GLENN MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH





■ The Worship of God

DECEMBER 10, 2023 | 11:00 a.m. SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The photo is our Advent Wreath in the Little Chapel, taken by our communications director.



LET US KNOW YOU'RE HERE

Register your attendance online, using the QR code, or in the attendance pad at the end of the pew.

Hearing devices, pew cushions, and Children's Worship Kits are available from an usher.

A new sound system for the Sanctuary is currently in the works! In the meantime, for optimal sound, sit a few rows back (rather than the first rows of pews) and not under the balcony.

CHILDCARE

Childcare is available throughout the service in the Nursery (room 200, Church School Building), Two's & Three's Room (room 206), and on the Playground (entrance next to room 206), or Pre-K/Kinder Room (room 304).

Parents/guardians, please escort your children & sign in with our Childcare Staff.

A Comfort Room & restroom is available downstairs at the back of the Sanctuary.

Additional restrooms available downstairs at the front of the Sanctuary.

GLENN CHURCH WELCOMES YOU

Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church is committed to loving God and loving neighbor with our whole selves – heart, mind, soul, and strength. As Jesus loved those around him, we believe that all persons are of sacred worth and dignity as part of God's creation. We welcome all persons into the full life and ministry of our congregation, regardless of race, culture, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, family or socioeconomic status, education, politics, physical or mental ability, or faith history.



GLENN CHURCH & RECONCILING MINISTRIES

Glenn Memorial UMC has been a proud affiliate of Reconciling Ministries Network since 2014, and welcomes and affirms all LGBTQ+ persons.



YOUR GIFTS SUPPORT GLENN

Your gifts directly support the ministries of Glenn. Scan the QR code or visit www.glennumc. org/give to donate securely online.

Brass Ensemble

Trumpet: Mark Maliniak, Alexander Freund, William Cooper, Joel Schultz Trombone: Ed Nicholson, Chuck Musholt, Bill Mann Tuba: Andy Hertel; Percussion: Caleb Herron



Welcoming All

*You are invited to rise in either body or spirit.

WORDS OF WELCOME

The Rev. Mark Westmoreland

OPENING VOLUNTARY

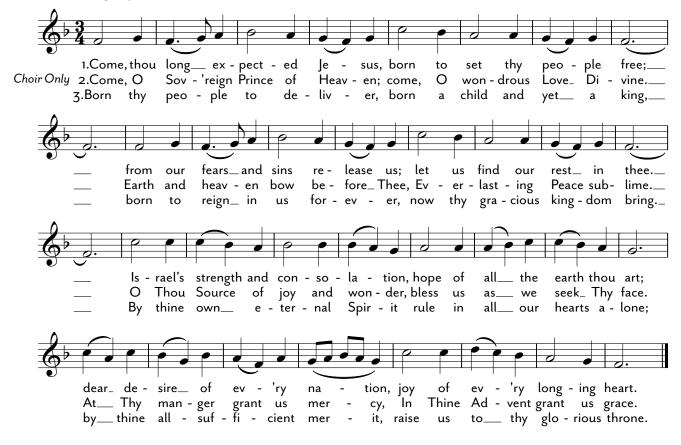
O Radix Jesse

Cecilia McDowall (b. 1951)

Cecilia McDowall is one of the UK's leading composers for sacred and secular choral music. She has completed many prestigious commissions, including a new carol for the service of Nine Lessons and Carols at King's College, Cambridge in 2021. Today's voluntaries are McDowall's settings of two of the great "O Antiphons," sung in the seven days leading up to Christmas (you can see the English translations opposite Hymn #211 in our hymnals). This movement is a setting of Antiphon 4: O Root of Jesse. This music is soft and mystical and refers to the original Latin chant.

BIDDING PRAYER Rev. Westmoreland

One: Spirit of Love, we welcome you. We celebrate your coming to abide with us. And we remember the ways you have been faithfully companioning us since the beginning. It was you who wove all life together. Your glory is painted across all of creation. Throughout history, over and over again, you have taken on flesh, in the ordinary and the extraordinary, in the vulnerability of infants, the fierce proclamations of prophets, the enduring hope of those who persevere under evil's threats. Where there is grief, where there is holy rage, where there is fear or sacred imagination growing, you abide across the ages. Bless our time together, as we remember again the still-unfolding story of your love: A love that comes to dwell among us. A love that surprises and disrupts. A love that reveals the way of liberation. May it be so among us. Amen.



ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Mary Lindsey Lewis, Katie Woolf, Käthe Wright Kaufman, and Michael Dauterman; Glenn Memorial UMC Music Directors

One: In days when God's people longed for peace, Isaiah declared, "Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins" We who gather today also seek comfort and peace, yet we are unsatisfied with ideas of peace that tell us to keep quiet and go with the flow. We long for real peace, true peace, just peace.

ALL: We wait as people who yearn for a peace that bears the fruit of community, equity, and flourishing for all.

One: We light these candles as signs of God's shocking hope and just peace. May they be beacons calling us to repent and to live the good news of Jesus Christ as we wait and watch and labor for the day when all people can gather together to worship and glorify God. Amen.

CANDLE LIGHTING RESPONSE

I've Got the Peace of God in Me



CAROL

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Peace be to you and grace from him Who freed us from our sins, Who loved us all and shed his blood That we might saved be. Sing holy, holy to our Lord, The Lord, Almighty God, Who was and is and is to come; Sing holy, holy, Lord! Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein, Rejoice on earth, ye saints below, For Christ is coming, is coming soon, For Christ is coming soon! E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, And night shall be no more; They need no light nor lamp nor sun, For Christ will be their All!

-Revelation 22

THE FIRST LESSON

Genesis 1:1-5 Elle Weidert

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

John 1:1-5, 14 Madelyn O'Neill

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

CAROL

For Him All Stars Have Shone

Bob Chilcott (b. 1955) Covenant Choir & Chancel Choir

He is so small the stars bow down The fierce winds ease their breath, And careful shepherds look upon the one unsullied birth. They kneel and stare while time seems gone and goodness rules the earth. The blight on man is all undone, And there will be no death, For though this child will be nailed on a cross, he'll be so since he is the jewel of untold worth, For him all stars have shone.

-Text by Elizabeth Jennings

Isaiah 61:1-3 Hank Harris

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion— to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

Luke 4:16-21 Cheryl Griffin

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

CAROL

Gloria in excelsis Deo from Gloria

John Rutter (b. 1945)

Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee. We bless thee. We worship thee. We glorify thee. We give thanks to thee for thy great glory.

THE THIRD LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11 John Wiley

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

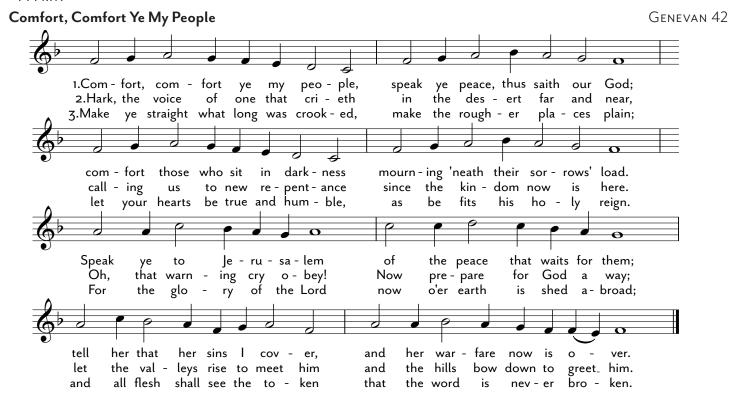
A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Matthew 3:1-7, 11 The Rev. Brent Huckaby

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? "I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.





The Fourth Lesson

Isaiah 9:1-2, 6 Adam Eyrich

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

Matthew 4:12-17 Ellie McQuaig

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

Walk in the Light

Traditional, arr. André Thomas (b. 1952) Youth Choir

Refrain: We'll walk in the light, beautiful light, come where the dew-drops of mercy shine bright. Shine all around us by day and by night, Jesus, the Light of the world.

Hark! The herald angels sing, Jesus, the Light of the world; "Glory to the newborn King," Jesus, the Light of the world. [Refrain]

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Christ, the everlasting Lord! [Refrain] -George D. Elderkin and Charles Wesley

THE FIFTH LESSON

Isaiah 7:10-14 Jennifer Scott-Ward

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

Matthew 1:20-23

Bea Quinn

Just when Joseph had decided to dismiss Mary quietly, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

CAROL

Domine Deus from Gloria

John Rutter

Julia Lega, Sylvia Ware, Carrie Anne Wilson, soloists

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

THE SIXTH LESSON

Isaiah 42:5-9 MJ Walker

Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

Luke 2:25-32 Carol Allums

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, "Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

*HYMN UMH #206

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Houston

THE SEVENTH LESSON

Isaiah 35:1-6, 8a, 10

Richard Belcher

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Revelation 22:12, 16-17, 20

The Rev. Jennifer Hansen

But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

OFFERTORY

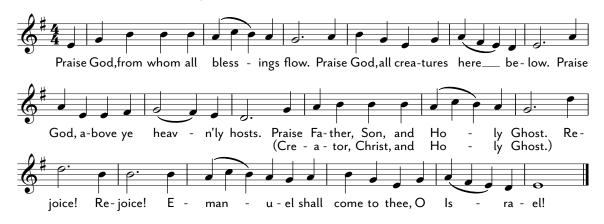
Quoniam tu solus sanctus from Gloria

John Rutter

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

VENI EMMANUEL



*THE ADVENT BLESSING

The Rev. Susan Pinson

One: May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin.

ALL: Amen.

One: May he, whose second coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love.

ALL: Amen.

One: May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life.

ALL: Amen.

One: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Creator, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever.

ALL: Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN UMH #718, vv. 1, 2, 4

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

HELMSLEY

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

O Clavis David

Cecilia McDowall

In quite a contrast to the movement played earlier from McDowall's O Antiphon sequence, this setting of the fifth Antiphon (O Key of David) is much more lively and rhythmically active. The pedal plays the chant melody underneath a flurry of quick notes in the hands, made even more exciting by frequent changes in the time signature.

Announcements & Special Events

THE GATHERING AT WALLER'S COFFEE SHOP - TONIGHT!

Tonight, December 10, 6pm, Waller's Coffee Shop, 240 Dekalb Industrial Way, Decatur, GA 30033

Join us for an another musical evening at Waller's Coffee – Advent edition! Our contemporary service, The Gathering, will be at 6pm at Waller's Coffee Shop, with music led by The Gathering band.

Women's Night In: Advent Edition - Tomorrow!

Tomorrow, Monday, Dec 11, 7pm at home of Cheryl Griffin (Druid Hills)

Join with Glenn women of all ages & stages for a conversation around Kate Bowler's *Bless the Advent We Actually Have* (though reading the devotional is not required). Come as you are - straight from work, the gym, or the carpool shuffle! Light refreshments will be served. Contact Rev. Susan Pinson for more info, directions, and to RSVP.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING FOR ALL AGES & CHILDREN'S NATIVITY PAGEANT

Next Sunday, December 17, 9:45am & 10:15am, Ward Fellowship Hall

All ages are invited to join us for a sing-along of favorite carols hosted by The New Class and led by beloved pianist Jim Gibson and Covenant Choir Director, Katie Woolf. Then, at 10:15am, the Cherub Choir will present the Nativity pageant, directed by Mary Lindsey Lewis. Perhaps the most delightful 15 minutes of the season, with much laughter and levity, Glenn's Pre-K and Kindergarteners bring the story of the first Christmas to life!

NATIVITY PETTING ZOO

Next Sunday, December 17, 12noon-2pm | Tiff's Treats Truck

After 11am worship, all ages are invited to visit our favorite stable animals who bring the magic of the Christmas story to life! We heard that Obadiah the camel (or one of his friends?!) is following the Christ star and will make a stop by Glenn again this year! Tiff's Treats truck will be offering cookies, milk, & hot cocoa for purchase. The Justice Team will be offering complimentary coffee for donations towards local & global missions and ministries through the Alternative Giving Catalog.

THE GATHERING: SPECIAL ADVENT EDITION - CHRISTMAS MUSIC & SING

December 17, 5pm, Little Chapel

Join Wes Griffin and friends for a program of Advent and Christmas music during The Gathering service at 5pm. There will be both special musical offerings, as well as group hymn and carol sings. Come and be uplifted by special music of the season!

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Sunday, December 24 | 11am, 4pm, 11pm | Sanctuary

11am Traditional Worship with carols, readings, and the Christmas message. Childcare available.

4pm The Christmas Story Pageant and candlelight service. A beloved Glenn tradition! Join us for a beautiful and unique telling of the Christmas story come to life by children and adults, with song, dance, and wonderful costumes that recreate the most holy of nights. Childcare available.

11pm Traditional Worship. We'll see in Christmas morning with carols, the Christmas story, Holy Communion and candlelighting.

ALTERNATIVE GIVING CATALOG

The 2023 Alternative Giving Catalog is created by the Glenn Justice Team to highlight organizations that work to feed the hungry, assist the unhoused, welcome the refugee, advocate for social justice, support global education, and be stewards of the environment. Visit www.glennumc.org/alternative-giving-catalog



To register for upcoming events or to learn how you can become more involved at Glenn, please visit glennumc.org/upcoming-events or contact any of our staff.

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Giving

Generosity Pledge Campaign Update

We are so grateful for all those who have submitted their pledge for 2024. We still have a way to go to be able to fund the ministries Glenn offers. If you have yet to make your pledge, please prayerfully consider your contribution and pledge online at www.glennumc. org/pledge or reach out to the church office for a pledge card.

Financial Report as of November 30, 2023:

2023 Budget: \$1,814,532

Total Income through Nov 30: \$1,653,145

Needed: \$161,387 Needed % : 8%

To give a gift, visit www.glennumc.org/give or scan the QR code below.



■ Next Sunday

Sunday 12.17 | Third Sunday of Advent

8:30am Worship - Little Chapel

11am Worship - Sanctuary

5pm The Gathering

Stay Updated

Want to stay updated on the Glenn Community?

Visit **www.glennumc.org** and subscribe to the newsletter on the homepage. We send one newsletter every Friday, and occasional updates.