GROSSE POINTE MEMORIAL CHURCH



"A light by the lakeshore" THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.) December 6, 2020 | Worship 9ам Second Sunday of Advent



Sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked as Christ's own forever, Grosse Pointe Memorial Church is created by God to worship the Lord and serve God's people.

Sharing God's love and caring for God's people, we call disciples of all ages to put faith into action by worshiping God joyfully, welcoming others graciously, supporting one another lovingly, and serving all faithfully.

Order of Service for the Worship of God	Order	of Service	for the	Worship	of God
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Order of Service for the Worship of	God	he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the de	ead.		
GATHERING AROUND THE WORD		I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,			
PRELUDE-Comfort, Comfort Now My People Anton Heiller		the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,			
Welcome And Announcements		and the life everlasting. Amen.			
Call to Worship					
One: A voice cries in the wilderness, "Prepare the w Make God's way clear!"		Proclaiming the Word			
Many: "Lift up every valley; lower every mountain; of the Lord shall be revealed!"	for the glory	PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION			
<i>One:</i> With open hearts, we wait in anticipation!		One: O God, send now your Holy Spirit to speak in all the ways to pursue it. All: Amen.	peace and direct us		
Opening Hymn 96-On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry (see bulletin pg.13)	Tune: Winchester New	Children's Time			
		New Testament Reading-Isaiah 40: 1-11			
Lighting of the Advent Candle – Focusing on Peace		After each reading: One: The Word of the Lord.			
Sung Response–My Soul in Stillness Waits	Marty Haugen	All: Thanks be to God!			
Passing of the Peace		ANTHEM- Listen to the Voice of Gladness	James Biery		
One: As those reconciled to God and given the ministry may God's peace in Christ attend you with harm		New Testament Reading- 2 Peter 3:8-15			
All: And also with you!		Sermon – Learning to Count	Mark Diehl		
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (Zayn Ignatius Shaheen) The Apostles' Creed		R esponding to the Word			
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;		SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION The liturgist will bless the elements and then invite knowing that the Spirit unites you with our Lord, o and with Christians around the world as we share new ways. GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING One: The Lord be with you.	our church community,		
he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again;		All: And also with you.			
he ascended into heaven,		One: Lift up your hearts. All: We lift them to the Lord.			
2		3			

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

BLESSING OF THE BREAD

Blessing of the $C\!\!\!\mathrm{UP}$

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

DEDICATION LITURGY

- *One:* Gathered before You, O God, we remember your grace and care for our world and for each one of us. That remembrance sparks from us our grateful thanks and a desire to dedicate our entire lives to you. Because you have touched us with beauty and awe and grace and hope,
- Many: With our hearts we worship.
- *One:* Because you have given us truth to discover, the Word of truth to discern, and the Spirit which leads us into all truth,
- Many: With our minds we study.
- *One:* Because you call us to be a blessing to others and not merely be blessed, to serve others and not only to be served,
- Many: With our arms we reach out in care and love.
- *One:* Because your gifts are freely given to us and all that we have is yours; and because you call us to be faithful stewards offering the fruits of our labors for your kingdom's work,
- Many: With our hands we give.
- *One:* Because you forgive and restore us to full fellowship with you, and you call us to be loving peacemakers in a world of alienation and hate,
- Many: With our lives we work toward reconciliation.
- All: In a spirit of love and gratitude, with hope and joy, we offer you, O Lord, these pledges of our energy, our skills, our money, our time, and ourselves. We dedicate all we are and all we have to your glory, through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERINGS OF SELF AND GIFTS

For those who are able, we are grateful for your continued offerings to our ministries. You can donate online using the "Secure Donation Form" link on our website's front page. Your contributions are so important at this time.

OFFERING RESPONSE-What Can I Give Him?

Gustav Holst

TAKING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

Closing Нумл 87-Comfort, Comfort Now My People (see bulletin pg. 14)	Tune: Geneva
BENEDICTION RESPONSE-My Soul in Stillness Waits	Marty Haugen
PostLude-Comfort, Comfort Now My People	Georg Böhm
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Welcome to Grosse Pointe Memorial Church

We are a member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and one of its growing congregations. As a multi-generational community of faith, we are pleased to offer a host of ministries that respond to the varied interests of our members and friends. 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.

ABOUT WORSHIP AT GPMC

Leading and Assisting in Worship: Mark Diehl, Susan Mozena, Carol Marks; The Grosse Pointe Memorial Church Virtual Choir; James Biery, organist; Joe Masinick, worship service production.

Today we celebrate the sacrament of baptism as we welcome **Zayn Ignatius Shaheen**, son of Taylor and Anthony Shaheen.

What's Happening Today, December 6, 2020

9am Worship Service Pre-Recorded (Livestreamed) 10:10am Middle Hour via Zoom

Weekly Livestreamed Services will be available on GPMC's Website.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Families First Advent Bags: To help your family incorporate some simple, meaningful faith practices for Advent and Christmas, be sure to sign up to receive a Families First Advent Bag. Each bag contains a copy of the newly released book Faithful Families for Advent and Christmas, written by the Rev. Traci Smith. Also included are items to use with some of her suggested practices. Instead of taxing families with more to do during this season, Rev. Smith offers families what they really need: less to do. In each of the simple, hands-on practices, she offers families the tools and permission to slow down, wait and focus on all that Jesus coming into the world means. Please contact Lisa Turner at lturner@gpmchurch. org or call the church at 313.882.5330 #135 to request an Advent bag.

Youth Groups for middle school and high school students meet each Tuesday, from 6-8pm on Trinity Terrace. Remember we are meeting outside so dress warmly. If we are not able to meet in person, we will text a link to the Zoom meeting. If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Bellovich at rachel.bellovich@comcast.net for more information. This month we will celebrate the Christmas season with games, decorations, Bible study and some winter fun!



Middle Hours December 6th and 13th: "The Science of the Virus and the Virus in Our Community: Complementary Views from Two Experts:"

December 6, 10:10am: "The Science of COVID-19," presented by Prof. John SantaLucia, Ph.D. Prof. SantaLucia,

a member of GPMC, is a world expert on the design of diagnostics for infectious diseases. During Middle Hour on December 6th, John will present the basics of the biology of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and answer several important questions, including: What is unique about COVID-19 compared to other infectious diseases? What is the difference between antibody tests vs. PCR? (PCR=polymerase chain reaction, a diagnostic test which detects the RNA of the virus). Do masks work? How do the vaccines for COVID differ from previous vaccines? Do the current antiviral drugs work against COVID? This will be an engaging conversation that is accessible to all people – so bring your questions! 10:10am via Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84909008243

December 13, 10:10am: "COVID-19: The View from Mack and Moross," presented by Keith Bellovich, D.O., Chief Medical Officer of Ascension St. John Hospital. As Chief Medical Officer and practicing nephrologist, GPMC member Keith Bellovich played a large part in transforming Ascension St John from a large community hospital into a facility dedicated to treating essentially one devastating jllness overwhelming our local com-

munity this past March. COVID seemed to take a pause for the summer, but as predicted hospitalizations have once again increased. The pandemic has affected us all in countless ways. Are these changes temporary? What impact will COVID have on my healthcare? On my community? Bring your questions for this interactive session to hear stories of heroism, passion, and hope from one who has been there. 10:10am via Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84909008243

Preacher's Workshop meets Dec. 7 at 10am via Zoom with Susan Mozena.

Reel Theology: "Miracle on 34th Street." Join us on December 7th at 7:30pm for a "watch party" to view a holiday classic, "Miracle on 34th Street," starring Maureen O'Hara and John Payne. Filmed in 1947, it is funny, romantic, delightful and charming (according to its studio!), truly a holiday favorite for generations. **The Zoom link is: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88484248465**

Women's Bible Study, Tuesdays, 7-8am. Meeting remotely via Zoom. If you are not now a participant, but wish to join, contact Susan Mozena.

Men's Bible Study, Wednesdays, 7-8am. Will meet in Fellowship Hall on Dec. 9. Please contact Steve Voorhees at captaingadget@comcast.net with any questions.

Adult Bible Study in December: A New Study, "Uppity Women of the Bible." It's a Good Time to Join Us! Join GPMC men and women as they begin a Bible study about several strong women in the Bible, through an engaging Living the Questions video study curriculum offered by Dr. Lisa Wolfe, Hebrew Bible scholar. Four brief and very engaging video presentations by Dr. Wolfe, about Ruth, The Song of Songs, Esther and Judith will be followed by discussion led by Susan Mozena: December 19, and January 6 and 20. Adult Bible Study, which normally meets the first and third Wednesday evenings of each month, has changed its schedule to accommodate a pre-holiday schedule change for the Novel as Theology group: Adult Bible Study will meet via Zoom (and Zoom phone access) on Saturday, December 19th at 10:30am. Here is the Zoom link for December 19th: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84099280365.

Scripture and Conversation for Women, meets each Wednesday morning, 11:15am-12:15pm, via free conference call (1.978.990.5000, access code 658374). If you are not a participant, but wish to join, contact Susan Mozena, so you can be updated as needed regarding details.

Men's Bible Study, Saturdays, 8-9am via Zoom. If you have questions, please contact David Asker at davidasker@outlook.com

Join GPMC short story readers on December 9th to discuss a seasonal, classic favorite, "Gift of the Magi," by O. Henry. Victoria and Howard Hill will lead the discussion, at 7:30pm via Zoom. The story can be downloaded from the link in the congregational email. Here's the Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82616243544 If you wish to join by phone, the number is 646-558-8656, ID #82616243544.

Novel as Theology: December 16 and January 27, 7:30 PM via Zoom:

December Novel: "The Ninth Hour," Alice McDermott. Available at the GP libraries, in paperback at Barnes and Noble (\$6), and via Amazon (\$11). Discussion leader: Dave Buckler. Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89061481971

January Novel: "The Dutch House," Ann Patchett. Available at the GP libraries in print and in audio book format, narrated by Tom Hanks. Discussion leader: Renee Catrambone. Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81043410967

Outreach



GPMC's Angel Tree is a virtual tree this year. Just like the "real" one we have sponsored each year, it has the names, ages and locations of 50 children of incarcerated parents. Prison Fellowship has identified the children that need to know they are still blessed this Christmas. When you choose a child through the link, you will be charged \$42 for each child (or sibling, or caregiver) paperer. The child will receive a \$40 cit cortificate to

you choose to sponsor. The child will receive a \$40 gift certificate to Walmart, the prisoner parent's message, a Gospel presentation, and the opportunity to request a free Adventure Bible. GPMC has a special access code, ZPK1J. You will need it when you follow this link https://vat.angeltreetool.org/73d8b7b6-ee9d-41da-997f-4d998a5e2702 to find a child to care about this Christmas. Prayers are welcome too!

Crossroads Lunch is on December 13, from 8:30am-1:30pm. GPMC members and friends will serve our annual December lunch to the hungry at Crossroads. We'll do a lot to minimize exposure to each other: fewer volunteers, less slicing and dicing, physically distanced sandwich making and lunch bag assembly, all participants masked and gloved, and any other precautions that make sense. The goal is to have 12 people cooking, making sandwiches, and packing lunches from 8:30am-1:30pm. If you are unable to attend for the full shift, sign up for a short shift. Signup is first come, first served. Follow the link to Crossroads on the GPMC website or go directly to the sign up at: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a49a4af2da4fe3-crossroads

Alternative Gifts are a long-standing tradition at GPMC. These are cards offered for purchase, at \$5 each, to give to friends and family who

"have everything" and would love to know of a donation made in their name. Matching the donation to their interests adds a personal touch. The Outreach Council has chosen five partners to support with this effort and has even voted to match your donations up to \$1,500. Our partners are Fort Street Open Door, Living Waters for the World, Second Mile Center, Warm Hearts and Young Adult Volunteers – PC(USA). Find the Alternative Gifts link on our home page at gpmchurch.org. We've made it easy to donate and download cards to send. Thank you for continuing to support our chosen partners at Christmas.



Unpack the Truck in December. On Friday, December 18, from 9am – noon, we will help the members of St John Presbyterian Church unload and unpack pallets of food from a Forgotten Harvest truck and put it in the cars of hungry people. We know that hunger is a bigger problem in the City of Detroit this year due to the economics of Covid-19. We know that Forgotten Harvest knows how to run pop-up food delivery points – and all the work is outside! GPMC is delighted to volunteer monthly under the auspices of our Everyone

Eats group. All the work is outside and so far we have been blessed with ONLY beautiful, sunny days. And whether or not we can promise that, our enthusiasm and energy will bring the sunshine. Please find details on the GPMC website or sign up at http://bit.ly/UnpackTheTruck

The December Hunger Offering will go to Crossroads of Michigan. Founded in 1971, Crossroads exists to support the community at large by providing emergency assistance such as transportation, food, and clothing. They have an employment office, parenting and cooking support classes, and provide counseling to anyone in need. They also have been serving a hot, nutritious meal to hungry families every Sunday since 1977 and have a children's lunch program weekdays in the summer. GPMC will match congregation donations made in November up to \$2,000. Use the offering link on gpmchurch.org. Or, send a check to the church noting Crossroads or Hunger Offering on the memo line.

STEWARDSHIP

GPMC FINA 11/3			TE	
		Budget		Actual
Pledge & Plate Receipts	\$:	1,048,950	\$	975,449
Endowments & Other Income & Gifts	\$	645,258	\$	637,413
Total Receipts	\$:	1,694,208	\$	1,612,862
Total Expenses	\$:	1,729,301	\$	1,632,274

Thank you to the 224 families, members and friends of GPMC who have made a 2021 financial commitment! We are so blessed by these gifts!! Last year's campaign received 330 commitments, so with the stewardship campaign nearing its close, we are less than 70% of where we need to be to just hold even year-over-year, let alone if we are to GROW our reach in the coming

year. So if you haven't yet sent in your 2021 commitment, we need to hear from you soon! Stewardship packets including informational material and

your family-specific pledge envelope were mailed in October, but if you have misplaced it, contact the church office for another envelope or make your 2021 commitment at: https://gpmcblogs.org/pledgeform/. Also, your support is still needed toward 2020 Giving. We are still running 7% behind budget with one month to go in the year, so please keep current on your giving commitment through the year-end. Thank You!

AND MORE

Stewardship Reminder! Today is Dedication Sunday when we offer our pledges and gifts of treasure and time for the ministry of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church for the coming year. If you have not turned in a pledge yet, please do so in order that a budget for 2021 can be completed. Thanks to all who support our ministry!



New member classes have been scheduled for Jan. 10, 17 and 24th. It will be a series of Zoom calls. For questions, please contact Tamara Gilbert at tswales.gilbert@gmail.com

The History to Our Story Team (HOST) video project is complete! The full video can be seen on the GPMC website or at https://youtu.be/iBnodfCbdmM. Sincere thanks to everyone who provided photos and submitted videos. All submitted materials will appear in the on-line digital archive.



Food Drive: The 313 Calling will host a Drive-Thru **3** Calling Food Drive on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 10-11am in GPMC's parking lot. You'll always find the shopping list on the church's web site. We continue to

collect for our partners Second Mile Center of Detroit and Manistique Community Treehouse.

Hunger knows no season! Help Our 313 Calling feed the homeless every week. It's quick and easy to help. Sign up for 20 or more today. https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904044aa8ae2aa3f85-pbj

PRAYING FOR OTHERS

The congregation and staff of Grosse Pointe Memorial Church believe that prayer is very important. If you would like to add a person to our prayers, please call Carol Marks 313.882.5330 ex. 127 or e-mail her at cmarks@gpmchurch.org. May God continue to surround you with love and care.

RECENT PRAYER REOUESTS: Michael Anderson (Stevie Miller's son), Michael Becker and his parents, Pam and Don Becker (John Boris' grandson, daughter and son in law), Judy Caldwell (Leslie Martin's friend), Kim Geist (Stevie Miller's daughter), Jeff and Sharon Grice (John and Becky Scholtes' friends), Perry Kent (Phyllis May's son), Kurt Larson (son of Pete Larson), Jack Liang, Caroline Marks, Alex Scapini (Fran McCabee's nephew).

ONGOING PRAYER REQUESTS: Sandy Beckett's mother and sister, Joan and Tom Coyle, The Rev. Dr. David Deiter, Bronn Dismukes (newborn baby of Paige and Roy Dismukes, and grandbaby of Ruth Azar and Scott Matthews), Chris Hatch (niece of Carol Marks), Michel Pilorget, Lisa Sturm (Christina Turner's friend), Gail Warden.

FOR OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL: Maria Marable (friend of Elizabeth Tengler), Phoebe Piku (advanced training in U.S. army), Salvador Zúñiga (Janice Zúñiga's son), Bart and Amanda Ward.

FOR OUR HEALTHCARE WORKERS: All who are on the frontlines of the war against Covid-19, Keith Bellovich, Anna Brucker, Heather Frahm, Matt Koral, Lauren McCabee, Rebecca McCoy, Chris and Rosa Moore, Blake Sanford, Karlyn McCoy Schoen, Karol Swenson, George Williams, Erin Hepler Worrell.

In Memoriam

Mary Boyer Taylor

(February 20, 1931 - November 26, 2020)

A private memorial service will be held in the spring. Please hold all who love Mary in your prayers during these sad days ahead.

In Memoriam

Joseph Lowthian Hudson, Jr.

(July 4, 1931 - December 2, 2020)

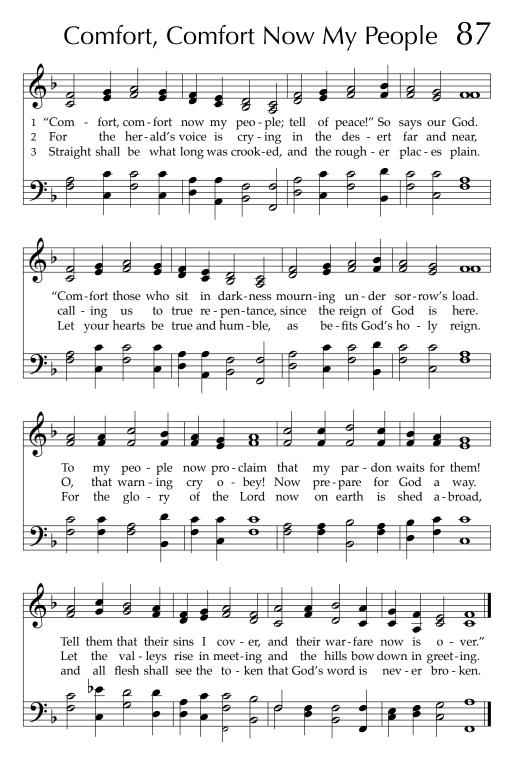
A memorial service will be held at a later date. Please hold Joe's wife, Jean, their children and all who love Joe, in your prayers during these sad days ahead.

THIS WEEK AT MEMORIAL

- Monday, Dec. 7: Preacher's Workshop 10 11am via Zoom Trustee's Meeting 7 - 8pm via Zoom Reel Theology 7:30 - 9pm via Zoom
- Tuesday, Dec. 8: Women's Bible Study 7 8am via Zoom FLAME 6-7pm Trinity Terrace LIFE/TUXIS 7-8pm Trinity Terrace
- Wednesday, Dec. 9: Men's Bible Study 7-8am Fellowship Hall Script. & Conv. for Women 11:15am via phone Short Story Theology 7:30 - 8:30pm via Zoom
- Thursday, Dec. 10: No scheduled activities
 - Friday, Dec. 11: No scheduled activities
- Saturday, Dec. 12: Men's Bible Study 8 9am via Zoom
- Sunday, Dec. 13: Worship Service 9am via Livestream Middle Hour 10:10am Via Zoom and Phone

96 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry







Gifts of Poinsettias and Music

If you would like to make a contribution, please fill out the form below and return to the church **by Monday, December 14** in order to have them included in the Christmas Eve bulletins. A suggested amount for a small poinsettia is \$25 and for music is \$25 - \$50. You may pick up the poinsettia at church on Dec. 15th or 16th between 12:30 and 4pm, or have the Deacons deliver the poinsettia to a shut-in. Check below. Please list exactly how you would like your dedication to be in the bulletin: example: JOHN & MARY SMITH by their grandchildren, Mike & Betty Smith.

Daytime Phone: and E-mail: Check one of the following: In Memory of In Honor of	Your Name:			
In Memory of In Honor of To the Glory of God Pickup at church on Dec. 15th or 16th between 12:30 - 4pm	Daytime Phone:	_ and E-mail:		
In Honor of To the Glory of God Pickup at church on Dec. 15th or 16th between 12:30 - 4pm	Check one of the following:			
To the Glory of God Pickup at church on Dec. 15th or 16th between 12:30 - 4pm	In Memory of			
Pickup at church on Dec. 15th or 16th between 12:30 - 4pm	In Honor of			00
between 12:30 - 4pm	To the Glory of God			
Deliver poinsettia to shut-in	-	h or 16th	(Sal	Ŷ
	Deliver poinsettia to shut-in	A.	9/* 😌	f.
	For Poinsettias For Ministry of Music	-54		



Pastoral and Program Staff

The Reverend Mark E. Diehl, Interim Pastor and Head of Staff The Reverend Sarah Godbehere, Associate Pastor (on Sabbatical) Susan Acton, Coordinator of Outreach Ministries James Biery, Minister of Music and Organist Marie Calcaterra, Director of Mornings at Memorial Carol Beltz Marks, Director of Pastoral Ministries The Reverend Susan Mozena, Minister of Adult Education Jim Schultz, CPA, Director of Finance and Operations Lisa Turner, Director of Children's Ministries

Administrative Staff

Dan Aggas, Head Sexton Susan Griffin, Accounting Manager Donna Hartzell, Administrative Assistant for Worship, Communications and Music Fran McCabee, Administrative Assistant for Membership Dan Ryan, Engineer Joe Warnez, Sexton

Social Media and Online Communications

gpmchurch.org Facebook - Grosse Pointe Memorial Church Twitter - GPMCNews Wireless Network in Sanctuary is "gpmchurch," password bibles@gpmchurch

> Office Hours Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm



GROSSE POINTE MEMORIAL CHURCH

"A light by the lakeshore" 16 Lake Shore Dr. | Grosse Pointe Farms, MI 48236 313.882.5330 | gpmchurch.org