



GROSSE POINTE  
MEMORIAL CHURCH  
'A light by the lakeshore'

Service of Worship  
First Sunday of Advent  
December 1, 2024 | 10:30 am

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## Order of Service for the Worship of God

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.  
Please remember to silence electronic devices.*

PRELUDE – Improvisation on *Sanctus*

*Arr. Logan Hamilton*

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

*One:* Holy one of all, we come into your presence this morning.

*All:* We are confident that you will meet us here.

*One:* May this place be a sanctuary.

*All:* Let this be a haven filled with hope.

\*OPENING HYMN 440 – Jesus, Lover of My Soul  
(see bulletin page 8)

*Tune: Aberystwyth*

#### \*LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE (HOPE)

*One:* In the stillness of prayer, profound longings ascend to God on high. The fear of silence hangs in the air, as does the fear the answer may take us by surprise. As Advent dawns, hope is on the horizon casting light over the darkness of distress.

*All:* We light the candle of hope. May its light cast out our fear.

\*ADVENT RESPONSE 83 – Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

*Tune: Stuttgart*

*All:* Come, thou long-expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free;

from our fears and sins release us;  
let us find our rest in thee.

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Our prayer of confession is followed by a time for silent confession.*

*All:* God of forgiveness and mercy, you meet us when we linger in the darkness. Too often we are distracted by jealousies, hard quarrels, and ambitions that get in the way of our relationship with you and with one another. We hear your promises, Lord, but cower in fear instead of trusting in you. God of power and love, awaken us to hope and prepare us for your coming so that we may be ready to greet you in our Savior.

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

*One:* Amen. By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, and we know this because it already has. The way is lit and the path has been cleared for the forgiveness of our sins through the life, death, and resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ. It is the good news we celebrate today and every day. Friends, believe in the good news of the gospel.

*All:* In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*One:* The Psalmist reminds us; God will speak peace to the people who turn their hearts toward God in faith (Psalm 85:8). As peace is spoken to us, let us speak it to one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

*All:* And also with you.

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

*All:* Guiding God, without the presence of your Holy Spirit, we are hopelessly lost on this Advent journey. Come to us in this place as we gather around your Word. Open our hearts and minds to hear the message you have for us this day. Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING – Psalm 57**

(O.T. pages 495 – 496)

*After each reading:*

*One:* The Word of the Lord.

*All:* Thanks be to God!

**CHILDREN’S MINISTRY SONG 188 – Jesus Loves Me**

*Tune: Jesus Loves Me*

**CHILDREN’S TIME**

*Children ages 4-grade 2 may depart for “Children’s Church” held in room 301 after the children’s sermon. Parents/caregivers can pick up children from room 301 immediately following the service.*

**ANTHEM – Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**

*John Carter*

**GOSPEL READING – Luke 1: 5 – 25**

(N.T. pages 52 – 53)

**SERMON – The Fear of Unlikely Prayers**

Heather Thum – Gerber

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**ANTHEM AND OFFERING – O Sapientia**

*Nico Muhly*

O Sapientia, quae ex ore Altissimi prodisti,  
attingens a fine usque ad finem,  
fortiter suaviterque disponens omnia:  
veni ad docendum nos viam prudentiae.

O Wisdom,  
O Holy Word of God,  
You govern all creation with strong, yet tender care.  
Come and show your people the way to salvation

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**INVITATION**

**GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

*One:* The Lord be with you.

*All:* And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.  
All: **We lift them to the Lord.**  
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
All: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**  
One: ... who forever sing the glory of your name.

SANCTUS 559 – Holy, Holy, Holy  
(see bulletin page 9)

*Tune: Sanctus*

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND COMMUNION

*Please hold the (Gluten-free) bread and cup until invited to eat and drink by the worship leader so that we can all partake in communion together.*

COMMUNION HYMN 494 – Jesus, Thou Joy of loving Hearts  
(see bulletin page 10)

*Tune: Quebec*

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

#### TAKING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

\*CLOSING HYMN – Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord  
(see bulletin page 11)

*Tune: Woodland*

#### \*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE – March on *Woodland*

*Arr. Logan Hamilton*

**This Morning's Music:** Celebrates the beginning of Advent as we prepare and reflect on the journey to Christ's Birth! The anthem is a setting of the beloved advent carol "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus" by John Carter. The commonly associated tune Hyfyrdol with this text is morphed in various ways with the trio texture in the voices, accompanied at the piano. The offertory comes from one of the "O Antiphons" that proclaim of Christ's coming and promises. In Nico Muhly's (b. 1981) setting of the first antiphon, O Sapientia, the soloist sings the plainchant unaccompanied, while the organ plays a commentary that takes on a contemplative nature using flutes droning to accompany the hautbois, or oboe stop that recalls the plainchant sung by the soloist.

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## WELCOME TO GPMC

Grosse Pointe Memorial Church is a member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and one of its vibrant congregations. For 159 years, we have been a light by the lakeshore for Jesus Christ, through our worship, education, outreach, and community life. We give thanks to God that you joined us today and we pray you will receive a sense of God's loving Spirit from your time with us. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

**Our Mission and Vision Statement:** Sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked as Christ's own forever, we are called and committed to living out our love for God. Through worship, study and service, we strive to continue God's transforming work by worshiping God joyfully, welcoming others graciously, supporting one another lovingly, and faithfully responding to our community and world with compassion.

**Inclusion Statement:** As a member of the Presbyterian Church (USA), GPMC is an inclusive community of faith, welcoming people of all races, gender identities, and sexual orientation, believing that God gifts and calls everyone into beloved service and community with God and others.

**Leading and Assisting in Worship:** Jeff Lincicome, Heather Thum - Gerber, Carol Marks, liturgists; the Gerber family, Advent candle lighters; Kathy Kurap, lay reader; Kayla Willaims, alto soloist; Logan Hamilton, Interim Minister of Music and Organist; The Sanctuary Choir.

**Today's Sanctuary flowers** are given in loving memory of **Margaret and Robert Mozena** by Susan and John Mozena.

**Hearing assistance system in the Sanctuary:** These devices, pieces and lanyards are on the credenza towards the front of the Sanctuary. If you have any questions, please see one of the ushers.

**Infant and toddler room** is available in room 112 during the service should you prefer to leave your child with our wonderful caregivers.

**Worship kits** for children to use during worship are in blue bags located at each of the entrances.



Help GPMC shine bright and share the light by making your 2025 pledge. Scan the QR code, visit <https://gpmchurch.org/pledge-form/>, call the church office at 313.882.5330, or return your pledge envelope either in person or via mail. Thank you for helping us be a light by the lakeshore.

## ADVENT SERMON SERIES

### *Facing Our Fears*

*It is said that the phrase "Do not be afraid" is the most often quoted phrase in all the Bible. Clearly God was on to us since we spend much of our earthly life living with the aching knowledge that life will bring challenge, uncertainty and fear. It shouldn't surprise us then that facing our fears is also a common theme in the Advent story, as God invites the players in this cosmic drama to look at their fears square in the face and be changes. Join us in worship as we take a look at these "Fear not!" passages in the Advent story as we learn to face the fears that haunt us today.*

## WHAT'S HAPPENING TODAY AT GPMC?

10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary & Livestreamed
11:30 am	Advent Wreath Making Event	Fellowship Hall
5:00 pm	Camino de Santiago Dinner	Fellowship Hall

# 440 Jesus, Lover of My Soul

1 Je - sus, lov - er of my soul, let me to thy bos - om fly,  
 2 Oth - er ref - uge have I none; hangs my help - less soul on thee.  
 3 Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in thee I find.  
 4 Plen - teous grace with thee is found, grace to cov - er all my sin.

while the near - er wa - ters roll, while the temp - est still is high.  
 Leave, ah! leave me not a - lone; still sup - port and com - fort me.  
 Raise the fall - en, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.  
 Let the heal - ing streams a - bound; make and keep me pure with - in.

Hide me, O my Sav - ior, hide, till the storm of life is past.  
 All my trust on thee is stayed; all my help from thee I bring.  
 Just and ho - ly is thy name; I am all un - righ - teous - ness.  
 Thou of life the foun - tain art; free - ly let me take of thee.

Safe in - to the ha - ven guide. O re - ceive my soul at last!  
 Cov - er my de - fense - less head with the shad - ow of thy wing.  
 False and full of sin I am; thou art full of truth and grace.  
 Spring thou up with - in my heart. Rise to all e - ter - ni - ty.

# Holy, Holy, Holy 559

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and

earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

# Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts 494

1 Je - sus, thou joy of lov - ing hearts, thou fount of  
 2 Thy truth un - changed hath ev - er stood; thou sav - est  
 3 We taste thee, O thou liv - ing bread, and long to  
 4 Our rest - less spir - its yearn for thee, wher - e'er our  
 5 O Je - sus, ev - er with us stay; make all our

life, thou light of all, from the best bliss that  
 those that on thee call; to them that seek thee  
 feast up - on thee still; we drink of thee, the  
 change - ful lot is cast, glad when thy gra - cious  
 mo - ments calm and bright. O chase the night of

earth im - parts we turn, un - filled, to heed thy call.  
 thou art good, to them that find thee, all in all.  
 foun - tain - head, and thirst our souls from thee to fill.  
 smile we see, blest when our faith can hold thee fast.  
 sin a - way; shed o'er the world thy ho - ly light.

# 26 Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord

*My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. Luke 1:46, 47*

*Unison*

1. Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord: un - num - bered  
 2. Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his name: make known his  
 3. Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of his might: pow'rs and do -  
 4. Tell out, my soul, the glo - ries of his word: firm is his

bles - sings give my spir - it voice; ten - der to me the  
 might, the deeds his arm has done; his mer - cy sure, from  
 min - ions lay their glo - ry by; proud hearts and stub - born  
 prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure. Tell out, my soul, the

prom - ise of his word; in God my Sav - ior shall my heart re - joice.  
 age to age the same; his ho - ly name, the Lord, the Might - y One.  
 wills are put to flight, the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.  
 great - ness of the Lord to chil - dren's chil - dren and for - ev - er - more.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

*Praying for one another is an important and loving gift. The staff of GPMC meets every Tuesday morning and offers prayers for members of the congregation. If you would like to add a person to our prayers or on the prayer list in the Sunday bulletin, please call Carol Marks 313.882.5330 ex. 127 or email her at [cmarks@gpmchurch.org](mailto:cmarks@gpmchurch.org). May God continue to surround you with love and care.*

**Grosse Pointe Memorial Church is a Stephen Ministry congregation.**

**Recent Prayer Requests for:** Lori Conway (Jim Conway's sister-in-law), Ron Dollette, Jane Dow, Gwen Dunlap (Karen and Wayne Pratt's sister), Susan Feldman (Carol Kristan's cousin), Lisa Gandelot, Julie Harrison (Jennifer Cauvel's cousin), Rachel Howard (Cheryl Littleton's friend's daughter), Steve Lundberg (Jim Conway's brother), Betsy Maitland, Julie Meek (Marilyn Doyal's sister), Allison and Zach Thorton.

**Continued Prayers for:** Stacie Longo (Janie Burkey's daughter), Michael Meda, Ernestine Soloman (David Buckler's friend).

**Protection and Strength for Our Loved Ones in the Military:** Alec Doyal, Special Forces, U.S. Air Force (Marilyn and Guy Doyal's grandson).

## This Week at GPMC

### Monday, December 2

Preacher's Workshop, 10 - 11 am (2nd Floor Lounge)  
Boy Scouts, 7 - 8:30 pm (Fellowship Hall)

### Tuesday, December 3

Women's Bible Study, 7 - 8 am (Room 215)  
Yoga, 10 - 11 am & 6 - 7 pm (Room 322)  
Al-Anon, 6:30 - 8 pm (Library)  
Second Mile Service & Tea, 6:30 - 8:30 pm (Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall)  
AA, 7 - 8 pm (Room 209)

### Wednesday, December 4

Men's Bible Study, 7 - 8 am (2nd Floor Lounge)  
AA, 8:15 - 9:30 am (Room 209)  
Memorial Youth, 6 - 8 pm (Room 315)  
Memorial Youth Hanging of the Greens, 7:30 - 8:30 pm (Sanctuary)

### Thursday, December 5

Women's Connection, 9 - 10 am (2nd Floor Lounge)  
Yoga, 10 - 11 am (Room 322) & 6 - 7 pm (Fellowship Hall)  
Handbell Choir Rehearsal, 6:15 - 7:15 pm (Room 326)  
Makers@Memorial, 10:30 am - 12:30 pm (Room 220), 6:30 - 8:30 pm (2nd Fl Lounge)  
Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 - 9:15 pm (Choir Room)

### Friday, December 6

Free Food Fridays, 9 - 11 am (Offsite)  
Decorating for A Night in Bethlehem, 1 - 3 pm (Barbour Chapel)  
Al-Anon, 6:30 - 8 pm (Library)  
AA, 7 - 8 pm (Room 209)

### Saturday, December 7

Men's Bible Study, 8 - 9 am (Offsite)

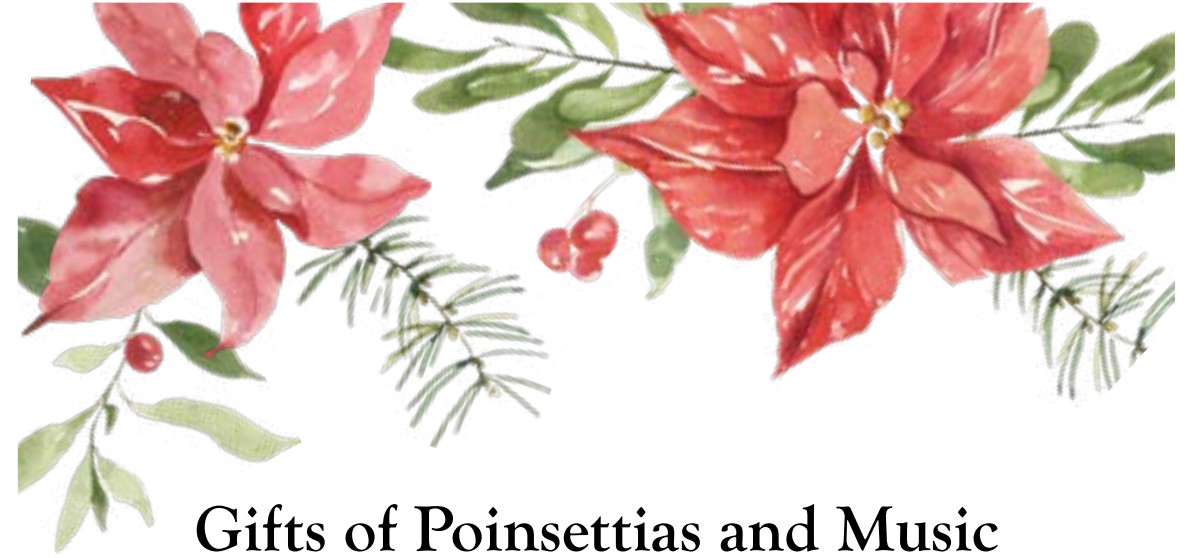
### Sunday, December 8

Crossroads Lunch 8:30 am - 2 pm (Offsite)  
Worship Services, \*9 & 11 am, 5 pm (Sanctuary & \*Livestreamed)  
Children's Sunday School & Youth Middle Hour, 10:10 - 10:50 am (Third Floor)

Adult Middle Hour, 10:10 – 10:50 am (Barbour Chapel)  
Girl Scouts, 1 – 2 pm (Room 310)  
A Night in Bethlehem, 3 – 5 pm (Various Locations)

*\*Please note this list is subject to change. For the most up-to-date calendar, visit [gpmchurch.org](http://gpmchurch.org).*

## WORSHIP NOTES/REFLECTIONS



## Gifts of Poinsettias and Music

If you would like to make a contribution, please fill out the form below and return it to Donna Hartzell by **Friday, December 6** in order to have your dedication included in the Christmas Eve bulletins. A suggested amount for poinsettias and music is \$25 – 50.

**Please print exactly how you would like your dedication to be in the bulletin.**

*Example: Mary & John Smith by their grandchildren, Betty & Mike Smith.*

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Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Check one of the following:

My Christmas Gift

\_\_\_\_\_ In Memory of

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ For Poinsettias

\_\_\_\_\_ In Honor of

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ For Ministry of Music

\_\_\_\_\_ To the Glory of God

*Please use additional forms if necessary. Forms can be found in the Carillon, online, and in the church reception area.*





## GROSSE POINTE MEMORIAL CHURCH

*'A light by the lakeshore'*

16 Lake Shore Drive  
Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236  
gpmchurch.org · 313.882.5330

### Office Hours

8:30 am – 4:30 pm, Monday – Thursday  
8:30 am – 3:00 pm, Friday

### Connect with us



Grosse Pointe Memorial Church  
@GPMCNews  
#gpmchurch

### Wi-Fi Access

Network in Sanctuary: gpmchurch  
Password: bibles@gpmchurch

Network on Trinity Terrace: GPMC-Guest  
Password: GPMC123#

Please email [lcameron@gpmchurch.org](mailto:lcameron@gpmchurch.org) to  
receive weekly eNews.



### Giving at GPMC

Scan the QR code, visit  
[bit.ly/GPMC-GiveNow](http://bit.ly/GPMC-GiveNow),  
or text "GPMC" to 73256.

## STAFF AT GROSSE POINTE MEMORIAL CHURCH

The Reverend Dr. Jeff Lincicome  
*Pastor and Head of Staff*

The Reverend Heather Thum - Gerber  
*Associate Pastor*

Dan Aggas  
*Head Sexton*

Dave Buckler  
*GPMC Treasurer*

Marie Calcaterra  
*Director of Mornings at Memorial*

Lindsay Cameron  
*Director of Communications*

Susan Griffin  
*Director of Accounting*

Logan Hamilton  
*Interim Minister of Music and Organist*

Donna Hartzell  
*Executive Assistant and Volunteer Coordinator*

Tena Harwick  
*Assistant Accounting Manager*

Julie Huellmantel  
*Director of Outreach Ministries*

Annie Joines Prentice  
*Director of Children's Ministries*

Carol Beltz Marks  
*Director of Pastoral Ministries*

Margaret Mollison  
*Director of Youth Ministries*

The Reverend Susan Mozena  
*Parish Associate*

Rory Powell  
*Handbell Choir Director*

Dan Ryan  
*Building Engineer*

Joe Warnez  
*Sexton*

Eric Whitmer  
*Resident Carillonist*

Carol Ambrogio Wood  
*Admin. Assistant for Membership & Christian Education*