

Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church – December 5, 2021
Second Sunday of Advent
Church in person at 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
Livestream on YouTube at 11:00 a.m.



Opening Music

“Little Prelude in F major”

W. F. Bach

Welcome

Please register your attendance with the QR code on the back of the bulletin, or with the online link, or on paper in the church Gathering Space. Need help? Ask any usher.

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

Hymn [*stand*] “All Creatures of Our God and King” *verses 1-4* Glory to God #15

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession [*together*]

Gracious and welcoming God,
have mercy on your people.
We confess that we do not believe you are coming.
We do not heed your word each day
in all that we say and do.
We do not see our neighbors, families, and friends
as your beloved people.
In your mercy, forgive us,
for we repent and look to your power
to heal us and raise us up. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

[*Silence for Personal Prayer*]

Assurance of Pardon [*responsive*]

In your baptism you were bathed in light and clothed with grace.
Therefore, put on the Lord Jesus Christ!
Know that you are forgiven, and live in peace.
We receive this gift with joy. Thanks be to God!

We Listen to God's Word

Children's Message

Carolyn Hayes

Children and youth stay in worship today.

Scripture

Luke 1:26–38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, 'Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.' ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.'

³⁴Mary said to the angel, 'How can this be, since I am a virgin?' ³⁵The angel said to her, 'The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.' ³⁸Then Mary said, 'Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.' Then the angel departed from her.

Luke 1:39–56

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord,

⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me,

and holy is his name.

- ⁵⁰ His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
- ⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
- ⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
- ⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
- ⁵⁴ He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
- ⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.'
- ⁵⁶ And Mary remained with her for about three months and then returned to her home.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

All You Can Eat Buffet

Rev. Mary Austin

We Respond to God's Grace

Minute for Mission

Christmas Giving Tree

Invitation to Generosity and Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion Music [*seated*] "He Came Down" *verses 1 and 2* Glory to God #137

**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.**

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

Invitation to the Communion Table and Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right, and our greatest joy...

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.

The Breaking of the Bread

For those worshipping at home:

Please take the elements you have at home, and eat whatever kind of bread you have, and drink whatever cup you have prepared. The bread is the body of Christ, the bread of heaven, and the cup is the blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. Take and eat. Take and drink.

For those worshipping in the sanctuary:

The elements will be served after the closing blessing, for safety.

The elements at GPC are always gluten free.

Prayer after Communion

We Depart for Service

Announcements and Sending Song [*stand*]

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" *verses 1 and 2*

Glory to God #82

Passing the Peace

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

Closing Blessing

Closing Music

"Fugue on the Magnificat Sixth Tone, No. 2"

Johann Pachelbel

†

Participating in the service:

Rev. Jacob Rodawla, Worship Leader (9:30)

Daniel and Ezekiel Anpoma, Elfreda and Rebecca Raven, Blaise and Cooper Scavullo, Holy Angel Tchouambou, and Terry, Max and Lainey Young, Worship Leaders (11:00)

Mr. Wade Meyers, Director of Music and Worship Arts

Ms. Carolyn Hayes, Director of Children and Young Families

Rev. Mary Beth Lawrence

Rev. Mary Austin

The Prayer of Confession is from the Feasting on the Word Worship Companion.



Please sign the guest book by using your smartphone camera to scan the QR code
(gpchurch.org/guestbook)