebook.com/hagerstowncob)

[www.youtube.com/
@hagerstowncob](http://www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob)

Twyla Rowe
Pastor

Allyson McPeak
Administrative Assistant

Burton Young
Director of
Music Ministries

Don Rowe
Interior Esthetics
Technician

Today we welcome Pastor Eddie Edmonds to our pulpit. Thank you Eddie for being with us while Pastor Twyla is on vacation.

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the glory of God and in memory of Bertha Lindsay by Sharon and Ralph Stottlemeyer.

TODAY—The Spiritual Nurture Team invites you to a luncheon in the Fellowship Hall directly following the late service worship to celebrate Valentine's day and the love for our congregation.

Ash Wednesday Service will be held on February 18th at 7PM in the Sanctuary

- Lenten Services will be held on March 4, 11, 18, & 25

Our guest speakers are as follows:

- March 4—Chris Stockslager
- March 11—John Miller
- March 18—Brenda Shane & Becky Jackson
- March 25—Dennis Browne

Cookies are also needed for our Lenten services. Sign-up sheets can be found in the west entrance or fellowship hall closer to March.

ALL EASTER FLOWER ORDERS are due by next Sunday, February 22nd.



Junior Church will be held next Sunday for children ages Kindergarten through the sixth grade. We will gather in the Children's Church Room (Room #203). (Parents may, of course, opt to keep their child in worship with them especially if the child is uncertain about going.) If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Brenda Shane. **Junior Church is held the second and fourth Sunday of each month.**

Friends in Faith (Widows & Widowers)—Tuesday, March 10th at 12pm we will be having a luncheon in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish to share. A sign-up sheet will be in the west entrance and fellowship hall soon. Any questions, please contact Nancy Gingrich, Robin Davies, Suzie Wolfe, Ann Platou, or Mary Means.

Volunteers Needed—The Flower and Altar committee is looking for a volunteer for the month of **January and October**. If you're interested, please contact Cinnamon Shay.

2026 Altar Flowers—If you would like to place flowers on the altar in memory, celebration, or honor of a loved one, the Flower and Altar Committee have the following Sunday dates available in 2026: **May 3, August 30, & November 29**. If you are interested, please contact Cinnamon Shay at 301-730-8499 or email cinnamongirl@myactv.net

The 2026 Pocket Directories are now available. You can find copies in the wing of the sanctuary or in the fellowship hall.

Our service week at the REACH Cold Weather Shelter is March 8-15, 2026. The volunteer response has been exceptional this year! Thanks to so many of you, almost all volunteer tasks have been filled! What a blessing! We will be collecting items for REACH from February 15 through March 8. A box is located in the west entrance for you to place your donations. A list of REACH needs is in the bulletin. Please note, individual personal care items are preferred. Thank you to much for your support of the REACH Cold Weather Shelter!

Cash for Causes/Martin's Gift Card Program. Purchase Martin's gift cards to take to the store to pay for your groceries or gas, and 5% of the face value of the gift card is a donation to the church and goes toward your yearly charitable contribution. To purchase a card, please contact Donnie Maas (240-866-1077). We can make arrangements to leave cards in your church mailbox or mail them to you.

We're in the season for high heating costs. We remind everyone to please keep doors closed to the sanctuary, fellowship hall, church entrances, hallways, and church office. All classroom doors (2nd and 3rd floor) should stay open. Thank you for your awareness and cooperation.

Printed copies of Leadership and Ministry team meeting minutes are available in the west entrance. The holders are located on the wall beside the bulletin board.

Because winter weather is here, we'd like to pass along a gentle reminder to drive slowly in our parking lot, especially when it's snow-covered or icy. Always be on alert for children, pedestrians, dogs, cats, and those less mindful than you are of the pavement surface conditions.

Please remember to keep the administrative assistant updated on when and where meetings/events are being held. Please email or call the Administrative Assistant with information that needs added to the church calendar. **301-733-3565 or secretaryhcob@gmail.com.** Thank you!

Church mailboxes. Everyone is welcome to use the mailboxes. If you would like to be added or taken off the list, please contact Mary Means. If you have a mailbox, we ask that you be willing to monitor it. Any mail that is left in the mailboxes after a three-month period will be disposed of. The mailboxes are located in the hallway of the church office.

CALENDAR

Sunday, February 15

Pastor Vacation

8:30 am	Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall
9:30 am	Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:45 am	Worship, Sanctuary & YouTube (www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob)
12:00 pm	Newsletter Deadline
12:00 pm	Valentine's Bread & Soup Luncheon/Fellowship Hall

Monday, February 16

Pastor Vacation/Church office closed/Presidents' Day
1:00 pm GriefShare/Mullendore Room

Tuesday, February 17

Pastor Vacation

12:00 pm	Mary Martha Group/Mullendore Room
5:30 pm	S&O Meeting/Mullendore Room
6:30 pm	CE Meeting/Room 302

Wednesday, February 18

Pastor Vacation/Admin. Assistant/Work from home/Ash Wednesday
12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin submission announcements
7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service/Sanctuary

Thursday, February 19

Pastor Vacation

5:30 pm	Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm	Brethren Bells/Choir Room
7:30 pm	Temple Choir/Fellowship Hall

Friday, February 20

Pastor Vacation

8:00 am	Bulletin prep/Church office
1:00 pm	Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot (1-3pm)

Saturday, February 21

Pastor Vacation

Sunday, February 22

Pastor Vacation/Easter Flower Orders Due/Junior Church
8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall
9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & YouTube (www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob)

Remember our weekday schedule is subject to rapid change.

You may mail your offering to
15 S. Mulberry Street,
Hagerstown MD 21740
OR

you can make a secure offering
donation on our website using
Breeze www.hagerstowncob.org

The church calendar is online at
www.hagerstowncob.org.
Click the calendar tab.

2026 Reach's Cold Weather Shelter Needs List

Personal Care

- ◆ Razors
- ◆ Lotion
- ◆ Tampons

Food & Drink

- ◆ Cereal
- ◆ Coffee, Regular or Decaf
- ◆ Non-dairy Creamer
- ◆ Paper Plates of any size

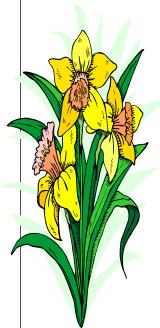
Thank you for your support!

Cleaning Supplies

- ◆ Napkins
- ◆ Paper towels
- ◆ Laundry Pods

Your name: _____

Amount enclosed _____



The Easter season is approaching and it is time to order Easter flowers. Everyone is invited to purchase a flower for Easter morning. Flowers are as priced below and may be purchased as a memorial, tribute, or as a thank you. Return this completed form and your check made out to Hagerstown Church of the Brethren. Form may be either placed in the offering or mailed to: Hagerstown Church of the Brethren, 15 S. Mulberry St., Hagerstown MD 21740.

All orders must be received by or on Sunday, February 22, 2026. Payment must accompany this form. We need to order early so the greenhouse can place the order with its supplier and get our flowers here on time.

Lilies: White only Number of plants \$12.25/each

Mums: Yellow Number of plants \$11.00/each
Purple Number of plants \$11.00/each

Pink Tulips: Number of plants \$11.00/each

“Pansy Gardens” Number of pots @ \$11.75/each
(Mini daffs and pansies in the same planter)

(please print)

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN TRIBUTE TO: _____

THANKS TO: _____



We grieve many things in life, but the loss of a loved one is probably the most devastating. As a result, the grief journey is a painful and lonely one. GriefShare is an international faith-based ministry that provides valuable tools to anyone who has lost a spouse, parent, child, sibling or other family member or friend, even if that loss is not recent. Our HCOB team offers a safe, welcoming space where people understand the heavy emotions of grief and where participants can find support in the company of others also on their grief journeys. If you or someone you know has lost a loved one, please share this information and consider attending. We encourage you to bring a family member or friend so they can better understand your loss and become an even greater support for you.

Our spring session of GriefShare will begin on Monday, Feb. 16, and continue each Monday afternoon through May 11, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. in the Mullendore Room. Cost of the session is free, but we gladly will accept a \$10 donation toward materials. You may join the group at any time during the 13 weeks, but we ask that you commit to attending at least 3 consecutive weeks. GriefShare recommends repeating the 13-week course a second time to absorb even more of the content, so if you have participated in GriefShare before and wish to attend again, we welcome you.

Register at www.griefshare.org. If you have any questions about the program, see Pastor Twyla or Debbie Nycum.

Lead Me to Calvary

Lead Me to Calvary

1 King of my life, I crown thee now, thine shall the glo - ry be;
2 Show me the tomb where thou wast laid, ten - der - ly mourned and wept;
3 Let me, like Ma - ry through the gloom, come with a gift to thee;
4 May I be wil - ling, Lord, to bear dai - ly my cross for thee;

lest I for - get thy thorn-crowned brow, lead me to Cal - va - ry.
an - gels in robes of light ar - rayed guar - ded thee while thou slept.
show to me now the emp - ty tomb, lead me to Cal - va - ry.
e - ven thy cup of grief to share, thou hast borne all for me.

Refrain

Lest I for - get Geth - se - ma - ne, lest I for - get thine a - go - ny,
lest I for - get thy love for me, lead me to Cal - va - ry.

Text: Jennie E. Hussey (1874-1958)
Tune: William J. Kirkpatrick (1838-1921)



CM
DUNCANNON
www.hymnary.org/text/king_of_my_life_i_crown_thee_now

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