

### Grief Support Group

The Grief Support Group provides a free and confidential structured environment to explore the complex feelings evoked by the loss of a loved one. Led by Stephen Minister Mary Winkeljoh and Pastor Katie Day, the group will meet 7 consecutive Tuesday evenings at PHPC from 7:00pm-8:30pm, starting on January 9 through February 20. For questions or to join, please contact Mary at 770-246-9363 or email Pastor Katie at [katie@pleasanthillpc.org](mailto:katie@pleasanthillpc.org).

### 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.



“Revelation” | Lisle Gwynn Garrity | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org)  
Acrylic painting on canvas with digital drawing

## 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](http://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](http://www.pleasanthillpc.org)

Celebration of the Lord’s Day  
First Sunday after Christmas  
December 31, 2023

Prelude Hyoun Joo Song

Gathering Around the Word

Welcome and Announcements The Rev. Katie Day

Introit

\*Call to Worship Mary Don King

One: Every year we celebrate Christmas.  
**All: Every month we break bread.**  
One: Every week we gather for worship.  
**All: Every day we count our blessings.**  
One: Every minute God is near.  
**All: Yes, every minute God is near.**  
One: These are the rituals of our faith.  
**All: Let us worship Holy God.**

Carol Sing

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of rhythms, we confess: our faith would not be what it is without rituals. Unlike you, we depend on bread and water. We have to return to this space again and again to hear old, familiar stories. For if we stopped, we know it would not take long before we lost our way. Forgive us for our fragility, and thank you for giving us ordinary rituals and rhythms to hold onto. With grateful and humble hearts we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Grace

\*Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.  
**All: And also with you.**

The Word Read and Proclaimed

Children’s Sermon

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

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Psalm 148

Anthem

Ralph and Pam Griffin

What Child is This  
William C. Dix

What child is this who laid to rest on Mary’s lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King whom shepherds guard and angels sing.  
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the Son of Mary.  
Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christians fear, for sinners here the silent word is pleading.  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you,  
Hail, hail the word made flesh, the babe, the Son of Mary.  
So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come peasant king to own him.  
The King of Kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby.  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the Son of Mary.

Scripture Reading

Luke 2:21-38

Sermon

How Does A Weary World Rejoice? We Root Ourselves in Ritual

Responding to the Word

\*Hymn 110

Love Has Come

\*Affirmation of Faith

We believe that faith is a journey marked by rituals and rhythms. We come to worship. We confess our sins. We pass the peace. We offer grace. We hear the Word. We baptize children. We break the bread. And we tell the story of a loving God. And through these sacred rituals, we are reminded: we are not alone. God is near, and we have work to do. May this belief shape the rhythm of our lives. Amen.

Prayers of the People

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.

Moment for Ministry: Worship

Dave Huffman

Invitation to Offering

Drop in the plate when the Usher comes by.  
Scan the QR code.  
Go to [www.pleasanthillpc.org](http://www.pleasanthillpc.org) and click on the Giving tab.  
Text givePHPC to 73256.



Please sign the red friendship pad.

Offertory

Coventry Carol  
arr. Jason Tonioli

Prayer of Dedication

Following the Word Into the World

\*Sung Response

Hymn 702  
Christ Be Beside Me (stanza 1)

Christ be beside me;  
Christ be before me;  
Christ be behind me,  
King of my heart.  
Christ be within me;  
Christ be below me;  
Christ be above me,  
never to part.

\*Charge and Benediction

\*Postlude

Parts of today’s liturgy have been adapted from  
Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org).

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\* Please stand in body or spirit.