



GROSSE POINTE
MEMORIAL CHURCH
'A light by the lakeshore'

Service of Worship
First Sunday of Advent
December 3, 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.

PRELUDE – Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659
(a setting of Hymn 102, “Savior of the Nations, Come”)

J. S. Bach

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O Listen to the Spirit urging us to get ready –

All: **Our calendars are jam-packed full.**

One: Listen to the Spirit calling us to wait –

All: **We’ve already been waiting; there’s a line everywhere we go.**

One: Listen to the Spirit inviting us to walk in the way of the Lord –

All: **This is good news!**

One: The way of the Lord is the path of peace.

All: **We are glad to be in the house of the Lord!**

One: May the Advent blessing of peace be with you.

All: **We rejoice, for we are blessed to walk in the light of God!**

*OPENING HYMN 104 – O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

Tune: Valet will ich dir geben

*LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE (HOPE)

One: Today we mark the beginning of the Advent season, entering into a season of Hope. In celebration we light the candles of the Advent wreath, one each time we gather for worship. Every week, we add to those lit the week before, and as the light grows brighter, our hope draws nearer.

All: The first candle is a candle of hope. Our hope is in the long-awaited Jesus, who first came to us as a baby. As we reflect on the ways and the whys of our hope, instill in us, Lord, a joy that knows no bounds. The joy that comes in welcoming new life.

One: On this first Sunday, we reflect on the reasonableness of our hope. We long for the coming savior, and we need the hope he brings. As a tender shoot emerges from the stump of a tree that has been felled, we can see the hope of new life that comes from meeting Jesus in our Advent journey.

All: God, meet us in the midst of our hoping. Give us the assurance that what you have promised us will come to pass. Forgive us for those times when we are tempted to despair, and light the fire of your hope in our hearts once more!

One: Every promise God has made is fulfilled in Jesus Christ. In him, our hope is sure! (2 Corinthians 1:20)

***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.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: Our Savior Christ is the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there shall be no end. The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All: And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Holy God, our hope and strength, by the power of your Spirit prepare the way in our hearts for the coming of your Word, so that we may see the glorious signs of your promise fulfilled; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Isaiah 55: 6 – 13

(O.T. pages 644 –645)

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 – Listen to the Voice of Gladness

James Biery

Listen to the voice of gladness God is calling us to hear;
Cast away all pain and sadness, God is with us, always near.
Sing of peace and loving kindness, Sing of God’s unchanging love;
Sing of strength amid our weakness, Trust in God’s eternal love.

Listen to the voice of power, Feel the mighty strength of God.
If we truly knew God’s power, We would tremble, overawed.
Yet this strength, so great and forceful, Speaks of love and gentle peace.
God will give to us, the people, Comfort that will never cease.

God will give to us, the people, Comfort that will never cease.
God will speak to every nation Words of love and words of peace.
God will turn the sword to plowshare, God will transform hate to love;
God will bring an end to warfare: Trust in God’s eternal love. (Marilyn Biery)

GOSPEL READING – Luke 1: 5 –10

(N.T. page 52 – 53)

SERMON – Expect the Unexpected: Zechariah

Jeff Lincicome

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING – Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming

Johannes Brahms

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 (from “Missa Emmanuel”)

Richard Proulx

Choir: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and God of might.
Congregation:



Choir: Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Congregation:



Choir: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Congregation:



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 bread and cup until invited to eat and drink by the worship leader so that we can all partake in communion together.

COMMUNION ANTHEM – Now the Heavens Start to Whisper

Tune: Welsh tune

The words may be found at Hymn 94.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

TAKING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN 93 – Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Tune: Truro

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE – Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, BWV 645

J. S. Bach

(a setting of Hymn 349, “Sleepers, Wake! A Voice Astounds Us”)

THIS MORNING'S MUSIC

The anthem is part of “Emmanuel Comes,” a musical Advent service that Marilyn and James Biery wrote for St. Michael's Lutheran Church in Roseville, Minnesota, in 2003. “Listen to the Voice of Gladness” finds its inspiration in the words of the prophet Isaiah.

During communion the choir sings “Now the Heavens Start to Whisper,” a hymn-text by Mary Louise (Mel) Bringle, who teaches at Brevard College in North Carolina. The words are set to the tune “Suo Gân,” a traditional Welsh lullaby.

Bach's setting of “Wachet auf” is one of his most tuneful and familiar organ pieces. Originally a portion of a choir cantata of the same title, where the melody was played by the violins and the chorale tune sung by the tenors, Bach arranged it for solo organ and included it in the set of six “Schübler” chorales that he published around the year 1748.

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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, 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).

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), Sue Stanley, 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).

Missy Kenyon, friend of Kelley Clark, died November 22, 2023. Please pray for Missy's husband, children and friends during this days of profound loss.

Please pray for the parents, brother, sister and friends of **Flynn MacKrell**, who died on November 17, 2023. His Service of the Resurrection was at St Paul on the Lake, November 25, 2023.

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You 104

1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel-come you a - right?
2 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me;
3 You come, O Lord, with glad - ness, in mer - cy and good-will,

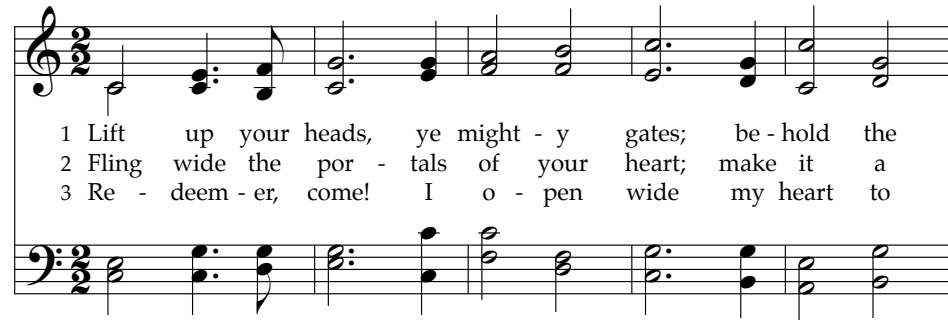
Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!
your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro-cured my lib - er - ty.
to bring an end to sad - ness and bid our fears be still.

O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, a lamp with - in my breast,
O love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace
In pa - tient ex - pec - ta - tion we live for that great day

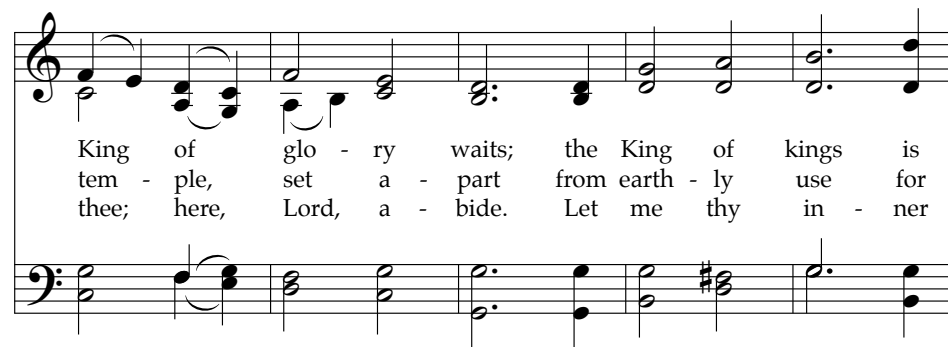
to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.
in love, all loves ex - cel - ling, our lost and fal - len race.
when your re - newed cre - a - tion your glo - ry shall dis - play.

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 93

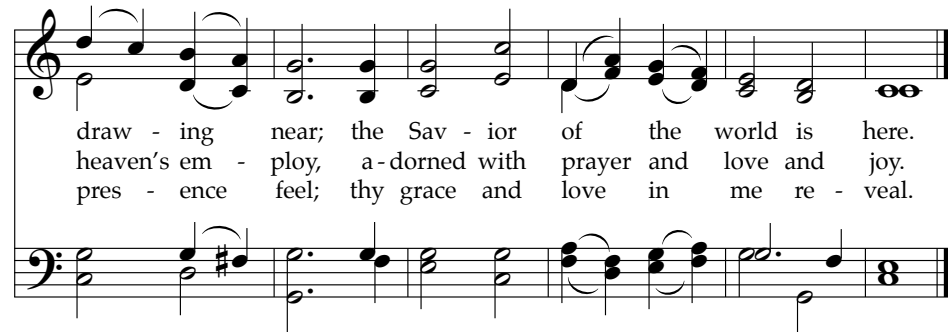
WELCOME TO GPMC



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
2 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
3 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to



King of glo - ry waits; the King of kings is
tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
thee; here, Lord, a - bide. Let me thy in - ner



draw - ing near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.
heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
pres - ence feel; thy grace and love in me re - veal.

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, liturgists; Matt Bejin (9 am), Tim Butler (11 am), lay readers; Mary and Bob Mobley (9 am), Elizabeth Schaefer and Barbara Willett (11 am), Advent candle lighters; Carson Landry, carillonist; The Grosse Pointe Memorial Church Choir, James Biery, organist and director.

The chancel poinsettias are in loving memory of **Margaret and Robert Mozena** by Susan and John Mozena.

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.

This Week at GPMC

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?

9:00 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary & Livestreamed
11:00 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
12:00 pm	Youth Mission Trip Meeting	Barbour Chapel
1:00 pm	Girl Scouts	Room 310
3:00 pm	GPMC Advent Event Rehearsal	Barbour Chapel
5:00 pm	Worship Service	Barbour Chapel

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

Monday, December 4

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

Tuesday, December 5

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

Wednesday, December 6

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)

Thursday, December 7

Women's Connection, 9 - 10 am (2nd Floor Lounge)
Yoga, 10 - 11 am (Room 301) & 6 - 7 pm (Fellowship Hall)
Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 - 9:15 pm (Choir Room)

Friday, December 8

Ecumenical Men's Breakfast, 7:45 - 9 am (Fellowship Hall)
Al-Anon, 6:30 - 8 pm (Library)
AA, 7 - 8 pm (Room 209)

Saturday, December 9

Men's Bible Study, 8 - 9 am (Offsite)
Cass Painting Day, 9 am - 12 pm (Offsite)

Sunday, December 10

Worship Service, 9* & 11 am (Sanctuary, *Livestream available)
Adult Middle Hour, 10 - 11 am (Barbour Chapel)
New Member Welcome Reception, 10 - 11 am (Fellowship Hall)
Girl Scouts, 1 - 2 pm (Room 301)
Worship Service, 5 pm (Barbour Chapel)



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