



Advent at
Glenshaw
Presbyterian Church

DECEMBER 24, 2023, 10:30 AM
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

arr. Heather Sorenson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Dave, Danielle & daughters,
Jane & Samantha Weber

During Advent we remember God's faithfulness shown to us.

Help our lives to reflect your ways, O Lord.

During Advent we remember God's humility set before us.

Help our lives to reflect your ways, O Lord.

During Advent we remember God's commands, spoken to us.

Help our lives to reflect your ways, O Lord.

During Advent we remember God's incredible love shared with us.

Help our lives to reflect your ways, O Lord.

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

While We Are Waiting, Come

Hymn 92



CALL TO CONFESSION

Dave Weber



PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God our Savior, we ask for your mercy. Though we have heard Mary's son, we still seek security in pride and power and possessions. Though we know your story, we resist the costs of following you. We pass by those considered lowly in this world. We turn away from the hungry people who still wait to be filled. Forgive us, we pray. Help us to work for the justice you intend. Make us messengers of the peace you bring. As we wait for you, turn our apathy into acts of love and service. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. Amen.



SILENT CONFESSION

† Those who are able are invited to stand.

† **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

God forgives all our sins and promises to bring us everlasting life.
Thanks be to God!

† **THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

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

† **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** Gloria Patri **Hymn 581**

AN ABBREVIATED LESSONS AND CAROLS

1ST LESSON Adam and Eve Genesis 3:8-15, 17-19

CHORAL ANTHEM *Veni, Jesu* L. Cherubini / arr. Becki Slagle Mayo
Chancel Choir

2ND LESSON God's Promise to Abraham Genesis 22:15-18

CAROL *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* **Hymn 129**

3RD LESSON Light in Darkness Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

CAROL *He Came Down* **Hymn 137**

4TH LESSON Mary and the Angel Luke 1:26-35, 38

CAROL *Breath of Heaven* Chris Eaton and Amy Grant
Marykay Vallo, contralto

5TH LESSON Jesus' Birth Luke 2:1-7

CAROL *O Little Town of Bethlehem* **Hymn 121**

6TH LESSON Magi Matthew 2:1-11

CAROL *There's a Star in the East* **Hymn 135**

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.*

OFFERTORY *Une flambeau, Jeannette, Isabella!* arr. Christopher Uehlein

† 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** *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* **Hymn 132**

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

† **POSTLUDE** *In dulci jubilo (Good Christian Friends, Rejoice)* arr. Norman Dello Joio

WORSHIP NOTES

ADVENT PARAMETERS

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.

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

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Thank you for ordering poinsettias this Christmas season! Please remember to take yours home **after the Christmas Eve service.**

LITURGISTS NEEDED

We need to expand our list of liturgist volunteers. Each Sunday we are grateful to everyone who aids in leading worship. One important role is that of liturgist. This person helps to lead the liturgy along with Pastor Emily. Any member is able to participate, as you don't need to be an Elder or Deacon to assist, and the liturgy text will be provided for you. Please consider this worship role!

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 by 4:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before your desired Sunday.

PER CAPITA for 2024 is \$36.35.

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS OF GLENSHAW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our members enjoy the cards and/or visits from each one of you. Please place them in your heart and let them know they are being thought of by reaching out to them. Below is an updated homebound member list with current addresses and telephone numbers. Please contact the church office if you know someone to include on the list of people that might like to hear from us.

Sandy Crynack

304 S. Magnolia Drive
Glenshaw, PA 15116
(412) 487-6204
Birthday: September 5

Dr. Robert and Karen Ford

1490 Highland Ave
Glenshaw, PA 15116
(724) 321-4530 (cell)

Ann Nicklas

1490 Highland Ave
Glenshaw, PA 15116
(724) 321-4530 (cell)
Birthday: February 19

Leslie Phillips

The Terrace of Jacksonville
10680 Old St. Augustine Road
Jacksonville, FL 32257

Grace Rihn

1330 Lindbergh Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15223
Birthdate: June 1st

Margaret Wiegand

Atria at Cranberry Woods
3020 Fairport Lane Apt. 241
Cranberry Township, PA 16066
(724) 776-2675
Birthday: May 21

THIS WEEK AT GLENSHAW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TODAY

December 24, 2023

- 9:30 AM Adult Education in the Parlor
- 9:30 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 10:30 AM Worship Service
- 8:00 PM Christmas Eve Service

SUNDAY

December 31, 2023

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

The church office will be closed **Thursday, December 21 through Monday January 1.**
Have a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

GPC OFFICE HOURS :

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



Christmas and Epiphany Season

Sunday, December 24th, Christmas Eve

A traditional candle-lit service will be held at 8:00 p.m.

Sunday December 31st, New Year's Eve

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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www.glenshawchurch.org • www.facebook.com/glenshawchurch