

Outdoor Carol Sing- Today after worship

Join Paul Shane & Brian Ireland in the courtyard for a Carol Sing! We will have hymnals available for requests and we can spread out and sing some Advent and Christmas favorites. Grab a snack and some hot chocolate from the Fellowship Table. Church School will begin at 11:15 for those who wish to attend. Masks are optional outdoors per CDC guidance.

Blue Christmas Worship- Tonight 8pm

Meet your pastors in the prayer chapel for an intimate worship service of prayer, reflection, and remembrance for those whose grief is stirred up during the holiday season.

Project Angel

This year, PHPC is doing Project Angel! Due to the evolving needs of our mission partners, we are offering holiday support in a new way. Starting today, you can purchase “alternative Christmas gifts” for your friends and loved ones in the form of mission support. For every item purchased, you’ll receive a giftable card that says “a gift was made in your honor to...” with the description of your donation, suitable for giving at Christmas.

Christmas Eve- December 24

5:30pm Interactive Nativity Worship Service

A not-so-silent, interactive, child friendly (and child-led) worship service in the sanctuary that tells the nativity story, with costumes and noisemakers!

7:30pm Christmas Eve service

A traditional worship service with communion, special music, and a closing outdoor “Silent Night” with candlelight.

11pm An outdoor service of Lessons and Carols

Sing your heart out as we welcome Jesus with the warmth of heaters, fire, and hot drinks.

2022 Fellowship Table

We are preparing the 2022 Fellowship Table roster and hope to include new names (and smiling faces) to our current Teams. If interested in volunteering and for more information, please contact Holli Kyle. hkyle@bellsouth.net or 404-218-8319. Thank you.

A Future With Hope- Stewardship Update

We have received commitments for \$477,802 representing 79 pledges from individuals and families so far - thank you for your generosity! Our goal is to receive \$600,000 in commitments to ensure we are able to fully and freely live into God’s call on this congregation, our hope-filled future. If you haven’t made a commitment yet, pledge cards are available in the pews, you can email pledges@pleasanthillpc.org

Welcome

We are delighted you are worshiping with us and we invite you to become part of our church family. To learn more about us, make a note on the red friendship pad or contact the church office.

Worship services are now being livestreamed at www.pleasanthillpc.org/phpc-live. Worshipers may appear on this live feed. If you wish to remain off camera, sit in the back rows of any section of pews.

For Our Younger Worshipers

All children are welcome in worship at PHPC.

Elementary age children are invited to pick up a Worship Journal in the Narthex as they enter the sanctuary. After the Children’s Sermon, a Worship Bag is also available for pickup.

Parents may walk **children age 3-Kindergarten** (potty trained) to Room B103 for Play & Praise following the Children’s Sermon.

A nursery is available for **children under 3** in room A114.

Offering

Keep your pledge up to date or make a gift to Pleasant Hill Prebyterian Church via the secure online giving portal on our website, or by scanning the QR code on the right with your smart phone’s QR reader.



Session

Class of 2022

Ann Cathey
Bill Holman
Laura Huffman
David Steingruber
Sara Woolley
Trey Woolley

Class of 2023

Mickey Armstrong
Nancy Blazewick
Beth Goodenberger
Dale Murphy
Paul Shane

Class of 2024

Michael Armstrong
Marian Miller
Pat Miller
Robin Prater

Deacons

Class of 2022

Patrick O’Farrell
Doreen Wotocek

Class of 2023

Kim Klein
Carol Ann Stough

Class of 2024

Mark Goodson
Shannon Hudson
Bernie Kida

Church Staff

The Rev. Katie Day, *Senior Pastor and Head of Staff*
The Rev. Jennie Sankey, *Associate Pastor for Christian Education*
The Rev. Jody Andrade, *Associate Pastor for Congregational Care*
Kristie Johns, *Church Administrator*
Claire Keyser, *Director of Communications*
Steve Dean, *Director of Music*
Beth Goodenberger, *Interim Director of Preschool*
Adnan Zukanovic, *Facilities Assistant*
Hyoun Joo Song, *Organist*
Andy Kim, *AV Technician*



**Pleasant Hill
Presbyterian Church**



**CLOSE to
HOME**

3700 Pleasant Hill Road
Duluth, Georgia 30096
770.497.0233

www.pleasanthillpc.org

Celebration of the Lord's Day

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2021

Prelude Hyoun Joo Song

I Wonder as I Wander
arr. Jason Tonioli

Gathering Around the Word

Welcome and Announcements The Rev. Katie Day

Introit Handbell Ensemble

Born is the King
arr. Sandra Eithun

Lighting of the Advent Candle Assan-Mensah Family

One: Today we light the candle of love to remind us of the truth that God's love is a home for all, for you and me, for neighbors and strangers.

All: May this light of love burn brightly in this space and even brighter in our hearts. Let us worship God.

Call to Confession The Rev. Jody Andrade

Prayer of Confession

God of safe spaces, we wish we were more like Mary, who in the face of great change, went and sought help. She did not wait for help to find her; she walked to the shelter she needed. Too often we wait silently for the world to change around us instead of speaking up for the things we need. Forgive us for failing to care for ourselves the way you would care for us. Give us the courage to be more like Mary. God of safe places, we wish we were more like Elizabeth, who greeted Mary with laughter and contagious joy. How many people have crossed our doorstep and how many times have we failed to see them? Give us the courage of Mary, and the grace of Elizabeth. Gratefully we pray, amen.

Assurance of Grace Jody

One: Family of faith, even if we miss the person standing on our doorstep, even if we fail to care for ourselves the way God would care for us, even if we forget and ignore, turn away and shut down, God still loves us. There is nothing we can do to lose God's love.

All: Rest in this promise:

One: If we get lost,

All: we will be found.

One: If we mess up,

All: we are forgiven.

One: If we withhold love,

All: God is lavish in loving us.

One: We are claimed. We are loved. We are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Passing of the Peace** Jody

One: The Peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

The Word Read and Proclaimed

Children's Sermon Jody

Parents may walk their children age 3 to Kindergarten to Room B103 to check-in to Play & Praise.

Anthem Chancel Choir

Carol of the Birds
arr. Craig Courtney

Whence comes this rush of wings afar, Following straight the Noel star? Birds from the woods in wondrous flight, Bethlehem seek this Holy Night.

"Tell us, ye birds, why come ye here, Into this stable, poor and drear?" "Hast'ning we seek the newborn King, And all our sweetest music bring."

Hark how the Greenfinch bears his part, Philomel too, with tender heart, Chants from her leafy dark retreat, Re, mi, fa, sol, in accents sweet.

Angels and shepherds, birds of the sky, Come where the Son of God doth lie; Christ on earth with man doth dwell, Join in the shout "Noel, Noel."

Prayer for Illumination Katie

Scripture Reading Katie

Luke 1:39-55
(*Pew Bible, p.932*)

Sermon Katie

Close to Home: Seeking Sanctuary

Responding to the Word

***Hymn 100**

My Soul Cries Out With a Joyful Shout
stanzas 1 & 4

***Affirmation of Faith** The Rev. Jennie Sankey

From A Brief Statement of Faith, 1983

In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

* Please stand in body or spirit.

Prayers of the People Jennie

Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Musical Selection Handbell Ensemble

He is Born
arr. Sandra Eithun

Invitation to Offering Jennie

Drop in the plate as you leave worship.

Scan the QR code on the back of the bulletin.

Go to www.pleasanthillpc.org and click on the Giving tab.

Text givePHPC to 73256.

Prayer of Dedication Jennie

Following the Word Into the World

Charge and Benediction Katie

Postlude Hyoun Joo

This is the Day That is So Joyous (BWV 605)
arr. J. S. Bach

Acolytes today are Grace Beezley and William Goorsky.

Adapted from liturgy by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed

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Dances for Joy

by Hannah Garrity

Inspired by Luke 1:39-45

(Mary goes to Elizabeth)

Paper lace with watercolor

Please make a name tag for yourself and sign in on the red Friendship Pad.

Hearing enhancement devices and printed copies of today's sermon are available for use during our service. Ask an usher for assistance.