

## 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.

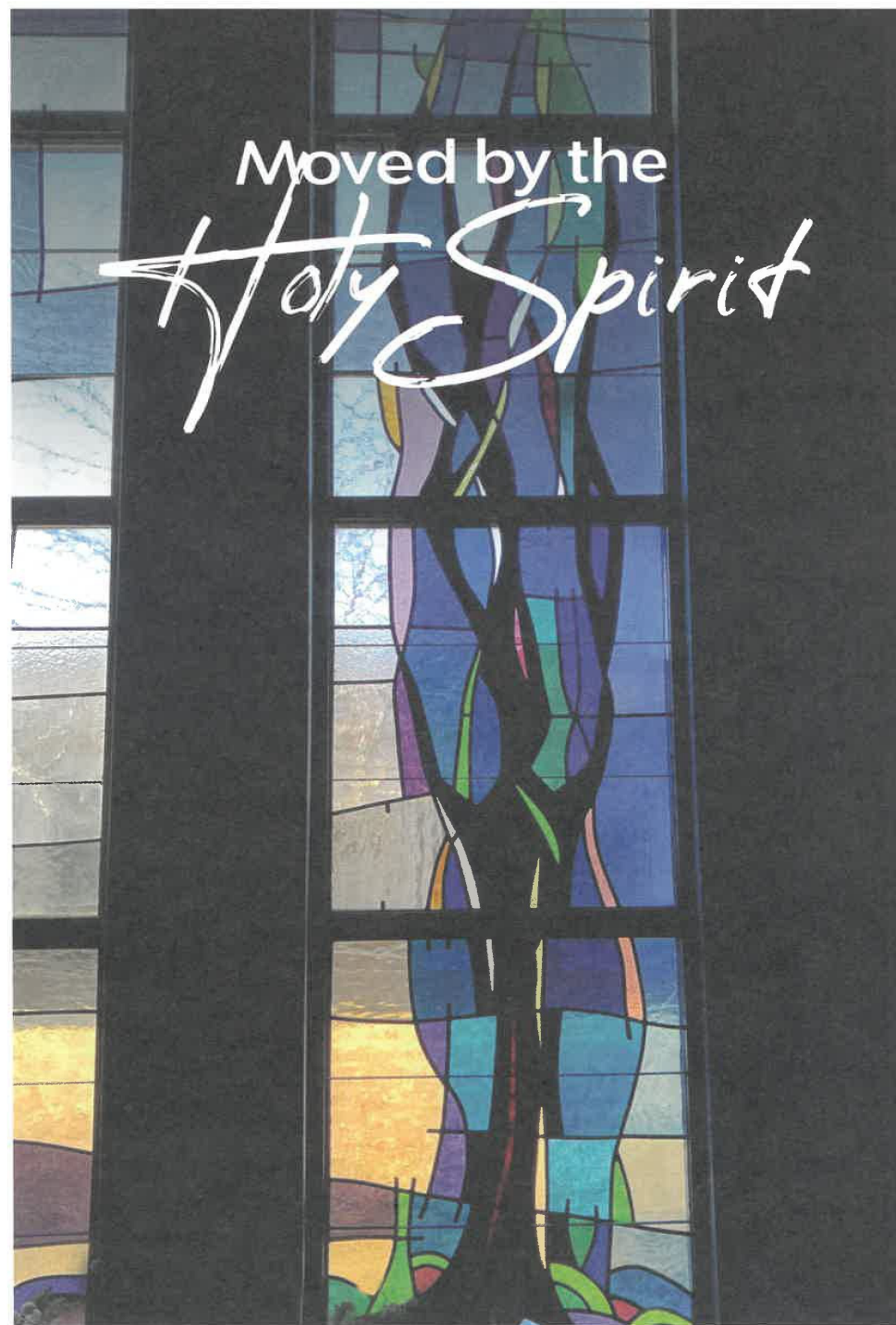
The author of our text (2 Peter 1:16-21) was writing to a church that expected Jesus to return within the first Christian generation, as he seemed to suggest to Peter, James, and John just before his Transfiguration: “Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they 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

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**MORNING WORSHIP**

**10:45 AM**

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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.

\*Please rise — in body or spirit — as an act of worship  
Thank you for joining us in worship today.  
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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](http://www.hagerstowncob.org)

[www.facebook.com/  
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

*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.

**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](mailto: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](http://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](http://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](http://www.hagerstowncob.org)

The church calendar is online at  
[www.hagerstowncob.org](http://www.hagerstowncob.org).  
Click the calendar tab.

## 2026 Reach's Cold Weather Shelter Needs List

### Personal Care

- ♦ Razors
- ♦ Lotion
- ♦ Tampons

### Cleaning Supplies

- ♦ Napkins
- ♦ Paper towels
- ♦ Laundry Pods

### Food & Drink

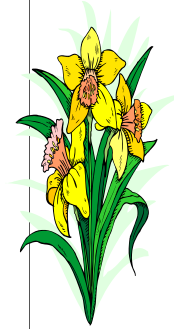
- ♦ Cereal
- ♦ Coffee, Regular or Decaf
- ♦ Non-dairy Creamer
- ♦ Paper Plates of any size

Thank you for your support!

### *Easter Flowers Order Form*

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:** \_\_\_\_\_

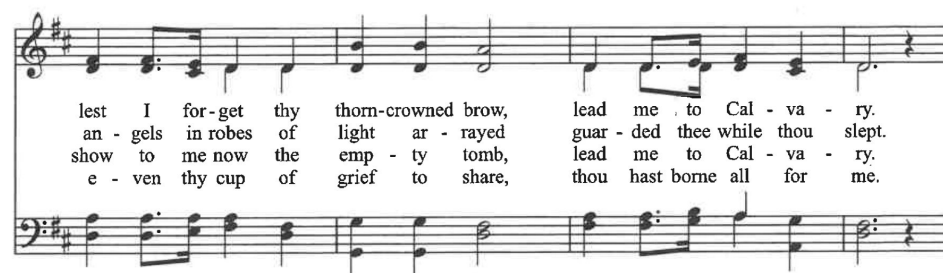
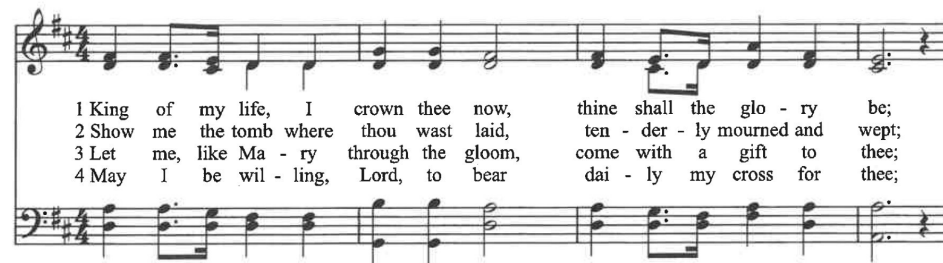


We grieve many things in life, but the loss of a loved one is probably the most devastating. As a result, the grief journey is a painful and lonely one. GriefShare is an international faith-based ministry that provides valuable tools to anyone who has lost a spouse, parent, child, sibling or other family 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.

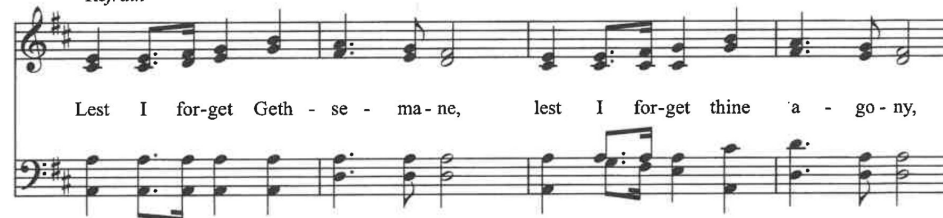
**Our spring session of GriefShare will begin on Monday, Feb. 16, and continue each Monday afternoon through May 11, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. in the Mullendore Room.** Cost of the session is free, but we gladly will accept a \$10 donation toward materials. You may join the group at any time during the 13 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](http://www.griefshare.org). If you have any questions about the program, see Pastor Twyla or Debbie Nycum.

## Lead Me to Calvary



### Refrain



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](http://www.hymnary.org/text/king_of_my_life_i_crown_thee_now)

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