



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?*

Kaylynn Leap, clarinet

arr. D. Stempien & G. Turner

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, 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
Donna Bingaman	and unwelcomed
Jason Kinzer	For those who are alone
Emmie White	For those who are grieving
Terri Brust	For those who cannot forgive

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

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.

