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DECEMBER 15, 2024, 10:30 AM  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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## GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

arr. Joel Raney

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL INTRO

*Christ Be Our Light*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Lois and Al Cridge  
and Rose Florentine

Advent is a time to awaken our spiritual senses.

**We stand in awe of your deeds, O Lord, repeat them in our day!**

Grant us vision to behold your glory.

**We stand in awe of your deeds, O Lord, repeat them in our day!**

Quiet us so we may hear your still, soft voice.

**We stand in awe of your deeds, O Lord, repeat them in our day!**

Make us vessels of your mercy, compassion, and grace.

**We stand in awe of your deeds, O Lord, repeat them in our day!**

For all of us eagerly watching for your glory in our midst:

**Grant that we might have the peace of Christ as we wait, the love of Christ as we act, and the grace of Christ as we speak.**

CANDLE LIGHTING



## REFRAIN

# Christ, Be Our Light!

*A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent*

Words and Music by  
BERNADETTE FARRELL

**Congregation:**

Christ, be our light! Shine in our  
hearts. Shine through the dark - ness.  
Christ, be our light! Shine in your  
Church gath - ered to - day.

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## ADVENT PRAYER



## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

Hymn 129



*Those who are able are invited to stand.*



## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Kip Fowler

Let us confess our sins to God, and ask for his forgiveness.

**Almighty God, you have called us to be your holy people, built on Jesus, the Rock of our salvation. Yet, we often seek to live according to our own sinful desires instead of following your holy will. We try to build our lives on the weak and crumbling foundations of earthly values and possessions. Have mercy on us, and forgive us. Strengthen us to live as your holy people, built on Jesus our Cornerstone.**

God has had mercy on us. He sent his Son, Jesus, our Savior, to be born among us. Jesus was the stone the builders rejected. Innocent of all sin, he bore our sins in his body on the cross. Our sins are washed away in his blood. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Lord Jesus, help us each day to build our lives on you, our Rock, our Foundation and our Cornerstone.**



## THE PEACE OF CHRIST

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

## THE WORD

### TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 51:1-3

### GOSPEL READING

Matthew 7:24-26

### SERMON

Rock of Ages

Rev. Emily Cooper



### HYMN

*Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

**Hymn 438**



### 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.glenshanchurch.org](http://www.glenshanchurch.org).*

**OFFERTORY**      *Comfort, Comfort Ye My People*      arr. D. Agerman & J. Martin  
Chancel Choir

† DOXOLOGY Hymn 606

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

## SHARING THE JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

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

## GO IN GOD'S NAME

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†      **SENDING HYMN**      *Prepare the Way, O Zion*      **Hymn 106**

† CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Jesus said, “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

**And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock."**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you **all**.

Amen.

†      **POSTLUDE**      *Prepare the Way, O Zion*      arr. Robert A. Hobby

## WORSHIP NOTES

**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!

### 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.

**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!

### CHILDREN'S CHRIST CANDLES

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### THE SEASON OF GIVING

During December the church offers several opportunities to give in ways that are meaningful and will further Christ's work in the world:

- The Christmas JOY Offering is 1 of 4 Special Offerings of the PC(USA); it helps support past, present and future church leaders
- My Christmas Gift to the Church helps support the on-going ministries of our church
- The Giving Catalog provides opportunities to give agricultural gifts, and gifts of livestock and water to those in need.

The Giving Catalog can be found on-line at <https://presbyteriangifts.pcusa.org/gifts/all/> . Envelopes for the Christmas JOY Offering and My Christmas Gift to the Church can be found in the narthex, your church envelopes, or you can donate online via the GPC website.

### **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.

### **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 sign up today on the sheet in the narthex!**

**PER CAPITA** for 2024 is \$36.35 and will increase to \$38.11 in 2025.

### **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.

### **TASTE OF THE HOLIDAYS BAKE SALE**

Calling all BAKERS and PARTAKERS! The Deacons request your presence for the TASTE OF THE HOLIDAYS Bake Sale on December 15th, 2024, immediately following the worship service in the Parlor. GPC is blessed to have so many culinary experts who love to share their masterpieces with the congregation! The Deacons will graciously help package any purchases made to give as gifts to others. To coordinate the donation of these sweet treats most efficiently, please email or call Darlene Hills at [hillsdl17@gmail.com](mailto:hillsdl17@gmail.com) or 412 486 8076. Please bring your goodies to the parlor BEFORE the church service on the 15th. If unable, just call Darlene for a pick up! THANK YOU! Your support will allow us to do HIS work through this DEACONS sponsored event!

# **THIS WEEK AT GLENSHAW PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**TODAY**                      **December 15, 2024**  
9:30 AM      Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary  
9:30 AM      Adult Sunday School  
10:30 AM      Sunday Worship Service  
11:30 AM      Taste of the Holidays Bake Sale

**MONDAY**                    **December 16, 2024**  
ALL DAY      Church Office Closed

**THURSDAY**                **December 19, 2024**  
6:30 PM      Carillon Choir Rehearsal  
7:15 PM      Chancel Choir Rehearsal

**SUNDAY**                    **December 22, 2024**  
9:30 AM      Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary  
9:30 AM      Adult Sunday School  
10:30 AM      Sunday Worship Service  
11:30 AM      Fellowship in the Parlor

The church office will be closed  
**Monday, December 23 through Wednesday, January 1.**  
Have a very Merry Christmas and a wonderful New Year!

**GPC OFFICE HOURS:**  
**Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

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 2025**

Alan Cridge  
Mark Held  
Sherry Martin  
Donna Walker

#### **Class of 2026**

Carla Berg  
Ray Hack  
Betty Miller  
Tom Tabor

#### **Class of 2027**

Larry Bock  
April Klein  
Chick Pfeiffer  
Alain Richardson

### **----- 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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