

### DECEMBER 24, 2023, 8:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE

# GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

**PRELUDE** Es ist ein Ros (Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming) arr. John Leavitt

*Silent Night* Carillon Choir arr. Jason W. Krug

arr. Jim Hammerly

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### † LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Bryan and Blair Adkins

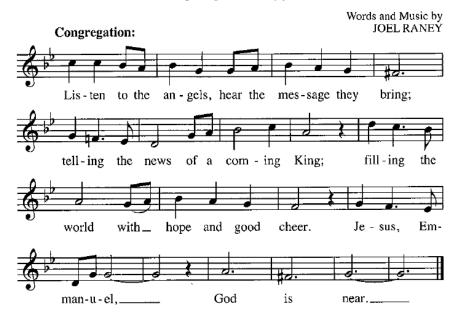
Tonight we gather with joyful hearts to receive God's greatest gift. Joy to the world, the Lord has come! Tonight we hear again the good news that was given for all people. Joy to the world, the Lord has come! Tonight we join in steadfast wonder at God's amazing love. Joy to the world, the Lord has come! Tonight we welcome the Savior whose birth has forever changed our lives. Joy to the world, the Lord has come!

### † CANDLE LIGHTING

### † **Refrain**

# God Is Near

A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent



### † CHRISTMAS PRAYER

## TIME OF CONFESSION

† Hymn

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Hymn 133

† CALL TO CONFESSION

Jason Cooper

### **† PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Great and glorious God, through Jesus Christ our Savior you have shown us that the blessed aged of grace has appeared and the hoped-for time of salvations has come. Yet we cling to the glories of the present age worldly passions and earthly pursuits, self-indulgent, crooked and ungodly ways. We choose to walk in darkness, unwilling to see the evil your light exposes. Cleanse us and free us; break the yoke we choose to carry through Christ who gave himself for us, so that we might be your people, holy and whole. Amen.

- † SILENT CONFESSION
- **†** Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news of great joy: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!

† THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

 †
 GLORIA
 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
 Hymn 119

 THE WORD

### TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

ANTHEM	Angels We Have Heard on High	arr. Susan E. Geschke
	Carillon Choir	

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

†

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†

†

DOXOLOGY †

ANTHEM

**OFFERTORY** 

### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

	Chancel Choir	
<b>PRAYERS OF</b>	THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER	Hymnal Page 35
	GO IN GOD'S NAME	
Hymn	Silent Night	Hymn 122
	(Sung in German, followed by verses 1-4 in English)	
CHARGE AN	D BENEDICTION	
Congrega	<b>TIONAL RESPONSE</b> Joy to the World	Hymn 134
POSTLUDE	Go Tell It on the Mountain	David M. Cherwien

Prince of Peace

SCRIPTURE READING

**CHRISTMAS HOMILY** 

† HYMN

### Were You There on That Christmas Night? ANTHEM Chancel Choir

Natalie Sleeth

Luke 2:1-20

Rev. Emily Cooper

Hymn 147

Hymn 606

arr. Patricia Mock & Faye Lopez

Page 4

arr. Bill Ingram

**GIVE THANKS TO GOD** 

The First Nowell

Please place your offering in the plate at the back of the sanctuary as you exit after worship or consider giving online at www.glenshawchurch.org.

Be Still, My Soul, Rejoice

Chancel Choir

**OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD** 

# PARTICIPANTS IN THIS EVENING'S SERVICE

### The Chancel Choir

Laura Davidson, Ray Hack, George Missey, Doug Orr, Karen Tabor, Marykay Vallo, Deb Vita, Sue Phillips, Thomas Marshall, April Klein, Sandi Salmon

### The Carillon Choir

Betty Miller, Anne Orr, Aline Raines, Alain Richarson, Deb Vita, Melissa Wiley, Sue Phillips, Lisa Orr

# **WORSHIP NOTES**

### The Paraments for the Season of Christmas

The paraments for Christmas Eve include several symbols that are descriptive of Christ and his ministry: the lamb represents Christ's work of redemption; the fish, symbolic not only of our call to be disciples, also evokes an ancient understanding of Jesus Christ, a play on the Greek word for fish - *ixthous*, whose letters, in Greek, create an acronym for *Jesus Christ, Son of God, our Savior*; the crown symbolizes Christ as King; the shepherd's crook reminds us that Christ is the Good Shepherd; the dove represents not only the Spirit, but also Christ as Prince of Peace; and the Greek letters Alpha and Omega remind us that Christ is the first and the last, the living one.

### My Christmas Gift to the Church

This offering helps support the on-going ministries of Glenshaw Presbyterian Church. Envelopes for *My Christmas Gift to the Church* can be found in your annual offering envelope box.

The church office will be closed from Monday, December 25 through Monday, January 1 and will reopen on Tuesday, January 2.

Have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from everyone at GPC!

Christmas Poinsettias

### IN MEMORY OF:

My deceased family: Mother, Father, Sister, Son, and Husband Given by Sandra Salmon

**Molly Missey** Given by George Missey

**Our Parents, Barry's sister Diane, and Jane's Brother Bo** Given by Barry and Jane Hackett

Lee Scott Stauffer, our much loved and missed husband, Dad, and Pap-Pap Given by The Stauffer and Sturges Families

**Our Parents: Dean and Pearl Orr, Evan Thomas** Given by Doug and Anne Orr

**Beloved members of the Repic and Farbacher Families** Given by Donna Repic

**For loved ones** Given by the Jenkins Family

**Donald J. Jr. and Dorothy J. Zahniser** Given by Son, Keith Zahniser and Family Our Pop-pop and father, Allen Travis Given by Jake and Terri McGee Thomas W. Golightly Given by Rev. Carolyn Jones

Margaret Duderstadt Given by Daughter, JoAnn Zahniser and Family

**Donald J. Zahniser** Given by Brother, Keith Zahniser and Family

Zachariah Andrew Stewart Given by Great-grandparents, Harry and Sherry Crenner

**Grandparents Sheets and Pearce** Given by Debbie

**Our parents, Ruth and Harvey Miller and "Tomie" and John Walter** Given by Ken and Betty Miller

Elton and Helen McGoun Given by their children, grandchildren

and great-grandchildren

**Russ and Grace McGoun** Given by the families of Kevin McGoun, Myron McGoun, and Alain Richardson

Loving memory of Jim Richardson Given by Alain Richardson

### IN HONOR OF:

**Tami Renner** Given by George Missey

**Our Children and Grandchildren** Given by Barry and Jane Hackett

**Our Nana and Mother, Nancy Travis!** Given by Jake and Terri McGee

### TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

Given by Rev. Tom and Audrey Clifton

Given by Chick and Pfeiffer

Given by Tom and Karen Tabor

Please remember to pick up your dedicated poinsettias after today's service.

Max, Piper, and Willie Given by Grandma

**Our children and their families** Given by Ken and Betty Miller

Mildred and Charles Sonberger Ellen and Joseph Luther Betty and Jack Hartman Given by Marcy Hammann



### **CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Emily Cooper, **Pastor** Corinne Adkins, **Director of Music & Organist** Lois Cridge, **Business Manager** Jennifer Zankey, **Office Manager** Fawn Pignoli, **Director of the GPC Early Learning Center** Frank Maksin, **Property Manager** Lia Knight, **A/V Technician** 



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