



*Advent at*  
*Glenshaw*  
Presbyterian Church

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DECEMBER 10, 2023, 10:30 AM  
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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**GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

**PRELUDE**

*The King Shall Come*  
Carillon Choir

arr. John A. Behnke

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHORAL INTRODUCTION**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE**

Lois & Al Cridge & granddaughters,  
Rose & Lily Florentine

Advent is a time to hear again of God's redeeming work.

**Give us ears, O LORD, and help us to hear.**

Advent is a time to hear again of God's reconciling love.

**Give us ears, O LORD, and help us to hear.**

Advent is a time to hear again of God's unmerited grace.

**Give us ears, O LORD, and help us to hear.**

Advent is a time to hear again of our ultimate hope.

**Give us ears, O LORD, and help us to hear.**

**CANDLE LIGHTING**




## REFRAIN

# God Is Near

*A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent*

Words and Music by  
JOEL RANEY

**Congregation:**



Lis - ten to the an - gels, hear the mes - sage they bring;  
tell - ing the news of a com - ing King; fill - ing the  
world with\_ hope and good cheer. Je - sus, Em -  
man - u - el, \_\_\_\_\_ God is near. \_\_\_\_\_



## ADVENT PRAYER

## TIME OF CONFESSION



### HYMN

*Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*

**Hymn 107**



### CALL TO CONFESSION

Lily Florentine



### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Refining God, you have sent us prophets and we have not listened. We have not always determined what is best or made way for your reign in our lives, our church, and our society. Forgive us, we pray, and renew your covenant within us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

† SILENT CONFESSION

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

† CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Gloria Patri Hymn 581

## THE WORD

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

SPECIAL MUSIC *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* arr. John A. Behnke  
Carillon Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 40:1-11

NEW TESTAMENT READING Mark 1:1-8

SERMON Be Prepared! Elizabeth Nicodemus

† HYMN *Comfort, Comfort Now My People* Hymn 87

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Apostles' Creed Hymnal Page 35

## GIVE THANKS TO GOD

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

*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](http://www.glenshawchurch.org).*

**OFFERTORY**

*Prepare the Way, O Zion*  
Chancel Choir

arr. Sondra K. Tucker

† **DOXOLOGY** **Hymn 606**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION**

**SHARING THE JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER** **Hymnal Page 35**

**GO IN GOD'S NAME**

† **SENDING HYMN** *People, Look East* **Hymn 105**

† **CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

† **POSTLUDE** *People, Look East* arr. Joseph Bertolozzi

**WORSHIP NOTES**

**ADVENT LIGHTING BELL RINGERS:** Alain Richardson and Melissa Wiley

**TODAY WE WELCOME ELIZABETH NICODEMUS BACK TO GPC!**

Elizabeth graduated from Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in May with a Masters of Divinity and am currently in the ordination process for the PC(USA), as well as seeking a Children and Youth Ministry Job. She also works with toddlers at Hiland Child Care Center in the North Hills.

**ADVENT PARAMENTS**

The Advent paraments employ the vast hues of purple to remind us that the child whose humble birth we await is our Lord and King. Amidst the purple, blue is interjected as a symbol of hope and expectation, pointing us toward heaven. As your eye moves across the chancel, you will notice that the deep purples become increasingly brighter, reminding us of the Advent journey from darkness into light. The cross on the Pastor's stole is an anchor cross, a traditional symbol of our hope in Christ.

† *Those who are able are invited to stand.*

## THE ADVENT CANDLES

In the ancient world, various peoples lit fires to mark the turning of the light into winter's dark season and to pray for the return of the light. The church has adapted that practice in the lighting of the Advent wreath. To us, these candles are signs of the growing light of Christ who is coming again in all fullness into the darkness of our world. Until the dawning of that Great Day, we watch and wait in Holy Spirit for Christ's coming into the darkness of our world, lighting candles of hope, peace, joy, and love; and remembering the promises of God with prayer.

## CHILDREN'S CHRIST CANDLES

Parents and grandparents, please have your children look for the Christ candle near the activity bags. They can light their own tea candle and place it with the larger one.

**VISITORS**, please **complete a visitor card found** in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. We are glad to have you worship with us!

**WE RECORD OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE.** We invite each member of your family in attendance to sign the friendship pad at the end of each pew. We are glad to have you worship with us!

## PERSONAL PRIVACY DURING LIVESTREAM OF SUNDAY WORSHIP

It is important for our members, guests, and visitors to be aware that we livestream our worship service. If you are joining us for in person worship but prefer not to appear on the livestream video, we have 2 specific areas in the sanctuary where you can sit comfortably and not appear on the video. The first area is the left transept on the main floor and the second is the center balcony area. An usher will be happy to help you find these areas.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PER CAPITA** for 2023 is \$35.70

## CHANCEL FLOWERS

We are now accepting orders for chancel flowers to brighten our sanctuary during our Sunday services. The cost to sponsor both arrangements dedicated to a loved one, to the Glory of God, or any dedication so desired each week is \$55. **To order flowers, please contact Jennifer in the church office** by calling 412-486-8400 ext. 110 or emailing [jennifer@glenshawchurch.org](mailto:jennifer@glenshawchurch.org) by 4:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before your desired Sunday

## CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



Pink Christmas poinsettias will be decorating our sanctuary during the Christmas season this year. Plants will be in a 6" pot at \$7.00 each. Greenhouse deadline will be **Sunday, December 10th**. To order, please fill out an envelope in the narthex with your payment and place in offering plate or bring/send to the church office. Be sure to indicate the exact wording you prefer and who is giving the plants.

## TASTE OF CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE December 10

The DEACONS free will offering HOLIDAY BAKE SALE will be TODAY after worship in the parlor. If you did not know, maintenance of our church medical supplies is a Deacon responsibility. The proceeds of this bake sale will go toward replacing our life saving automated external defibrillator (AED) that will expire/outdate in early spring. We invite you to support this cause by taking home some yummy irresistible Tastes of Christmas goodies and we will even put a bow on your choices if you care to gift them! If you want to contribute to the (AED) but can not be in church that Sunday, you may make a free will offering with check made payable to Glenshaw Presbyterian Church Deacons with (AED) on the memo line. Thank you very much!

## GPC CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

This season is full of traditions. I am excited to suggest a new tradition for us here at Glenshaw Presbyterian Church. Starting in December, I am asking that each family bring an ornament with their name on it and hang it on the Christmas Tree in the Narthex. It can be any type of ornament that you choose, just make sure to put your name on it. We will decorate the tree that had the giving tree tags with the ornaments we bring from home. Starting the Sunday after Christmas, folks who brought an ornament in will select one ornament to take home with them. The family whose name is listed on the ornament that you take home is the family that you will pray for throughout the new year. I am hoping it will be a wonderful way to connect our community through prayer.

- Pastor Emily

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE** who made this past Sunday's *Belle Voci* concert a success. First of all, thanks to my fellow GPC Staff who worked behind the scenes and supported the event. Thanks to all of the wonderful cookie bakers and those who helped serve at the reception. It was beautiful and delicious! Shout out to everyone who helped move things in the Sanctuary and decorate the Parlor. And finally, thank you to the members who attended the concert and for bringing friends, family and neighbors. By ticket and performer count, there were 286 people at the concert. Thank you!

- Corinne

# THIS WEEK AT GLENSHAW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## TODAY

**December 10, 2023**

- 9:30 AM Adult Education in the Parlor
- 9:30 AM Carillon Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 10:30 AM Worship Service
- 11:30 AM Deacon's Cookie Walk and Fellowship in the Parlor

## SUNDAY

**December 17, 2023**

- 9:30 AM Adult Education in the Parlor
- 9:30 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 10:30 AM Worship Service
- 11:30 AM Fellowship in the Parlor

### GPC OFFICE HOURS :

Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.



## *Christmas and Epiphany Season*

### **Sunday, December 24th, Christmas Eve**

Sunday morning service will be held at 10:30 a.m.  
A traditional candle-lit service will be held at 8:00 p.m.

### **Sunday December 31st, New Year's Day**

There will be a non-traditional and informal worship service at 10:30 a.m.

### **Sunday January 7th, Epiphany**

We will celebrate the beginning of the season of Epiphany with a traditional communion worship service.

Welcoming all who seek to know God,  
Glenshaw Presbyterian Church invites  
individuals and families to join in our  
journey of faith as we share the love of  
Jesus Christ with one another, the  
community, and the world.



### **The GPC Session**

Sherry Martin, Clerk of Session

#### **Class of 2024**

Alain Richardson  
Brian Helfferich  
April Klein  
Chick Pfeiffer

#### **Class of 2025**

Alan Cridge  
Mark Held  
Sherry Martin  
Donna Walker

#### **Class of 2026**

Carla Berg  
Ray Hack  
Betty Miller  
Tom Tabor

### **----- CHURCH STAFF -----**

Rev. Emily Cooper, *Pastor*

Cell phone: 412-334-2730

Corinne Adkins, *Director of Music & Organist*

Lois Cridge, *Business Manager*

Jennifer Zanke, *Office Manager*

Fawn Pignoli, *Director of the GPC Early Learning Center*

Frank Maksin, *Property Manager*

Lia Knight, *A/V Tech*

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