

Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – November 28, 2021

First Sunday of Advent

Church in person at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.

Livestream on YouTube at 11:00 a.m.



About Advent:

“Advent” means coming or arrival. This word has a double significance, as in Advent we celebrate Christ’s coming into the world and look with longing for his coming again. We watch and pray with expectant hope for the establishment of God’s justice and the return of the Prince of Peace. As the weeks of Advent progress, the focus shifts to thanks and praise for the birth of the one who has already come—Jesus Christ our Savior. *Book of Common Worship*

Opening Music “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” arr. Hal Hopson

Welcome

Lighting the Advent Candle, Call to Worship, and Opening Prayer

Hymn [*stand*] “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” Glory to God #93

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession [*together*]

Loving and faithful God, as we begin the season of Advent,
we celebrate that Jesus has come,
and that he promises to come again!
Jesus came to bring light and hope,
and our hearts are shrouded by despair.
Jesus came to bring joy and peace,
and our hearts are encased by turmoil.

**Jesus came to bring life and love,
and our hearts are hardened by resistance.
As Jesus entered the world to conquer sin and death,
we open our hearts to be cleansed
and to be restored to the image of Jesus.
Amen.**

[Silence for Personal Prayer]

Assurance of Pardon

We Listen to God's Word

Children's Message

Carolyn Hayes (9:30)

Natalie Jorges-Castellanos (11:00)

Children and youth stay in worship today.

Scripture

Isaiah 9:1–2, 6

But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

² The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.

⁶ For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Mark 1:1–8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

² As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,
'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,

who will prepare your way;
³ the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
“Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight” ’,

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, ‘The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Road Construction Season

Rev. Mary Austin

We Respond to God’s Grace

Hymn

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

Glory to God #39

Moment for Mission

Rev. Norm Gordon

Invitation to Generosity and Prayer of Thanksgiving

Invitation to Prayer

“He Came Down” *verse 1*

Glory to God #137
[Please sing twice]

**He came down that we may have love;
He came down that we may have love;
He came down that we may have love;
Hallelujah forevermore.**

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer [*together*]

**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.

We Depart for Service

Sending Song [*stand*] “While We Are Waiting, Come” Glory to God #92

Announcements and Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Closing Blessing

Closing Music “Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying” arr. Johann G. Walther

†

Participating in the service:

Arfan Sandhu, Ulfat Masih, Jerusa Sandhu, Ashley Sandhu, Matthew Sandhu, Worship Leaders
Dr. Lynn Monkres, Guest Organist
Ms. Carolyn Hayes, Director of Children and Young Families
Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence
Rev. Mary Austin



Please sign the guest
book by using your
smartphone camera
to scan the QR code

gpchurch.org/guestbook