



Greenwich Presbyterian Church

December 1, 2024

9:00am

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come - this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The First Sunday of Advent

Call to Worship

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world; those who follow me will not walk in darkness but have the light of life."

People: *We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.*

Leader: I will turn their darkness to light, the rough places into level ground.

People: *These are the things I will do, and I will not forsake them.*

Leader: Come, Lord Jesus, our light and our salvation.

People: *Let us walk in the light of the Lord.*

Hymn 153

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Morning Prayer

Eternal God, through long generations you prepared a way for the coming of your Son, and by your Spirit you still bring light to illumine our paths.

Renew us in faith and hope that we may welcome Christ to rule our thoughts and claim our love, as Lord of lords and King of kings, to whom be glory always. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ and Congregational Life

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (v. 1)

154

Offering

Children's Choir

Blessing of the Children and The Lord's Prayer

The Sacrament of Baptism

Graham Everett Henson, son of Seth & Morgan Henson

Hazel Ann Henson, daughter of Shane & Brittany Henson

Mallory Rose Henson, daughter of Seth & Morgan Henson

Sermon

Matthew 1:18-25

"Joseph"

Hymn

168

"Savior of the Nations, Come"

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Almighty and merciful God, we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to the world in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O merciful God, for his sake, that we may live a holy, just, and humble life to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

Leader: Lift up your hearts

People: *We lift them to the Lord.*

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

Leader: When we turned from you, you did not turn from us. When we were captives in slavery, you delivered us to freedom, and made covenant to be our sovereign God.

People: *You spoke to us through prophets who looked for that day when justice shall triumph and peace shall reign over all the earth.*

Leader: Send your Holy Spirit upon us now, we pray,

People: *That these gifts from your creation may be to us the communion of the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Communion of God's People

Prayer After Communion

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal kingdom. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Response

*O come let us adore Him! O come let us adore Him!
O come let us adore Him! Christ, the Lord!*

Benediction

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## Please be in prayer this week for our church family & friends

The family of Charlie Ashworth, Tracy Anderson, Ronnie Cooper, Pat Egan, Mary Gorodnick, Patricia Helwig, Oakla Keith, Freddie Kettner, Paul Labazzetta, the family of Josephine (Jay) Ryan, Ronnie Skewes, Lynne Snow, Darryl White, Judy Young.

### For Continuing Care

Dixie Baker, Donna Bloom, Diane Carroll, Greg Cook, Sterling & Lorraine Cooper, Judy Dickerson, Audrey Ann Edwards, Tim Everett, Tyler & Dana Fry, Kay Hinegardner, Michael & Barbara Jackson, Judy Kifer, Jane Lion, Keith & Linda Maliniak, Lew Mohr, Kim Palfrey, Jim Pittman, Lon Quinones, Marilyn Ricketts, Elsie Shrewsbury, Stephanie Stallard, Peggy Swecker, Phil Swinford, Rollin van Broekhoven, Richard & Alana Wallace, Alma Webster, Pat Wengert, Cecily West, Darryl White, Becky Whitelock, Bob Williamson, Judy Young, Ron Zavattieri.

### Praises

The baptism this morning of Hazel Ann Henson, daughter of Shane & Brittany Henson, and granddaughter of Steve & Cindy Henson; and the baptism of Graham Everett Henson & Mallory Rose Henson, son and daughter of Seth & Morgan Henson, and grandchildren of Steve & Cindy Henson.

### Serving our Country

Kieran Bateman, Brendan Binniker, Ryan Binniker, Justin Fang, Michelle Fleurat, MD, Ray Franze, Alex Frazier, Alesia Hilton, Ashton Hilton, Hayden Hilton, Lee Loudermilk, JR McMillan, Stirling Martin, Tyler Spittle, Luke Sturges, Carter Walchli, Jason West, Jakob Wine, Joshua Wine.

### Greenwich Birthdays This Week

|                       |                          |                        |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Dec 1 Kenley Brinkley | Dec 3 Duane Mohr         | Dec 6 Al Celmer        |
| Dec 2 Jack Arnold     | Dec 4 Judy Fretts        | Dec 6 Tim Everett      |
| Dec 2 Ainsley Ginn    | Dec 4 Ashton Miller      | Dec 6 John Harrison    |
| Dec 3 Paul House      | Dec 4 Anna Zwirko        | Dec 7 Brian Sith       |
| Dec 3 Jaan Loger      | Dec 5 Jennifer Ilchishin | Dec 7 Suzie Stonbraker |

### Christmas Concert & Potluck TODAY

**“A Child is Born” Benefit Concert for Farthest Corners (3:00pm)** The Woodbridge Flute Choir invites you to join us in the sanctuary for this free holiday concert. An offering will be taken to benefit Farthest Corners.

### Church Potluck (4:00)

Following the concert, we invite you to join us for our monthly potluck in fellowship hall! We'll provide ham & turkey. Bring a side dish or dessert to share.

## GENEROSITY UPDATES

### Generation to Generation (G2G) Update - Giving through 11/24/24

#### G2G Campaign Goal = \$ 1,200,000

Total G2G Gifts Received (36.3% of Goal) \$ 435,186

Mortgage - Gifts designated as principal payments \$ 190,515

Campus - Gifts designated for basement renovation \$ 144,371

Mission - Gifts designated for future mission projects \$ 100,300

Thank you for your wonderful generosity in supporting the ministries of our church! Please use the white G2G envelopes in the pews for your campaign gifts. The green envelopes are for your regular tithes and offerings. You may also give to both online. Questions? Contact Phil Porter our Pastoral Administrator.

**Parent's Day Out, TODAY (2:00-4:00pm)** – \$5/child. Kids will play, have snacks, and create a fun craft while parents go Christmas shopping, attend the flute concert for Farthest Corners, or go on a much-needed date! Following the event, the whole family is invited to join us for the Church Family Potluck in Fellowship Hall.

**Christmas Pageant, December 8 (2:00pm)** -- Join us in Fellowship Hall as our Kids and Student Ministries share the Christmas Story. Afterward stay to take family photos and decorate Christmas cookies.

**Service of Remembrance & Wholeness, December 22 (3:00pm)** – This worship service is based on the traditional “Longest Night Service.” We will gather in our historic Chapel to remember and lift before the Lord our sadness, the loss of loved ones, our need for healing, and our longing for God to come and make all things new in Jesus Christ.

**Samaritan's Purse Update** – We collected 98 shoeboxes! Thank you for this outreach to communicate God's love to a child and their family, reinforcing the message of eternal Hope shared with them by this ministry.

**Parking Request** – During Advent, as our parking lot fills up it is a blessing for worshippers who have mobility issues to find parking near the sanctuary. If able, please consider using the old parking lot on Vint Hill Road. Thanks for offering this simple act of hospitality!

## Ways to Give & Serve During Advent

**Family Shelter Christmas Party, Thursday, December 12:** Greenwich hosts an annual Christmas party for residents of the shelter in Warrenton and we are looking for people to provide food for the dinner that Thursday. If you're interested, please sign up at [PerfectPotluck.com/IXMQ1320](https://PerfectPotluck.com/IXMQ1320).

**Mitten Tree:** During Advent, we invite you to decorate our mitten tree (outside the nursery & preschool) with new hats, gloves, scarves, and socks to be given to help families at the shelter stay warm this winter.

**Christmas Memorials:** This advent season, you can honor or remember someone special through a donation to our Deacon's Fund. The cost is \$20 per memorial (deadline is Dec 22) to be included in the Christmas Eve bulletins. Forms are available in the lobby.

## Advent & Christmas at Greenwich

Dec 1, First Sunday of Advent -- *Worship (9:00a & 11:00a)*  
*Woodbridge Flute Choir Concert (3:00p)*  
*Church Potluck (4:00p)*

Dec 8, Second Sunday of Advent -- *Worship (9:00a & 11:00a)*

Dec 15, Third Sunday of Advent – *Choir Led Worship (9:00a & 11:00a)*  
*Service of Remembrance (3:00p)*

Dec 22, Fourth Sunday of Advent -- *Worship (9:00a & 11:00a)*

Dec 24, Christmas Eve  
*Family Friendly Worship Service (5:00p)*  
*Traditional Worship Service (7:00p)*  
*Candlelight Service (11:00p)*