



GROSSE POINTE
MEMORIAL CHURCH
'A light by the lakeshore'

Service of Worship
Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2023 | 9 and 11 am

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.

HANDBELL PRELUDE – Savior of the Nations, Come

Brenda E. Austin

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God's vision of peace is a realm where all live together in harmony:

All: **enemies become friends; fear gives way to understanding.**

One: God calls us to be this community.

All: **Let us gather together to worship.**

*OPENING HYMN 88 – O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Tune: Veni Emmanuel

All join in singing stanzas 1, 2, 3 and 6.

*LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE (FAITH)

One: Today we continue our journey towards Christmas, steadily moving closer to birth of the Christ child, the source of our hope and the subject of our deep longings. In Christ we place our faith.

All: **The second candle is a candle of faith. Our faith shines brightly in the midst of the darkness of our doubt. Our faith affirms that in the middle of our wondering, our questioning, God's love for us is constant.**

One: God loved us enough to send his one and only son, born to us, the Savior of the world! God's initiative in seeking us out in love, finds us, refines us, as makes our doubts and fears the fertile soil in which our faith grows.

All: **Jesus, your grace extends to meet us wherever we are today. Thank you. We trust in you, and in your love our faith is secure.**

One: Help us, God, to live into greater relationship with you as we draw nearer to Christmas morning. Amen.

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

Tune: Stuttgart

All: **Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE (from Isaiah 9:6)**

One: Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: **And also with you.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (9 AM AND 11 AM)

Please see the Apostle's Creed on page 35 in the front section of your hymnal.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: **God of hope, who never lets us go, draw near to us in these ancient words. By your Holy Spirit may we be filled, lifted up, and leveled as you prepare in our hearts the path of your coming. Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Isaiah 7: 10 – 17

(O.T. pages 598 – 599)

After each reading:

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

CHILDREN'S TIME (9 AM)

Children ages 4-grade 2 may depart for "Children's Church" held in room 108 (1st floor, adjacent to the nursery) after the children's sermon. Parents/caregivers should pick up children from room 108 immediately following the service.

ANTHEM – O nata lux

Morten Lauridsen

O light born of light,
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
mercifully deem worthy and accept
the praises and prayers of your supplicants.

Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh
for the sake of the lost ones,
grant us to be made members
of your holy body. (sung in Latin)

GOSPEL READING – Matthew 1: 18 – 25

(N.T. page 1)

SERMON – Expect the Unexpected: Joseph

Jeff Lincicome

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.**

OFFERING AND ANTHEM – Hallelu!

Stephen Paulus

Down in a valley, sing hallelu!
Mary had a baby, sing hallelu!
What did she name him, sing hallelu,
Named him Jesus, sing hallelu!

***PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING 143 (Stanza 4)**

Tune: Regent Square

All: **All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King!**

TAKING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***CLOSING HYMN 87 – Comfort, Comfort Now My People**

Tune: Genevan 42

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE – Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Georg Böhm

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THIS MORNING’S MUSIC

Morten Lauridsen’s beautiful setting of the 10th century Latin hymn “O nata lux” is from his Requiem, entitled “Lux Aeterna,” composed in 1997 (the year his mother died). Lauridsen was composer-in-residence of the Los Angeles Master Chorale from 1994 to 2001 and has been a professor of composition at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music for more than 40 years.

“Hallelu” comes from the pen of the late Minnesota composer Stephen Paulus. One of the most prominent and prolific composers of our time, Paulus wrote over 400 works which have been performed throughout the world. After a major stroke in July of 2013, he passed away in October 2014. This hauntingly beautiful piece uses words from the traditional spiritual “Mary Had a Baby.”

PRAYER REQUESTS

Praying for one another is an important and loving gift. The staff of GPMC meet every Tuesday morning and offer prayers for members of the congregation. Using our directory, the staff pray for the parishioners on one page each Tuesday morning and offer prayers for members of the congregation.

If you would like to add a person to our prayers, please call Carol Marks 313.882.5330 ex. 127 or email her at 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: Doug Bechler, Joan Coyle, Bill Fox, Jim and Laura Hebert (brother and sister-in-law of Denise Champion), Carol Kristan, Judy Masserang, Alicia Ollila (friend of Jan Arndt), Georgie Solomon, Traci Spencer-Strong (Bryan Mahlmeister’s sister), Kiernan Tague (friend of the Clark Family), Annette White (Frank Palazzo’s cousin).

Continued Prayers for: Tom Bejin (Matt Bejin’s father), Eleanor Berendt (Gregg Berendt’s mother), Jim Bierbusse, Marlene Boll, Tom Brown, Drucilla Burns (friend of Carol Koepplin), Laura Burns, Renee Centorbi (the Musials’ friend), Ben Chapman, Bella Dodson (friend of Julie Huellmantel), Margery Fuller, Bill Leonard, Phyllis May, Rob Sawka (Jan Arndt’s nephew), John Tompkins, Bill Turner, Susan Villa-Acre (Linda Lloyd’s friend).

Protection and Strength for Our Loved Ones in the Military: Joey and Mike Bejin (nephews of Matt Bejin), General Mike Coyne, (friend of the Tenglers), Alec Doyal (grandson of Guy and Marilyn Doyal), Special Forces, US Air Force, Alec Main (the Brewster’s grandson), Phoebe Piku (advanced training in U.S. army), Douglas Ross (Airforce, Fighter aircraft integrated avionics), Captain Florencio Yuzon V, US Navy JAG (Val and Pat Moran’s son-in-law), 2nd Lieutenant Florencio Connor Yuzon VI, US Army (Pat and Val Moran’s grandson).

Robert Richardson, Paige Domzalski’s father, died November 5, 2023 and **Bruno Domzalski**, Michael Domzalski’s father, died November 19, 2023. Please pray for Michael, Paige, Owen and Henry Domzalski, and all of these wonderful men’s family and friends during these sad days of loss.

88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 4 O come, thou Root of Jes - se, free thine own from



cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 all things might - i - ly: to us the path of knowl - edge
 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple



here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 show; and teach us in her ways to go. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 law in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 save and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

5 O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;
 make safe the way that leads on high,
 and close the path to misery.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

6 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
 our spirits by thine advent here;
 disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 and death's dark shadows put to flight.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
 all peoples in one heart and mind;
 bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
 fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Comfort, Comfort Now My People 87



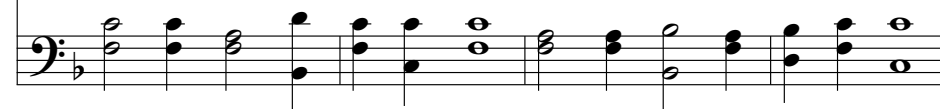
1 "Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
 2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



"Com - fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn - ing un - der sor - row's load.
 call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God's ho - ly reign.



To my peo - ple now pro - claim that my par - don waits for them!
 O, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their sins I cov - er, and their war - fare now is o - ver."
 Let the val - leys rise in meet - ing and the hills bow down in greet - ing.
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.



WELCOME TO GPMC

Grosse Pointe Memorial Church is a member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and one of its vibrant congregations. For 157 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, Susan Mozena, Carol Marks, liturgists; Elliana Wofford (9 am), Carolina Sayar (11 am), lay readers; Gina and Steve Carrier (9 am), Phyllis and John Brewster (11 am), Advent candle lighters; Carson Landry, carillonneur; The Grosse Pointe Memorial Church Ringers, Rory Powell, director; The Grosse Pointe Memorial Church Choir, James Biery, organist and director.

Today we celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism as we welcome **Clement Francis Ford**, son of Anne and Albert Ford; **Calum Silas Reece**, son of Bryn and Blake Reece; and **Levi Taylor Thomas Shaheen**, son of Taylor and Anthony Shaheen.

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.

Giving at GPMC: To donate, visit bit.ly/GPMC-Giving or text "GPMC" to 73256.

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

SERMON SERIES

Expect the Unexpected:
Stories of Advent

One of the interesting things about the Christmas Story is how unexpected it all is. Angels, geriatric pregnancies, renegade stars in the sky, virgin births-All of these take the characters by surprise, and rightly so. The inbreaking of God into humankind is a joyful, yet unexpected event. Join us this Advent as we put ourselves in the shoes of these well-known Christmas story characters and see through their eyes the unexpected Good News of Jesus' birth. In the process, we hope to see our faith in unexpected and joyful ways.



WHAT'S HAPPENING TODAY AT GPMC?

8:30 am	Crossroads Lunch	Offsite
9:00 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary & Livestreamed
10:00 am	Adult Middle Hour	Barbour Chapel
11:00 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
1:00 pm	Girl Scouts	Room 310
4:00 pm	Christmas Carol Singing	Front Lawn
5:00 pm	Worship Service	Barbour Chapel

Please see church website and Carillon for full calendar of weekly and monthly events.

This Week at GPMC

Monday, December 11

Preacher's Workshop, 10 - 11 am (2nd Floor Lounge)
Boy Scouts, 6 - 7:30 pm (Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall)
Council Meetings, 6:30, 7 & 7:30 pm (Various Locations)

Tuesday, December 12

Women's Bible Study, 7 - 8 am (Room 215)
Yoga, 10 - 11 am (Room 301) & 6 - 7 pm (Fellowship Hall)
Church Offices Closed, 12 - 2 pm (Staff Offsite)
Al-Anon, 6:30 - 8 pm (Library)
AA, 7 - 8 pm (Room 209)

Wednesday, December 13

Men's Bible Study, 7 - 8 am (Room 201)
AA, 8:15 - 9:30 am (Room 209)
Full Circle Yoga & Wellness, 12:30 - 2:30 pm (Fellowship Hall)
Stephen Minister's Training, 2 - 5 pm (Room 320)
Memorial Youth Group, 6 - 8 pm (Room 315)
Novel as Theology, 7:30- 9 pm (Offsite)

Thursday, December 14

Yoga, 10 - 11 am & 6 - 7 pm (Room 301)
Handbell Choir Rehearsal, 6:15 - 7 pm pm (Room 326)
Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 - 9:15 pm (Choir Room)

Friday, December 15

Ecumenical Men's Breakfast, 7:45 - 9 am (Fellowship Hall)
Unpack the Truck, 8:30 - 10 am (Offsite)
Free Food Fridays, 9 - 11 am (Offsite)
Al-Anon, 6:30 - 8 pm (Library)
AA, 7 - 8 pm (Room 209)

Saturday, December 16

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

Sunday, December 17

Adult Education, 9:30 - 10:15 am (Barbour Chapel)
Ministry Architects Renovation Team, 9:30 am (Youth Lounge)
Worship Service, 10:30 am (Sanctuary & Livestream available)
Girl Scouts, 1 - 2 pm (Room 310)
Christmas Story Concert Rehearsal, 3 - 4:30 pm (Sanctuary)
Christmas Story Concert, 5 - 6 pm (Sanctuary)



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
@GPMCNNews
#gpmchurch

Wi-Fi Access

Network in Sanctuary: gpmchurch
Password: bibles@gpmchurch

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

Please email lcameron@gpmchurch.org to
receive weekly eNews.



Giving at GPMC

Scan the QR code, visit
bit.ly/GPMC-Giving,
or text "GPMC" to 73256.

STAFF AT GROSSE POINTE MEMORIAL CHURCH

The Reverend Dr. Jeff Lincicome
Pastor and Head of Staff

The Reverend Jasmine Smart
Transitional Associate Pastor

Dan Aggas
Head Sexton

James Biery
Minister of Music and Organist

Dave Buckler
GPMC Treasurer

Marie Calcaterra
Director of Mornings at Memorial

Lindsay Cameron
Director of Communications

Susan Griffin
Director of Accounting

Donna Hartzell
Executive Assistant and Volunteer Coordinator

Tena Harwick
Assistant Accounting Manager

Julie Huellmantel
Director of Outreach Ministries

Carson Landry
Resident Carillonist

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

Carol Ambrogio Wood
Admin. Assistant for Membership & Christian Education