



GROSSE POINTE
MEMORIAL CHURCH
'A light by the lakeshore'

Service of Worship
Second Sunday of Advent
December 8, 2024 | 9 & 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 – Savior of the Nations Come

Arr. Cathy Moglebust

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Christ, the One who was, and is, and is to come, welcomes you to this place. As one body, with one voice, we honor and glorify the giver of wisdom, counsel, knowledge, and joy.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

*OPENING HYMN 82 – Come Thou Long Expected Jesus
(see bulletin page 10)

Tune: Hyfrydol

*LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE (LOVE)

One: Facades are prevalent in this broken world. Fear of shame and unlovability dim the human spirit. As God breaks in this season, shame gives way to grace. The scandal of the gospel is that the love of God is birthed for each and every one of us.

All: **We light the candle of love. May its light overcome the shadows of our fear.**

*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.**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

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

All: Gracious and welcoming God, have mercy on your people. We confess that we do not often live like we believe in your incarnation. We do not often heed your word each day in all that we say and do. We do not often see our neighbors, families, and friends as beloved children whom you have made. In your mercy, forgive us, for we repent of our ways and look to your power to heal us and raise us up, so that, at the last, you will gather us to you and give us peace.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Amen. The reign of God has come near; the repentant will be judged with righteousness. We are forgiven. Be filled with hope, believing in the power of the risen Christ to bring you to new life. Rejoice and believe.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: Before the foundation of the world Christ forgave us and forgives us still today. Let us forgive as we have been forgiven and share the peace of Christ. Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM (11 AM)

Today we celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism as we welcome Henry John Vismara, son of Michelle and Tom Vismara. Please see the Apostle's Creed on page 35 in the pew hymnal.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Lord, open our hearts to receive your Word; by your Spirit free us from the power of darkness and show to us the inheritance of the saints of light. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING – Isaiah 7: 10 – 14

(O.T. page 598)

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 (9 AM)

Children ages 4-grade 2 may depart for "Children's Church" held in room 301 after the children's sermon. At 10:05 am, volunteers will take children participating in Middle Hour to the 3rd floor: Pre-K-Kindergarten to room 302; Grades 1-2 to room 310; and Grades 3-4 to room 307. Parents/caregivers can pick up children not participating in Middle Hour from room 301 immediately following the service.

ANTHEM – Come Lord Jesus

Dorothy Christopherson

GOSPEL READING – Luke 1: 26 – 38

(N.T. page 53)

SERMON – The Fear of Scandalous Grace

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.

ANTHEM AND OFFERING – Magnificat

Carson Cooman

***PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING 606 – Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow**

Tune: Old Hundredth

All: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

TAKING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN – Behold the Grace Appears
(see bulletin page 11)

Tune: Festal Song

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE – Toccata on *Hyfrydol*

Arr. Logan Hamilton

This Morning's Music: Looks forward to the arrival of Christ, as well as the promises that are fulfilled in his birth on this Second Sunday of Advent. The anthem presented by the Sanctuary and Bell Choirs spark petitions to Christ in four verses that offer collective hearts of love, peace, joy, and hope. The offertory takes text from the Magnificat (Luke 1: 46-66) to confirm the four petitions asked. Carson Cooman (b. 1982) sets this text in an epic narrative, opening with tremendous energy from the organ and choir, before venturing through various sonic textures in the choir. The Magnificat closes by recapitulating the opening flurry with a triumphant doxology recited in the choir.

Copyright Acknowledgments: The following are used with permission, OneLicense.net License No. 718520. All rights reserved.

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, liturgists; the Mahlmeister-Kopasz family (9 am), Phyllis and John Brewster (11 am), Advent candle lighters; Rylee Mahlmeister (9 am), Michael Hartnett (11 am), lay readers; Tim Klepp, elder (11 am); Logan Hamilton, Minister of Music and Organist; Rory Powell, Handbell Director; the Sanctuary Choir; the Handbell Choir.

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.

Today's Sanctuary poinsettias are given in loving memory of **Michael J. Murray** by the Murray and Andrus families.

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. 5

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.

WHAT'S HAPPENING TODAY AT GPMC?

| | | |
|----------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| 8:30 am | Crossroads Lunch | Offsite |
| 9:00 am | Worship Service | Sanctuary & Livestreamed |
| 10:00 am | Alternate Gifts | Fellowship Hall |
| 10:10 am | Sunday School | Third Floor |
| 10:10 am | Youth Middle Hour | Third Floor |
| 10:10 am | Adult Middle Hour | Barbour Chapel |
| 11:00 am | Worship Service | Sanctuary |
| 1:00 pm | Girl Scouts | Room 310 |
| 3:00 pm | A Night in Bethlehem | Various Locations |
| 5:00 pm | Worship Service | Sanctuary |

Chrismon ornaments have been part of various Reformed churches since the 1950s and represent the symbols of our faith. During Middle Hour on December 8, 15, and 22 you will have the opportunity to not only learn the meaning of these symbols but make an ornament to take home for your Christmas tree as a reminder of our rich tradition and faith!

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. 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), Peggy Sargent (Phyllis Brewster's sister), Allison and Zach Thorton.

Continued Prayers for: Stephanie Kornblum (Sue Vititoe's daughter), 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 9

Preacher's Workshop, 10 - 11 am (2nd Floor Lounge)
Brass Rehearsal, 6:30 - 7:30 pm (Sanctuary)
Council Meetings, 6:30, 7 & 7:30 pm (Various Locations)
Boy Scouts, 7 - 8:30 pm (Fellowship Hall)

Tuesday, December 10

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

Wednesday, December 11

Men's Bible Study, 7 - 8 am (2nd Floor Lounge)
AA, 8:15 - 9:30 am (Room 209)
Memorial Youth Christmas Party, 6 - 8 pm (Room 315)
Novel as Theology, 7:30 - 9 pm (Offsite)

Thursday, December 12

Yoga, 10 - 11 am (Room 322) & 6 - 7 pm (Fellowship Hall)
Handbell Choir Rehearsal, 6:15 - 7:15 pm (Room 326)
Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 - 9:15 pm (Choir Room)

Friday, December 13

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

Saturday, December 14

Men's Bible Study, 8 - 9 am (Offsite)
Choir Rehearsal, 10 am - 12 pm (Sanctuary)
Babysitting/Childcare for Parents, 1 - 4 pm (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, December 15

Worship Services, *9 & 11 am (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)
Advent Songfest, 3 - 4:30 pm (Sanctuary)
Songfest Reception, 4:30 - 5:30 pm (Fellowship Hall)
Worship Service with the Back Forty Band, 5 pm (Barbour Chapel)

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

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 82

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,

from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;

dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

10

Behold! The Grace Appears

Isaac Watts

William H. Walter

1. Be - hold! the grace a - ppears The pro - mise is ful - filled Ma -
2. The Lord, the high - est God, Calls him his on - ly Son; He -
3. O'er Ja - cob shall he reign with a pe - cul - iar sway; The
4. In wor - ship so di - vine Let saints em - ploy their songs: With

6
ry the wond - rous vir - gin bears, And Je - sus is the child.
bids him rule the lands a - broad, And gives him Da - vid's throne
na - tions shall his grace ob - tain, his king - dom ne'er de - cay.
the ce - les - tial host we join, And loud re - peat their songs!



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-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
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