

Women's Advent Event

Join the women of PHPC to share the holiday spirit this evening at 6pm for the annual Women's Advent event. Please bring a dish to share for a potluck dinner. We will provide drinks. After dinner, you can socialize while you work on assorted holiday crafts to take home with you.

Sign Up for PHPC's Advent Daily Devotional

We invite you to embark on a daily journey of reflection, inspiration, and community through our exclusive Advent daily devotional newsletter. Immerse yourself in the spirit of the season as we share beautiful art, heartfelt writings, and delicious recipes submitted by our wonderful PHPC community. To join this uplifting experience, simply scan the QR code provided or reach out to Veronica at veronica@pleasanthillpc.org.



Year-end Donation Planning

Thank you for your generous financial support of PHPC this year. If you're planning your year-end donations, here are some things to consider:

Donating Appreciated Stock

There are significant tax advantages when you donate stock that has appreciated to a church or qualified charitable organization. Ask your tax advisor how you might benefit. If you plan to donate to PHPC, email Mary at mary@pleasanthillpc.org for simple instructions.

Donating Some or All of your RMD

If you are 73 or older, you may know that RMD stands for Required Minimum Distribution, or the amount that the IRS requires you to withdraw annually from your IRA. Doing this has tax consequences and you may benefit from directing all or a portion of your RMD to a church or other qualified charity. Ask your tax advisor first, but all you have to do is to instruct your IRA custodian to send the RMD payment directly to PHPC.

Please let us know if we can help with your year-end giving in any way. Donations must be received or postmarked by Sunday, December 31 to be tax deductible in 2023.

Project Angel

We're excited to support our community partners for Christmas this year with Project Angel. We'll have monetary gift options for you to give to family, friends, and teachers. There will be gift certificates listing your gift information. Look for our table after worship today, and come shop! If you have any questions, please contact Sara Woolley at woolley.sara@gmail.com.

Christmas Music Worship Service and Brunch

The Fellowship Committee will be hosting brunch immediately following the Christmas music worship service on Sunday, December 10. Bring your friends and family - all are welcome! Please bring a ready to serve brunch or lunch item to serve 8-10. No desserts please.

Youth Fellowship Opportunities

Celebrate the joy of the season with other PHPC youth! Join us on Sunday, December 10, from 5:30pm to 7:30pm for a festive youth Christmas party in collaboration with John's Creek Presbyterian Church. The spirit continues on Friday, December 22, from 6:30pm to 8:00pm, as we embark on a magical Christmas lights tour. Further details about both events can be found in this week's newsletter.

Join Our Weekly Newsletter

Stay informed of the latest PHPC events, as well as news about our various ministries and opportunities to grow in your faith and connect with God and neighbor. Scan the QR code and subscribe to the Chosen Word email newsletter to receive weekly updates.



Welcome

Welcome to Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church. We have been part of the Duluth community since 1985. Our vibrant congregation embraces people from all walks of life as we live out our mission statement of "connecting faith with everyday life." We are part of the Presbyterian Church (USA).

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 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.

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

For Our Younger Worshipers

All children are welcome in worship at PHPC.

Elementary age children are invited to the Playground after the Children's Sermon. Worship Bags and Worship Journals are available. Parents must sit in the pews closest to the Playground.

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.

Elders

Class of 2024

Michael Armstrong
Marian Miller
Pat Miller
Robin Prater
Ben Badinger

Class of 2025

Kristen Ching
Gail Funderburk
Shannon Sligar
Kay Strickland

Class of 2026

Amanda Dannemiller
Alan Klein
Angie O'Farrell
John Reineking

Deacons

Class of 2024

Mark Goodson
Shannon Hudson
Bernie Kida

Class of 2025

Marianne Anderson
Holli Kyle
Bill Maguire

Class of 2026

Isaac Assan-Mensah
Jan Mueller
Margaret Snyder

Church Staff

The Rev. Katie Day, *Senior Pastor and Head of Staff*
The Rev. Jennie Sankey, *Associate Pastor for Christian Education - on sabbatical*

Mary Cooper, *Church Administrator*
Steve Dean, *Director of Music*
Veronica Pennington, *Director of Ministry Support*
Talitha Minton, *Director of Preschool*
Adnan Zukanovic, *Facilities Assistant*
Hyoun Joo Song, *Organist*

Grace Andrade, *Director of Youth Ministry*
Andy Kim, *AV Technician*
Hannah Smith, *Children's Choir Director*
Hema Chudasama, *Nursery Caregiver*
Farzana Javid, *Nursery Caregiver*

Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church



3700 Pleasant Hill Road
Duluth, Georgia 30096
770.497.0233
www.pleasanthillpc.org

Celebration of the Lord’s Day
First Sunday of Advent
December 3, 2023

Prelude Hyoun Joo Song

Reflection on an Ancient Plainsong
arr. Michael Ryan

Hanging of the Green Service

Welcome and Announcements The Rev. Katie Day

Introit

*Call to Worship Sharon McLeod

One: How can we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, the King?

All: **With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.**

One: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, the eternal Christ?

All: **With garlands and wreaths of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.**

One: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, our savior?

All: **With arrangements of holly and ivy, symbolizing his life, death, and resurrection.**

One: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of Jesus, the Son of God?

All: **By hearing again the words of the prophets and seers who foretold the saving work of God.**

One: In God’s house, all are welcome – weary or joyful, anxious or hopeful, doubtful or delighted. All are welcome to celebrate the season together, just as we are.

All: **Let us worship our loving God.**

*Hymn 105

People, Look East (stanza 1)

Unison Prayer Katie

God of the darkened night, God of the morning light, come to us again. Come to us in the preparation of our homes and our hearts. Come to us in the harmony of song and the sound of silence. Come in our faithful waiting and hopeful watching. Come to us in the cry for peace and the smile of forgiveness. Come to us, we who are weary, we who long to feel the joy of this season. God of the darkened night, God of the morning light, come to us; be with us. Amen.

The Beginning and the End

Scripture Reading Keith Funderburk

Revelation 22: 12a-13, 16

Changing the Paraments

*Hymn 105

People, Look East (stanza 2)

* Please stand in body or spirit.

A Light in the Darkness

Scripture Reading Julie and Kendall Smith

Isaiah 9:2, 6

The Advent Wreath

The Advent Wreath Lighting Joann Lemek, Nancy Varner,
and Sharyn Woods

One: How does a weary world hope?

All: **By telling stories of hope, by lighting candles in the night, and planting seeds in the winter that will bloom in the spring.**

One: By praying for children as they grow, by picking up trash on the sidewalk, and by making our worship space beautiful together.

All: **By insisting that small acts can make a difference.**

One: There are a million ways to practice hope. So today we light the candle of hope as a reminder and a charge.

All: **With God’s help, may we bring hope into a weary world. Amen.**

Children’s Sermon Katie

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

*Hymn 105

People, Look East (stanza 3)

An Everlasting Promise

Scripture Reading Robin Prater

Isaiah 41:17-20

Hanging the Wreaths and Garlands Decorating the Windows

*Hymn 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Scripture Reading Pam Griffin

Jeremiah 23:5-6b

Decorating the Tree

Music Brass Ensemble

Once in Royal David’s City
arr. Henry Gauntlett

The Light of the World

Scripture Reading David Ashley

John 1: 1-5, 9-14

The Lighting of the Chrismon Tree

*Hymn 105

People, Look East (stanza 4)

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation to the Table

Pastoral Prayer

Words of Institution

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.

*Hymn 105

People, Look East (stanza 5)

Invitation to Offering

Drop in the plate when the Usher comes by.

Scan the QR code.

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

Text givePHPC to 73256.

Please sign the red friendship pad.

Offertory

The Holly and the Ivy
arr. Joseph Martin

Prayer of Dedication

*Sung Response

Hymn 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (stanza 7)

*O come, Desire of nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
fill the whole world with heaven’s peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Following the Word Into the World

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

Come now, Savior of the Nations
J.S. Bach

Parts of today’s liturgy have been adapted from
Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org,
the United Methodist Church Book of Worship, and Ashley Danyew.
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Katie



Hyoun Joo

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