



GREENCASTLE  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN CHRISTMASTIDE

DECEMBER 28, 2025  
10:00 AM

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

*Gloria In Excelsis Deo*



\* Please stand as able

## Centering Thought

*"The wrapping is gone, but the warmth remains."*

*"After the sparkle fades, the love still shines."*

*"The day after Christmas is for hearts, not presents."*

*"Quiet moments are the best gifts of all."*

*"The magic doesn't end—it simply softens."*

## Welcome and Brief Announcements

The Prelude    *What Child Is This?*

arr. D. Stempien & G. Turner

Kaylynn Leap, *clarinet*

Barry Leap, *piano*

## \*The Call to Worship

Leader: O God, your grace reaches out to all of us.

**People: You call us to live as citizens of heaven,  
working together with one heart and mind.**

Leader: Strengthen us to live in a manner worthy of the Good News we have received, offering our lives in service of Your kingdom,

**People: ...where the last are first, and the first are last, and there is grace enough for all.**

Leader: Let us worship God who has come to us in the Christ!

## \*Carol #132    *Good Christian Friends Rejoice*

## \*The Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**O God of all creation and holy creativity, you make all things new in heaven and on earth. We come to you on the brink of a new year, with new desires and old fears, new decisions and old controversies, new dreams and old weaknesses. Because you are a God of hope, we know that you create all the possibilities of the future.**

**Because you are a God of love, we know that you forgive and transform all the mistakes of the past. Because you are the God of our faith, we offer our thanksgiving and praise, and our desire to trust you more. Amen.**

(Silent prayers of personal confession)

\*The Assurance of Pardon and Peace with God

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel!

**People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Praise God!**

\*The Gloria #583    *Gloria, Gloria*

*Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!*

Lighting All the Candles of the Advent Season

## **Favorite Christmas Carols**

The Children's Time with Their Pastor

The Prayer of Illumination (Unison)

**Lord Jesus Christ, you came to our world bring light and life. You are Light and you are the way, the truth and the life. Evermore open us to the light of your Word so that we may faithfully hear and follow you. Amen.**

The First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 63:7-9

Solo    *A Cradle Carol*

Dan Forrest

Fred Davison, *baritone*

Brenda Slick, *piano*

Lord Jesus, Savior, infant weak,  
Why come to earth as one so meek?  
A newborn babe, helpless and small;  
And yet Creator of us all.

Thou hast no beauty, form, or grace;  
No fortune, rank, no fame, no place  
That men should see Thee and adore  
A babe so humble and so poor.

But to the soul whose eyes are healed,  
To whom the Truth has been revealed,  
Thy glory challenges the sun;  
Thou art a thousand joys in One.

Though strangers see a babe in straw,  
Thy children see the Lord of all  
Who laid aside His rightful reign  
To take away our sin and shame.

This sacrifice of love divine,  
This condescension to mankind  
With beauty robes Thy lowly frame,  
And sanctifies Thy simple name.

O aid my worship, Mighty King,  
That I might with the angels sing.  
"Glory to God on high!"  
Now crowned again beyond the sky!

O help me see Thee and adore  
This little child, my God and Lord.

Rebekah Pringle

\*The Gospel Reading

Matthew 2:13-23

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord!

**All: Thanks be to God!**

The Message: ***Placing Our Hope in God's Ultimate Plan***

\*Carol #135    *There's a Star in the East*

Joys, Cares and Concerns

The Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer (Unison)

\*The Doxology #606

\*The Dedication of Our Offerings

\*Carol #134    *Joy to the World*

\*The Blessing

Postlude    *Angels from the Realms of Glory*  
Henry T. Smart, arr. Mark Hayes  
Brenda Slick, *piano*

**SERVING THE CHURCH**

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Preaching .....              | Rev. Dr. Robert Cook                                  |
| Liturgist .....              | Kara Herrmann   |
| Musicians .....              | Dr. J. Frederick Davison,<br>Brenda Slick, Barry Leap |
| Acolyte .....                |   |
| Sunday School Teachers ..... | Sue Bell, JoAnne Lewis                                |
| Audio Video Tech.....        | Jeff Stouffer   |
| Closer .....                 | Paul Sauder   |

## **PRAYER CONCERNS**

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| June Marshall         | Helen Taulbee                          |
| Patti Sechrist        | David Pickart                          |
| Alan Shope            | Greg Harmon                            |
| Tim Walck             | Bonnie Speaks                          |
| Mindy Grosh           | Cindy Widder                           |
| Michael Paylor        | Donna & Sarah Stillwagon               |
| Kathy Kendall         | Carla Vickers                          |
| Dan Patton            | Kevin Taulbee                          |
| Bethany Yeager        | Brandon Fisher                         |
| Penny Mohler          | Jan Eppleman                           |
| Cathy Thomas          | Cora Crider                            |
| Sue Lum               | Kim Tartaglia                          |
| Frank & Tracey Toston | Bill Heacox                            |
| Sally Snyder          | Lynn Anne Robertson Smith              |
| Chelsea White         | Missy Benson                           |
| Lynne Leap            | Joyce Baker                            |
| Gail Guyton           | Mary Bennet & Family                   |
| Marvin & Nancy Rice   | Dave Wilson                            |
| David Myers           | Amanda Lain                            |
| Kenny Reed            | Doug & Gladys Grane & family           |
| Todd Smith            | For the hungry                         |
| John Stanton          | For the imprisoned                     |
| Leslie Moose          | For the marginalized<br>and unwelcomed |
| Donna Bingaman        | For those who are alone                |
| Jason Kinzer          | For those who are grieving             |
| Emmie White           | For those who cannot forgive           |
| Terri Brust           |  |

*Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer  
and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests  
known to God. - Philippians 4:5*

This prayer list reflects our love and support for our church family.  
Please submit or review names on the list to balance healing requests  
with general community/member prayers. Thank you.

## **THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**

### **Sunday, December 28    First Sunday of Christmas**

10:00 am    **Worship** followed by Coffee Fellowship  
*Prayers for Synod Staff and Church Treasurers*

### **Tuesday, December 30**

5:30 pm    Youth Group

### **Wednesday, December 31    New Year's Eve**

### **Thursday, January 1    New Year's Day**

### **Sunday, January 4**

10:00 am    **Worship** followed by Coffee Fellowship  
First Sunday Food Drive  
*Prayers for Camp Hill Presbyterian Church*

### **OTHER HOLIDAY SCHEDULING:**

No Bell Choir or Chancel Choir rehearsals on Wed., December 31

Greencastle-Antrim Food Pantry will be open Thursday, January 8  
from 6:00-8:00 pm instead of January 1

Communion will be shared on January 11, The Baptism of the Lord,  
instead of January 4

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**2026 PER CAPITA** for the Carlisle Presbytery churches is \$34.66.



*Please join the Herrmann Family  
for coffee, refreshments and fellowship  
in the Social Room after Worship.  
All Are Welcome*

# Becoming a Member at GPC

The membership statement of the Presbyterian Church (USA) reads:  
***“Membership in the Church of Jesus Christ is a joy and a privilege. It is also a commitment to participate in Christ’s mission. A faithful member bears witness to God’s love and grace and promises to be involved responsibly in the ministry of Christ’s Church.”***

Church member is an act of faith, a public witness of your trust in Christ and a way of living out your faith in service within the congregation and out in the larger community. The only pre-requisite for joining *any* PC(U.S.A.) congregation is confessing your faith in Jesus Christ.

Our goals for the Membership Class are to increase our awareness and understanding of:

- **The central beliefs of the Christian faith in the Reformed tradition**
- **The Vision of the Greencastle Presbyterian Church**
- **How the Presbyterian Church is a democratically organized Church**



The class provides opportunities for:

- **Making or deepening your commitment to Jesus Christ**
- **Making friends within the class and within the congregation**
- **Making commitment to specific connections with the church where your spiritual gifts can make a difference.**

We invite you to be part of the Greencastle Presbyterian Church! As you become a member of this fellowship, we trust that God has brought us together, and that we are a help and a benefit to each other as we seek to follow Jesus Christ. There are three ways to become a member:

1. Make a public profession of faith in Jesus Christ, and, if you have not been previously baptized, be baptized.
2. Join by a transfer of your church membership from a church where you are currently a member.
3. Reaffirm your faith, if you have been previously baptized and have made a public profession of faith.