



GREENCASTLE  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

# The 1st Sunday of Advent

ORDER OF WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 30, 2025  
10:00 AM



\* *Please stand as able*

## Centering Thought

*As Gabriel's first words to Mary were not to fear,  
so that word is given to us, as well.*

Welcome and Brief Announcements

The Prelude

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

arr. Arnold Sherman

GPC Bell Choir

\*The Call to Worship

Leader: Advent is a whisper, not a shout—

**People: A quiet stirring, not a storm.**

Leader: But we listen closely, for hope draws near.

**People: We light our Advent candles as a sign: we are making ourselves ready.**

Leader: Come, Emmanuel—our hope and our joy.

\*Hymn #94 *Now the Heavens Start to Whisper*

\*The Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**Holy God, Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates we confess so that, when you come, you may find us as you hoped. Yet, we've looked away from signs we do not wish to see.**

**We've stopped listening to distress we do not wish to hear.**

**We've become numb to inconvenient truths we do not wish to acknowledge. Awaken us to your holy, hopeful presence, so we may watch and wait for your coming. Come, Lord Jesus, come. (Silent prayer)**

\*The Assurance of Pardon and Peace

Leader: Friends! Hear the Good News! Christ died for our sins and rose again for our justification. In his name we are forgiven!

**All: Thanks Be to God!**

\*The Gloria #583    *Gloria, Gloria*

*Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria, gloria, alleluia, Alleluia!*

The Lighting of the First Advent Candle

**All: Could this be the Advent when we notice that inbreaking of your coming promises? Promises full of blessing: of truth, so clear and bright that every shadowy lie must flee away; of compassion so deep and strong that everyone is encircled in its embrace; of restoration so complete and beautiful that there is gladness everywhere; and of justice so satisfying and right that all will be well. May this Advent be the new beginning, as we learn to live by the light of your coming promises. Amen.**

Advent Carol #88

*Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (vs. 1)*

The Children's Time with Their Pastor

The Prayer for Illumination (Unison)

**God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour out on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding that our hearts and minds may be opened. Amen.**

The First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5

Solo *Waiting for a King*

Joseph M. Martin

Fred Davison, *baritone*

Kaylynn Leap, *clarinet*

Brenda Slick, *piano*

\*The Gospel Reading

Matthew 24: 36-44

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord!

**All: Thanks be to God!**

The Message ***Get Ready***

-Pastor Robert Cook

\*Response to God's Word (Unison)

**I believe in the Living God who is directly involved in the affairs of the world.**

**I believe that God chooses the meek and the poor to shame the proud and the rich.**

**I believe in the incarnate Word, leaping in a woman's womb, cradled in poverty.**

**I believe in Jesus, true son of Mary, true Son of God, who came among us in weakness, that we might come to know the profound strength available to common people who turn to God in trust and with love.**

**Yes, my brothers and sisters, this I truly believe.**

Hymn #654 *In the Lord I'll Be Ever Thankful*

Joys, Cares, and Concerns

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

\*The Doxology #606

\*The Dedication of Our Tithes and Our Lives

\*Advent Carol #88 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (vs. 1 & 2)

\*The Blessing

The Postlude *Emmanuel Comes with O Come, O Come,  
Emmanuel and Emmanuel* arranged by Mark Hayes  
Brenda Slick, piano



*Please join us in  
the Social Room  
after Worship.*

*Hosted by  
JoAnne & Sofiya*

*All Are Welcome!*

## SERVING THE CHURCH

Preaching..... Rev. Dr. Robert Cook

Liturgist.....Anne Larew

Musicians..... Dr. J. Frederick Davison,  
Brenda Slick, Kaylynn Leap

### GPC BELL CHOIR

Fred Davison, *Director*

Mary Ann Ackerman

Berry Kline

Terry Davis

Barry Leap

Brian Keck

Kaylynn Leap

Kelly Kerstetter

Liam Papa

Danielle Kline

Dee Patton

Acolyte.....

Sunday School Teachers.....Racheal Marconi, Jennifer Smith

Audio Video Tech ..... Jeff Stouffer

Closer.....Paul Sauder

## PRAYER CONCERNS

June Marshall	Leslie Moose
Patti Sechrist	Donna Bingaman
Alan Shope	Jason Kinzer
Tim Walck	Emmie White
Mindy Grosh	Stephanie & Mike and
Michael Paylor	Alaina Klingensmith
Bill & Kathy Kendall	Joseph Hams
Dan Patton	Terri Brust
Bethany Yeager	Helen Taulbee
Penny Mohler	Doc Greenawalt
Cathy Thomas	David Pickart
Sue Lum	Greg Harmon
Frank & Tracey Toston	Bonnie Speaks
Sally Snyder	Cindy Widder
Chelsea White	Donna & Sarah Stillwagon
Tim Reed	Carla Vickers
Lynne Leap	Kevin Taulbee
Gail Guyton	Brandon Fisher
Marvin & Nancy Rice	Jan Eppleman
David Myers	Cora Crider
Frank Marconi	Kim Tartaglia
Kenny Reed	Bill Heacox
Todd Smith	Lynn Anne Robertson Smith
John Stanton	Missy Benson
Tom Clopper	Joyce Baker

Remember in your prayers, **Rev. Bill Beck**, who entered the Church Triumphant on Sunday, November 23, 2025.

*Good and gracious God, we surrender all worries and concerns to you, knowing that we are your beloved children. Our faith requires we rest in your immeasurable love.*

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

### **Sunday, November 30 First Sunday of Advent**

- 8:45 am Fall Bible Study  
10:00 am **Worship** with Coffee Fellowship  
5:30 pm Youth Group  
*Prayers for Carlisle Presbytery Staff*

### **Tuesday, December 2**

- 6:30 pm Worship Committee Meeting

### **Wednesday, December 3**

- 9:00 am Wednesday Prayer Circle  
6:00 pm Bell and Choir Practice  
7:00 pm Bell Chancel Choir Practice  
7:00 pm Ladies AA Meeting

### **Thursday, December 4**

- 6:00 pm Greencastle-Antrim Food Pantry

### **Friday, December 5**

- 5:30 pm Greencastle Heritage Christmas

### **Sunday, December 7 Second Sunday of Advent**

- 8:45 am Fall Bible Study  
10:00 am **Worship** followed by Advent Potluck Luncheon  
7:00 pm PSU Mont Alto Chorale Concert  
*Prayers for Directors for Christian Education*

## CAROLING, COOKIES & COCOA



All Ages Welcome!

**Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**

Meet in the GPC Social Room at 5:45 pm  
We'll leave at 6 pm to go caroling around town. \*Note this year we will be driving around the borough\* Join us for hot cocoa and cookies back at the church afterwards.

**Feel free to bring a dozen of your favorite cookies and/ or a friend!**

RSVP to Keri 845-270-9108 by 12/12

Hope to see you there!

(Rain date Saturday 12/13)

The Penn State Mont Alto Chorale

# Holiday Concerts



**Sunday, December 7th - 7 p.m.**  
**Greencastle Presbyterian Church**



**Tuesday, December 9th - 7 p.m.**  
**Emmanuel Chapel at Penn State Mont Alto**

*Kick off the holiday season as the Chorale performs many of your favorite sacred & secular songs presented by some of Penn State's most talented students.*



**PENN STATE MONT ALTO CHORALE**

***\*\*Following the concert on December 7th, attendees will be treated to complimentary Penn State Berkey Creamery Ice Cream***

Since 2014, GPC has been privileged to host the Penn State Mont Alto Chorale for its fall semester holiday concert. The concert is free and open to the public.

**It's a great way to begin the Advent Season!**

Please consider supporting these hard-working students by inviting your family & friends to attend this meaningful holiday presentation.

