



GROSSE POINTE
MEMORIAL CHURCH
'A light by the lakeshore'

Service of Worship
Third Sunday of Advent
December 17, 2023 | 10:30 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.

PRELUDE – Noël Brabançon

Alexandre Guilmant

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Let us praise our Lord Jesus Christ.

All: **Alleluia! Jesus is coming!**

One: At Christmas Jesus came as a baby.

All: **Alleluia! Jesus is coming!**

One: He came to be like us because he loves us.

All: **Alleluia! Jesus is coming!**

One: We praise Jesus, who came as a baby and will come again at the end of time.

All: **Alleluia! Jesus is coming! Let us worship God!**

*OPENING HYMN 106 – Prepare the Way, O Zion

Tune: Bereden väg för Herran

*LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE (JOY)

One: Today we light the third candle along with the others we have lit in weeks now past. The first was hope, the second faith, and now we celebrate our joy in Christ.

All: **This third candle, the candle of joy, is an expression of both our hope and faith. Even when life is hard and the days are dark, our joy is in the Lord.**

One: This Kingdom of God is breaking into our darkness, the light of Christ dispelling our fear. We trust in something more than what our eyes can see, in that which faith holds dear.

All: God, you gather your people from among the nations and you replace our shame with gladness. In you we have found our home, our safe place. Our rest in you is our everlasting joy!

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

Tune: Stuttgart

All: Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: As God has poured out love, peace, and joy through Christ, let us also share that peace among ourselves. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Immanuel, as we wait for your return, help us see your glory and love through the reading and preaching of your Word. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Isaiah 61: 1– 4

After the reading:

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

CHILDREN’S TIME

There is no “Children’s Church” today. Children may sit with their parents after the Christmas Presentation if they are participating.

CHILDREN’S PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

All are invited to join in singing Hymns 119 & 136 which can be found in the hymnal.

Mary, Did You Know?

Buddy Greene

Do You Hear What I Hear?

Gloria Shayne

Hymn 119 – Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

Tune: Mendelssohn

Hymn 136 – Go, Tell It On the Mountain

Tune: Go Tell It

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 – The Shepherds

Peter Cornelius

Shepherds watch in the night; Stars above them shine bright;
Only the shepherds have eyes that are open,
The shepherds have eyes that open.
Then an angel so bright Comes with appearance of light
Christ, the Savior of nations is coming!
The Savior of nations is coming!
Angels sing in the sky: Praise our Maker on high!
And on earth peace and goodwill from heaven!
Quickly the shepherds run To see God’s only Son.
At the manger they worship and praise him.

*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 134 – Joy to the World

Tune: Antioch

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE – Noël: Joseph est bien Marie

Alexandre Guilmant

Copyright Acknowledgments: All music is in the public domain. Advent liturgy by Chaplain Sami Pack-Toner and Rev. Chris Haughee, 2021.

THIS MORNING'S MUSIC

The 19th century German composer Peter Cornelius composed “The Shepherds” as the second of a six part song-cycle entitled “Christmas Songs.” Cornelius was the son of actors, and as a young man considered a similar career before turning to music. He was also a poet, and wrote both the music and the words for the Christmas songs.

The prelude and postlude were composed by Alexandre Guilmant (1837–1911), organist at the Church of la Trinité in Paris for 30 years. He was the first French organist to give concerts in America. In 1904 he played more than 40 recitals at the St. Louis Exposition world's fair. These two arrangements of French Noëls (carols) are from four volumes of similar pieces that were published to play for church services during the Christmas season.

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: Joan Coyle, Bill Fox, Jim and Laura Hebert (brother and sister-in-law of Denise Champion), Judy Masserang, Alicia Ollila (friend of Jan Arndt), Georgie Solomon, Traci Spencer-Strong (Bryan Mahlmeister's sister), Annette White (Frank Palazzolo's cousin).

Continued Prayers for: Doug Bechler, Tom Bejin (Matt Bejin's father), Eleanor Berendt (Gregg Berendt's mother), Jim Bierbusse, Marlene Boll, 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), Kiernan Tague (friend of the Clark Family), John Tompkins, Bill Turner, Susan Villa-Acre (Linda Lloyd's friend).

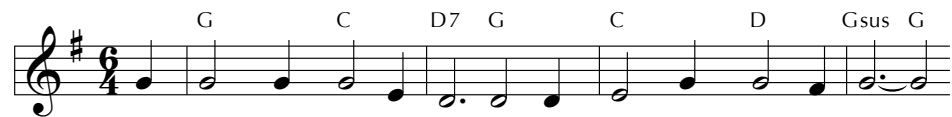
Protection and Strength for Our Loved Ones in the Military: Joey and Mike Bejin (nephews of Matt Bejin), General Mike Coyne, (friend of the Tenglers), Alec Doyal (grandson of Guy and Marilyn Doyal), Special Forces, US Air Force, Alec Main (the Brewster's grandson), Phoebe Piku (advanced training in U.S. 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).

Gordon Thomas Harding, husband of Anne Harmon Harding, died December 8, 2023. There will be a private service at the church. Please pray for Anne, their son, Tom and grandchildren throughout these sad days of loss.

Penelope Swanson, a friend of GPMC, died Dec. 9, 2023. There will be a service on Saturday, Dec. 23 at 2:00 pm in our sanctuary. Please pray for Penelope's family and friends.

Rodney Lee Dearth, Mark Dearth's brother, died Dec. 5, 2023. Please hold Mark and Jane and Rodney's wife and friends in your prayers.

Prepare the Way, O Zion 106



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
 2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
 3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sav - ior's rule em - brace,

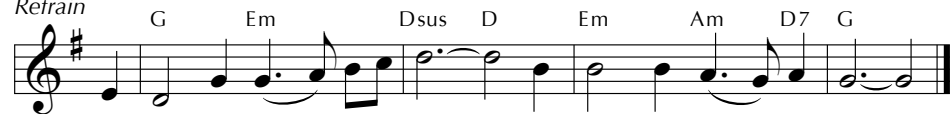


Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
 His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
 and ti - dings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
 Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
 All lands will bow re - joic - ing, their ad - o - ra - tion voic - ing.

Refrain



O blest is Christ who came in God's most ho - ly name.

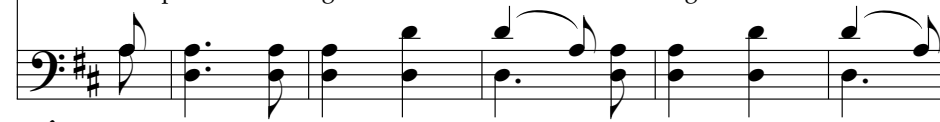
134 Joy to the World



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -



her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness



and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
 and heaven and na - ture sing,



sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.



heaven and na - ture sing,

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, Jasmine Smart, Carol Marks, April Sayar, Suzanne Powell, liturgists and children's music directors; Dave Hofmann, lay reader; Laura and Jeff Ver Beek, Advent candle lighters; Men of The Grosse Pointe Memorial Church Choir; James Biery, organist.

Flowers in the Sanctuary are funded by our members in memory or in honor of a loved one. If interested in dedicating flowers, please contact Nancy Eckert at 313.418.6380 or nancy.k.eckert@gmail.com

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?

9:30 am	MA Renovation Team	Room 315
9:30 am	Adult Middle Hour	Barbour Chapel
10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary & Livestreamed
11:30 am	Girl Scouts	Room 310
5:00 pm	Christmas Story Concert	Sanctuary

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

This Week at GPMC

Monday, December 18

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

Tuesday, December 19

Women's Bible Study, 7 - 8 am (Offsite)
Yoga, 10 - 11 am (Room 301) & 6 - 7 pm (Fellowship Hall)
Al-Anon, 6:30 - 8 pm (Library)
Blue Christmas Service, 7 - 8 pm (Sanctuary)
AA, 7 - 8 pm (Room 209)

Wednesday, December 20

Men's Bible Study, 7 - 8 am (2nd Floor Lounge)
AA, 8:15 - 9:30 am (Room 209)
Stephen Minister's Training, 9:15 - 10:30 am & 2 - 5 pm (Room 320)
Full Circle Yoga & Wellness, 12:30 - 2:30 pm (Fellowship Hall)
Young Adult Christmas Party, 6 - 8 pm (Room 315)
Adult Education Christmas Potluck, 6:30 - 8:30 pm (Offsite)

Thursday, December 21

Women's Connection, 9 - 10 am (2nd Floor Lounge)
Yoga, 10 - 11 am & 6 - 7 pm (Room 301)
Handbell Choir Rehearsal, 6:15 - 7 pm pm (Room 326)
Kevin's Song, 7 - 8:30 pm (Library)
Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 - 9:15 pm (Choir Room)

Friday, December 22

Free Food Fridays, 9 - 11 am (Offsite)
Al-Anon, 6:30 - 8 pm (Library)
AA, 7 - 8 pm (Room 209)

Saturday, December 23

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

Sunday, December 24

Advent Worship Service, 10:30 am (Sanctuary & Livestream Available)
Christmas Eve Family Service, 5 pm (Sanctuary & Livestream Available)
Christmas Eve Services, *7:30 pm & 10 pm (Sanctuary & *Livestream Available)

Please note this list is subject to change. For the most up-to-date calendar, visit gpmchurch.org.



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 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 Carillonneur

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