



Sunday, December 10, 2023, 11 a.m.

Second Sunday of Advent

G. F. Handel's *Messiah*, part one

PRELUDE Sinfonia

WELCOME Leader: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
 People: And also with you.

LIGHTING *of the* SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

MESSIAH, SCENE ONE: Isaiah's Prophecy of Salvation

Comfort Ye (tenor recit)

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness; prepare ye the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Ev'ry valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry mountain and hill made low; the crooked straight and the rough places plain. *Isaiah 40:1-4*

Every Valley (tenor aria)

Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low. Now the glory of God is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken. *Isaiah 40:4-5*

And the Glory (chorus)

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. *Isaiah 40:5*

◆ *You are invited to stand*

As a courtesy to others, please turn off your cell phone and refrain from flash photography during the service.

INTRODUCTION *and* OPENING PRAYER

TIME *with* CHILDREN

Rev. Dr. Camille Cook Howe

BAPTISM

ROBERT EDWARD JOYCE

Son of

LUCY *and* THOMAS JOYCE

MESSIAH, SCENE TWO: The Coming Judgment

Thus Saith the Lord (recit)

Thus saith the Lord, the Lord of hosts: Yet once a little while and I will shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. *Haggai 2:6-7*

And I will shake all nations; and the desire of all nations shall come. The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the messenger of the Covenant, whom you delight in; behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. *Malachi 3:1*

But Who May Abide (bass aria)

But who may abide the day of His coming, and who shall stand when He appeareth? For He is like a refiner's fire. *Malachi 3:2*

And He Shall Purify the Sons of Levi (chorus)

And He shall purify the sons of Levi, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness. *Malachi 3:3*

PRAYER *for* ILLUMINATION

Elder Tracy Davis

LESSON

Luke 1:39-45

pg. 58

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

MESSIAH, SCENE THREE: The Prophecy of Christ's Birth

Behold a Virgin Shall Conceive (soprano aria)

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Emmanuel, God with us. *Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23*

O Thou That Tellest (alto aria and chorus)

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain. O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, behold your god! Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. *Isaiah 40:9; Isaiah 60:1*

For Unto Us a Child Is Born (chorus)

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace. *Isaiah 9:6*

CALL for the OFFERING and PRAYER of THANKSGIVING

Passing of the Fellowship Books

MESSIAH, SCENE FOUR: The Annunciation to the Shepherds

There Were Shepherds Abiding... (soprano recit)

There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them: "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." And suddenly there was with the angel, a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying... *Luke 2:8-13*

Glory to God (chorus)

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will towards men. *Luke 2:14*

MESSIAH, SCENE FIVE: Christ's Healing and Redemption

Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion (soprano aria)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, thy King cometh unto thee; He is the righteous Saviour, and He shall speak peace unto the heathen. *Zechariah 9:9-10*

Then Shall the Eyes of the Blind Be Opened (alto recit)

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing. *Isaiah 35:5-*

He Shall Feed His Flock Like a Shepherd (alto and soprano)

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd; and He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Come unto Him, all ye that labor, that are heavy laden, and He shall give you rest. Take his yoke upon you, and learn of Him; for he is meek and lowly of heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. *Isaiah 40:11; Matthew 11:28-29*

His Yoke is Easy (duet chorus)

His yoke is easy, and His burden is light. *Matthew 11:30*

◆ BENEDICTION

◆ POSTLUDE

Hallelujah Chorus

G. F. Handel (b. 1685-d. 1759)

Hallelujah! Hallelujah!...

for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. The Kingdom of this world is become the Kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ: and

He shall reign for ever and ever. King of kings, Lord of lords.

Church Staff

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About Today's Service

About Today's Music: Thanks to the GPC choir and our guest musicians for making this morning possible. They are: Preston Hawes, Natalie Rose Kress, violins; Dan Zhang, viola; Susanna Mendlow, cello; Emily Snyder Foster, Lisa Froelich, oboes; Abner Marquez, trumpet. The vocal soloists are: Claire Iverson, soprano; Olivia O'Brien, alto; Steven Blondo, tenor; Henrique Carvalho, bass.

Advent Readers: Alex Davis, Nadia McAtee, Leigh Sterchi, Prater Sterchi, Reed Sterchi, Lily Walker, Ryan Wilson, Shannon Wilson, and James Pierce

Flowers: The flowers in the sanctuary today are given by Lucy and Thomas Joyce in celebration of the baptism of their son, Robert Edward Joyce

Ushers: Rick Del Sontro (Captain), Lucy Coble Joyce, Veronique Dupont, Eric Durbin, Kristin Froehle, Claire Hunn, Catherine Johnson, Bryan Scott, Michele Tate Wilson and Jimmy Wilson

Punch Bunch: Please join us in the Georgetown Room following worship for Punch Bunch hosted by the Hospitality Committee

Children's Worship Leaders: Priscila Rodriguez, Esther Wisdom, Brian Stocker, and Kathleen Jennings

Nursery Caregivers: Gamage Perera and Swarna Nawarantha

Announcements

Christmas Flower Dedications

Donate to our advent and Christmas flower fund. Use the special envelopes in the pews and drop your donation in the offering plate before Christmas Eve. You may also choose to include a dedication written on the envelope.

Mission Market

We will be open for business TODAY, on December 10th at 10:30 am! Join us before AND after the 11:00 am service for some Christmas shopping to support our mission partners. See you soon for some charitable holiday shopping!

Stewardship 2024: Sharing God's Story

Please show your appreciation for your many blessings, and your dedication to this Church with a Stewardship gift for 2024. We ask everyone to participate, especially those who have not given before. If you are particularly blessed this year, please increase your intent. The Bible asks us to joyfully give thanks to God. Let us also be joyful givers so we can continue to "Share God's Story." Please fill out the intent card in the pews and return it to the offering plate or fill out the online intent form at gtownpres.org/stewardship.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, December 10

- 9:45am Nursery
- 9:50am Confirmation Class
- 10:00am Pageant Rehearsal
- 10:30am Mission Market
- 10:45am Singing with Ms. Regina
- 11:00am Worship**
- 12:00pm Mission Market, Punch Bunch
- 5:00pm Yoga*

Wednesday, December 13

- 7:30pm Advent Bible Study*

Thursday, December 14

- 6:30pm Session Meeting

Sunday, December 17

- 9:00am Officer Training
- 9:45am Nursery
- 9:50am Confirmation Class
- 10:00am Pageant Rehearsal
- 10:45am Singing with Ms. Regina
- 11:00am Worship**
- 12:00pm Punch Bunch
- 5:00pm Yoga*

**Event will be conducted virtually.*

***Both virtual and in-person options will be available.*

St Nick's Thank You!

The Church enjoyed a wonderful evening of fellowship at the St Nick's Dinner last Saturday, which was hosted by the Hospitality Committee, including Veronique Dupont, Missye Knapp, Chase Lubbock, and Lori Shoemaker. Additional thanks to all of our many volunteers who helped with the setup, the meal, crafts, greeting, cleanup and Santa!

Advent Bible Study

Join the GPC Pastoral Staff for a Virtual Advent Study. Exploring God's gifts of peace, justice and joy: An Advent Study on Isaiah. Wednesdays from 7:30-8:30 pm during December.

-The Gift of Justice: The Peaceable Kingdom-Wednesday, December 13th with Pastor Camille
-The Gift of Joy: The Desert Shall Rejoice and Blossom-Wednesday, December 20th with Pastor Meghan

Zoom Meeting ID: 847 0981 2098
Passcode: 319891

Blue Christmas Service at National Cathedral

Tuesday, December 19th at 7 pm.

You are invited to join Pastor Meghan and GPC Member Katy McBride for a Blue Christmas service. "We remember the One who shares our burdens, who shows us the way to the Light, and who journeys the way with us-At a time of year when so many experience feelings of grief, loss, and hardship, this service of prayer, music, and reflection invites us into hope and healing." Join Meghan and Katy beforehand for dinner at Two Amy's at 5:30 pm or meet them at the Cathedral at 6:45 pm. All are welcome.

Worship

gtownpres.org/worship

Welcome to Georgetown Presbyterian Church, where people have gathered to worship for over 240 years. We worship each Sunday at 11:00am.

Serve

gtownpres.org/serve

Sign Up to Be a Greeter

You may have noticed the smiling faces of GPC's greeters, volunteers who welcome members and visitors each Sunday with a friendly word and a warm handshake (or elbow bump!). This is a great way to meet people in the congregation and help bring warmth and community to our congregation. To volunteer for this fun and important role, visit gtownpres.org/connect.

Learn

gtownpres.org/learn

Children's Programming on Sunday Morning

Education Hour 10:00 - 11:00 am

Sunday School: Children ages 3.5 - fifth grade are invited to attend as often as you are able at 10:00 am in the third floor classrooms. The Sunday School teachers will walk children down to the chapel for singing at the end of class.

Singing with Ms. Regina: Children of all ages are welcome to sing along with us in the chapel beginning at 10:45. Parents are invited to stay and sing together.

Confirmation Class: Confirmation class runs weekly from September through February for interested Youth in sixth grade and up. Class is led by Pastor Meghan at 10:00 am in the Youth Room.

Worship Hour 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Young Children and Worship: Following the Time with Children in the worship service, children in PreK-2nd grade are led upstairs to participate in this Montessori-based worship program. Parents should plan to walk upstairs to pick their children up from the classrooms.

Children's Church: Following the Time with Children in the worship service, children in 3rd - 5th grade are led to the chapel to participate in age-appropriate worship, led by one of our pastors and Ms. Regina. Children are dismissed back to the sanctuary or to punch bunch when Children's Church is over.

Youth Group

Youth Group meets a couple of Sunday evenings each month. If you're interested in receiving emails about youth group programming, please reach out to Jennie to be added to the list (JDL@gtownpres.org)

Connect

gtownpres.org/connect

Join Us For Yoga Online Sundays at 5 pm!

Sunday morning worship is great for your soul- why not add Sunday evening yoga to care for your mind and body? Join your GPC friends for an hour of easy flow yoga and breath work with certified instructor Charlotte Adamo. Classes are on Zoom and cost \$25 each (payable by Venmo or check). Charlotte sees the best in everyone, and she meets you where you are, offering prompts for beginners, and challenges for the more advanced. For more info, feel free to email [Mary Beth Ray](mailto:MaryBethRay@gmail.com) or [Charlotte Adamo](mailto:CharlotteAdamo@gmail.com).

Namaste, we hope to see you soon!

Requests for Prayers

Scan here or visit gtownpres.org/connect to fill out the care and support form. Responses will go directly to the GPC

Care Committee. Thank you for helping us care for yourselves and the broader GPC community.



Give

gtownpres.org/give

Your gifts enable the mission and ministry of this church. To manage a current pledge or make a one-time gift, visit gtownpres.org/give or scan the QR code below.

To give of your time and talents, visit gtownpres.org/timeandtalents.



Happy Birthday!

<i>December 10</i>	James Pollock
<i>December 11</i>	Brian Sugarman
<i>December 12</i>	Kirk von Seelen Lauren Mattison
<i>December 13</i>	Cristian Lopez
<i>December 16</i>	Jennifer Small

Serving Our City, United in Christ

Welcome to the Georgetown Presbyterian Church

If you are here for the first time, we extend a special welcome to you. Please take a moment to read through the bulletin which contains important information for the life of this congregation.

- Ushers are wearing red lapel tags and are in the back of the Sanctuary. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask them.
- Please join us after worship for refreshments and fellowship in the Georgetown Room.

Children are always welcome!

- Worship bags are available for children who wish to stay in the worship service. Children can pick these up under the bench in the Narthex, and return them after church
- For our youngest children through three years old, nursery care is available upstairs beginning at 9:45am.
- After the Time with Children in the service, children can remain with their families or exit the Sanctuary with our Children's Worship leaders to continue age-appropriate worship. Please feel free to escort your children to their classroom to meet the leaders.

Navigating the Service

- Stars ♦ indicate when you are invited to stand if you are able.
- Bold text indicates that the congregation says this together, in one voice.
- Hymns can be found in the purple hymnals. Bibles are located at the end of the pews. Large print hymnals are available in the back of the Sanctuary.
- We receive communion once a month, and all are welcome.



THE
GEORGETOWN
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

The Georgetown Presbyterian Church has been a steadfast presence in our nation's capital since 1780, ministering to generations of Washingtonians, serving our city, united in Christ. For more of our history, visit gtownpres.org/us/history.

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