

Reformed worship is centered around the Word, both the Word of scripture and Christ as the Word Incarnate. In worship we gather around the Word, engage with the Word, and respond to the Word.

Bold text is read by the congregation.

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

You may access the online order of worship to follow along on any digital device:



Passing of the Peace is one of the most ancient responses in worship. We invite you to share a sign of peace with your neighbor.

+ At this time children are invited to come forward to the front pew for conversation around our texts for the week.

Glendale Presbyterian Church



December 31, 2023 | 10 AM Epiphany

Gather

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude | "Let There Be Peace on Earth" Jill Jackson Miller/Sy Miller, "Oh Happy Day" Edwin Hawkins | Carol Schmidt

*Unison Prayer for the Day

God, you placed a star in the sky to draw wise folk to the place of Christ's nativity. There you revealed the mystery of your eternal purpose for all humanity: God made flesh, born of Mary, opening to all the world the promise you made to Abraham and Sarah. Empower your church to be as the light of the star, that we may draw the world to the glory of Christ, our Lord, through whom we pray. Amen.

Carol Sing | Congregational Choice

Litany for Epiphany

One: Arise, shine; for your light has come! The glory of the Lord has risen upon you. **Many: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

One: Nations will come to his light, and rulers will seek his radiance.

Many: Jesus Christ is the light of the world. One: He will judge the people with righteousness and defend the cause of the poor. Many: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

One: The mystery of the ages is revealed; the eternal plan of God is known to all. Many: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

One: Let us kneel down before him to give him honor, glory, and praise.

Many: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

One: Let us offer him all the treasures of our hearts and our lives. Many: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

*Passing of the Peace One: The peace of Christ be with you. **Many: And also with you.**

*Congregational Hymn of Response | GTG #583 | "Gloria, Gloria" (sing twice)

Proclaim God's Word

Prayer for Illumination | Liturgist

Scripture | Old Testament - Isaiah 60:1-6 | Gospel - Matthew 2:1-12

+Conversation with Children | "A Story About Stars" | Rev. Carol DeVaughan

*Hymn | GTG #151, v. 1 & 5 | "We Three Kings"

Message in Brief | "Gifts and Givers" | Rev. Carol DeVaughan

SERVICE MUSIC



*May be sung as a canon.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1979 Music © 1979, 1981 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.) GLORIA (Taizé)

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH



(Matthew 2:1–12) as "kings," perhaps because of passages like Psalm 72:10 and Isaiah 60:3, it is more accurate to think of them as magi or astrologers, the scholars of their day.

Respond to God's Word

*Hymn | "Hymn for the New Year" | See Insert

Words of Offering | Liturgist

*Doxology | GTG #582 | "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me"

Unison Prayer of Dedication

Glorious God, you led the wise ones to seek your Holy Child, and to offer him precious gifts. We, too, offer our gifts in gratitude, reverence, and thanksgiving for the birth of your Child. Bless our offerings as a joyful sign of the boundless love and abundant life we are called to share in Christ. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer | Rev. Carol DeVaughan (Response: God of light, **hear our prayer.**)

Lord's Prayer

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.

*Hymn | GTG #136 | "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

*Blessing | Rev. Carol DeVaughan

Postlude | "A Little Night Music" Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (Piano Arrangement) | Carol Schmidt

("Hymn for the New Year" used with permission from Michael Richardson. Tune in the Public Domain.)

Tithes and offerings may be left in the offering plate. Those who prefer to donate electronically are invited to donate through our church website:



Our congregation has a practice of staying seated for the duration of the postlude.

Our worship does not end with the postlude, but continues out into the world, where we are sent to love and care for God's people. SERVICE MUSIC



As it was in the be - gin-ning, is now and ev-er shall be. A - men. JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH



Like other material from oral traditions, 19th-century African American spirituals flourished without being written down. Their refrains were their most stable parts, and narrative stanzas were often improvised to fit. These Nativity stanzas attempt to recall that tradition.

GO TELL IT 7.6.7.6 with refrain

Sermon Notes

Prayer Requests

Healing and Wholeness

Prayers for Paige's mother, Nancy, who has moved into skilled nursing. Prayers of gratitude that she is comfortable and receiving excellent care.

Prayers for travelers during the holidays, and for those feeling the loss of loved ones during this season. Prayers for Roy Pullam, for healing and comfort as he continues cancer treatment.

Prayers for Joan's friend Lori, who recently lost her husband. Continued prayers for Randy's brother, Buddy, as he participates in a clinical trial to treat brain cancer. Continued prayers for Joan's granddaughter, Ellen, and for her Aunt Joan.

Praise and Celebration

Prayers of celebration for Joan's granddaughter who turned 3 recently. Prayers of joy and good health, for Mary Beth's daughter, Katie, who is pregnant with her first baby.

Annonncements

Welcome Rev. Carol DeVaughan

We are delighted once again to have Rev. Carol DeVaughan join us in the pulpit today while Pastor Kathleen is on vacation. Let's give Pastor DeVaughan a warm welcome and thank you!

Coffee Shop Office Hours

Have a question about an event? An announcement to share? Contact the church office at 314-822-2545

or by e-mail to glendalepres@gmail.com

Pastor Kathleen's coffee shop hours this week will be at St. Louis Bread Co. in Webster Groves on Wednesday, from 1–3 pm.

Welcome

Welcome to Glendale Presbyterian Church! We are glad to have you join us for worship. If you are new to GPC, it is our prayer that you will experience the presence of God while you are here. At GPC, we share God's love through our work and play in our church and community.

Children & Worship

Children are always welcome in worship. The "Prayer Ground" is located in the front of the sanctuary where children are welcome to sit as is most comfortable to them and to engage with the materials up there throughout the service. In addition, the nursery is available for use by small children and their grown-ups near the Parking Lot Entry to the church. During the school year, children are invited to attend Sunday School following "Opening the Word with Young Disciples."

Worship Bags

All ages are invited to pick up a GPC worship bag in the Narthex (back of the sanctuary) that has items to be utilized to enhance their worship experience.

New Members

New members are received by the Session. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to join the GPC family. Please contact Pastor Kathleen at 314-944-3334 or pastorhenrion@gmail.com for further information.

Prayer Request Cards

Blue prayer request cards are available upon entry to the building, as well as in pews. Please use them to note any joys or concerns you wish to have lifted in prayer. Place your prayer request card in the basket at either entrance to the Sanctuary before worship begins. If you need to fill it out during the beginning of worship, feel free to drop your prayer requests in the basket during the first hymn. The cards will be shared with the congregation, in worship, on the video of worship, and in the newsletter unless otherwise requested on the card.

Pastoral Care

To notify the church of illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths; or to pass along a prayer request; or to arrange for Home Communion, Please contact the church office at 314-822-2545 or by e-mail to glendalepres@gmail.com or you are welcome to contact Kathleen directly via call or text at 314-944-3334. Or by email at pastorhenrion@gmail.com

Serving the Church

Interested in serving the church in some way? Contact the church office at 314-822-2545 or by e-mail to glendalepres@gmail.com and we'd love to connect you.

Sunday, December 31, 2023

Liturgist | Peggy Mayfield Song Leader | Peggy Mayfield Usher | Debbie Rose Greeter | Jan Nolen Online Host | Katie Niesen Cook Fellowship | Clarice Fleming Counter | Peggy Mayfield Music Director | Carol Schmidt Guest Pastor | Rev. Carol DeVaughan

Sunday, January 7, 2024

Liturgist | Peggy Mayfield Song Leader | Peggy Mayfield Usher | Kathy Foresman Greeter | Jan Nolan Online Host | Paige Stroud Communion | Katie Niesen Cook Fellowship | Counters | Music Director | Carol Schmidt Pastor | Rev. Kathleen Henrion

Glendale Presbyterian Church

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Glendale Presbyterian Church is a member of the Presbytery of Giddings-Lovejoy (glpby.org), the Synod of Mid America (synodma.org), and the Presbyterian Church (USA) (pcusa.org). We are members of the Covenant Network, which is working toward a fully inclusive church.