



# Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church



## **Chancel Choir and Chamber Orchestra Christmas Music Concert**

3700 Pleasant Hill Road  
Duluth, Georgia 30096  
770.497.0233

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

# Chancel Choir and Chamber Orchestra

## Christmas Music Worship Service

Celebration of the Lord's Day, Third Sunday of Advent  
December 14, 2025

### Prelude

*Chorale Prelude on 'In dulci jubilo'*  
Johann Michael Bach

Hyoun Joo Song

### Choral Call to Worship

#### *Alleluia, Venite Gaudete*

arr. Gary Fry

Duet: Soprano, Lauren Jensen  
Alto, Lizzie Conti

*This is an excellent arrangement based on a 16th century Finnish/Swedish Christmas tune. Gary Fry, through this music, is making a majestic announcement of the birth of the Christ Child by the Virgin Mary.  
Alleluia, O come let us adore him!*

#### *Original Latin:*

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Venite adoremus, venite adoremus, alleluia!

Gaudete, gaudete!

Christus est natus ex Maria Virgine, gaudete!

Tempus adest gratiae hoc quod optabamus, carmina

laetitiae devote redamus. Gaudete, gaudete!

Christus est natus ex Maria Virgine, gaudete!

Venite adoremus, venite adoremus!

Ergo nostra constio psallat iam in lustris;

Benedicat Domino, salus Regni nostri!

Gaudete, gaudete!

Christus est natus ex Maria Virgine, gaudete!

Alleluia!

#### *Translation:*

Alleluia!

Rejoice, rejoice! Christ is born of the Virgin Mary!

The time of Grace has come, which we have waited for;

Let us devotedly render him joyful songs!

Rejoice, rejoice! Christ is born of the Virgin Mary!

Therefore, our congregation praise him in brightness!

Bless the Lord! Greeting to our King!

Rejoice, rejoice! Christ is born of the Virgin Mary!

Alleluia!

### Welcome and Announcements

The Rev. Katie Day

### Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Prater Family

#### *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Plainsong

Baritone, Brian Ireland  
Baritone, Drew Phillips

*Congregation, please remain seated and sing the refrain.*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.

**Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. **(refrain)**

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. **(refrain)**

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

## ***My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord***

Sherri Porterfield

Chancel Choir

*This Canticle of Mary based on Luke 1:46-55 is a beautiful acapella setting of Mary's response to the message from Gabriel.*

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced, rejoiced in God my Savior, for he hath regarded the lowly estate of his handmaiden. For behold, henceforth all generations shall call me blessed; for he who is mighty hath done great things to me, and holy is his name. And his mercy is on them who fear him from generation to generation.



### ***Recitative No. 8: Behold, A Virgin Shall Conceive***

Mezzo Soprano, Isabella Chaney

*This recitative and the following aria and chorus are based on scripture from Isaiah 7 and 40. This prophecy was given over 700 years before the birth of the Christ Child. Mr. Handel captured the energy and excitement of this prophecy and within 24 days he created the entire Messiah!*

Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel. "God with us."

### ***Aria and Chorus No. 9: O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings to Zion***

George Frideric Handel

Mezzo Soprano, Isabella Chaney

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain!

O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength!

Lift it up, be not afraid!

Say unto the cities of Judah, behold your God!

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, arise, shine, for thy light is come; arise for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord, the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, good tidings to Jerusalem, arise, say unto the cities of Judah, behold your God! Behold the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.



### ***Breath of Heaven (Mary's Song)***

Chris Eaton & Amy Grant

Soprano, Erin Towe

*This touching, eloquent song makes us think of how Mary must have felt on becoming the mother of Jesus, overwhelmed and afraid, yet trusting in God. Craig Courtney has arranged this with beautiful, intense expressions that we can all identify with.*

I have traveled many moonless nights, cold and weary with a babe inside. And I wonder what I've done. Holy Father, you have come and chosen me now to carry your son.

I am waiting in a silent prayer. I am frightened by the load I bear. In a world as cold as stone must I walk this path alone? Be with me now, be with me now.

Breath of Heaven, hold me together, be forever near me. Breath of Heaven, lighten my darkness, pour over me your holiness for you are holy, Breath of Heaven.

Do you wonder, as you watch my face, if another should have had my place? But I offer all I am for the mercy of your plan. Help me be strong, help me be, help me.

Breath of Heaven, hold me together, be forever near me. Breath of Heaven, lighten my darkness, pour over me your holiness for you are holy, Breath of Heaven.

## **Recitative for Soprano Nos. 14 – 16: There Were Shepherds Abiding**

George Frideric Handel

Soprano, Pam Griffin

*This recitative and the following chorus are based on Luke 2 and describe the angel and the heavenly hosts appearing to the shepherds. Mr. Handel's inspired music takes our imagination to that glorious event.*

There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night.

And lo! The angel of the Lord came upon them,  
and the glory of the Lord shone round about them,  
and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them,

Fear not: for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying:

## **No. 17: Glory to God**

George Frideric Handel

Chancel Choir

*This chorus is attributed to the multitude of heavenly hosts singing, "Glory to God, and peace on earth."*

Glory to God,  
Glory to God in the highest and peace on earth.  
Goodwill towards men.

## **Rejoice Greatly**

George Frideric Handel

Soprano, Alexandra Watson

*Perhaps the most famous aria from Handel's Messiah is one of great joy and excitement. The words "Daughter of Zion" refers in scripture to the city of Jerusalem or the people of Israel. This aria is a beautiful celebration of the birth of the Christ Child.*

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice greatly, rejoice o daughter of Zion.

O daughter of Zion, rejoice, rejoice, rejoice.

O daughter of Zion, rejoice greatly, shout, o daughter of Jerusalem.

Behold, thy King cometh unto thee, behold, thy King cometh unto thee, cometh unto thee.

He is the righteous Saviour and he shall speak peace unto the heathen.

He shall speak peace, he shall speak peace, peace, he shall speak peace unto the heathen.

## **Invitation to Offering**

The Rev. Katie Day

Drop your gift 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**

*God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*  
arr. Charles Szczepanek

Hyoun Joo Song



## **Mary Had a Baby (Glory, Hallelujah)**

arr. Gary Fry

Baritone, Ralph Griffin

*Gary Fry has once again crafted an inspired Christmas arrangement for all to enjoy, an evocative call-and-response presentation of "Mary Had a Baby" followed by a rousing gospel arrangement of "Glory, Hallelujah to the Newborn King".*

Mary had a baby, my Lord!  
Where was he born? Born in a manger.  
Mary had a baby born in a manger.  
What did they call him? King Jesus!  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Mary had a baby, my Lord!  
Glory! Glory hallelujah! Glory hallelujah to the newborn King!  
Tell me who do you call the Wonderful Counselor?  
Oh, glory hallelujah! Glory hallelujah to the newborn King!  
Well, follow the star and you'll find the baby, oh, glory hallelujah!  
Glory hallelujah to the newborn King!  
Bring us peace on earth, and goodwill toward your neighbor, oh glory hallelujah!  
Glory hallelujah to the newborn King!  
We're singing hallelujah! Glory hallelujah to the newborn King!

## **The First Noel**

Chancel Choir

*One of the oldest and most beloved English noels, the lyrics, which originated in the region around Cornwall, date from as early as the 16th century. The structure of the old melody, first published with these lyrics in 1833, is unusual for an English carol, suggesting it may be a combination of fragments from several earlier tunes.*

***Congregation, please stand and sing when directed.***

The first Noel the angels did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the East beyond them far,  
And to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord, sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
That hath made heaven and earth of naught, and with his blood mankind hath bought.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

## **Angels We Have Heard On High**

arr. Dan Forrest

Chancel Choir

*From sparkling joy to moments of tender awe, this setting raises the bar for all arrangements of this wonderful Christmas carol. It is a skillfully woven tapestry that reflects the various aspects of the first Christmas. Dan Forrest once again displays his incredible talent.*

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o're the plains,  
and the mountains in reply, echo back their joyous strains.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song?

Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see, him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

See him in a manger laid, Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth!  
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, with us sing our Savior's birth!

In excelsis Deo:  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Oh gloria in excelsis Deo, Deo!

## Mary's Little Boy Child

arr. Gary Fry

Baritone, Drew Phillips

*Early in the 1950s, songwriter Jester Hairston was asked to provide a new Christmas carol for an upcoming concert. Hairston thought back to a song he had composed a few years earlier in which he used a Calypso rhythm. He penned some new Christmas-themed lyrics for the melody and came up with "Mary's Little Boy Child". This carol has found its way into numerous hymnals and has been sung by many popular singers.*

Long time ago in Bethlehem, so the Holy Bible say, Mary boy child, Jesus Christ,  
he born on Christmas Day!  
Oh Mary boy child, Jesus Christ, he born on Christmas Day! While shepherds watched their flocks by  
night, they see a bright blue shining star, and then they hear a choir sing,  
the voices seem to come from afar.  
Hark now hear the angels sing a new King born today, and man will live forever more, because of  
Christmas Day! Trumpets sound and angels sing, listen what they say,  
that man will live forever more, because of Christmas Day!  
Joseph and his wife Mary came to Bethlehem that night, didn't find no place for to born she child, not a  
single room was in sight; then by and by they found a little nook in a stable all forlorn,  
and in a manger cold and dark, Mary little boy was born.  
Long time ago in Bethlehem, so the Holy Bible say, Mary boy child, Jesus Christ, he born on Christmas  
Day! Oh Mary boy child, Jesus Christ, he born on Christmas Day! Hark now hear the angels sing a new  
King born today, and man will live forever more, because of Christmas Day!

## O Come, All Ye Faithful

arr. Mack Wilberg

Chancel Choir

*First published in 1751 in John Wade's Cantus Diversi as the Latin "Adeste Fideles",  
this great Christmas carol is one of modern Christianity's finest hymns.*

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant! O come, ye, O come, ye to Bethlehem. Come, and  
behold him, born the King of angels!

Refrain: O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him; Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation; Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God; Glory in the highest! (refrain)

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be all glory given. Son of the Father,  
now in flesh appearing! (refrain)

## Benediction

The Rev. Katie Day

## Hallelujah Chorus

George Frideric Handel

Chancel Choir

*Words and music from Messiah (1741). Revelation 19:6, 11:15, 19:16.*  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! And he shall reign for ever and ever.  
The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord  
and of his Christ, Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

## Postlude

*This Is The Day That Is So Joyous*  
Johann Sebastian Bach

Hyoun Joo Song



# Chancel Choir

Director of Music: Paul S. Dean

## I Soprano

Ivie Goorsky  
Pamela Griffin  
Sunju Kwon  
Lativia Ray-Alston  
Hannah Smith  
Cheryl Stricker  
Meg Su-Reed  
Erin Towe  
Mary Kate Veal  
Alexandra Watson

## II Soprano

Gail Funderburk  
Kate Garrett  
Laura Huffman  
Lauren Jensen

## I Alto

Isabella Chaney  
Robin Prater  
Brenda Torri

## II Alto

Lee Bourgeois  
Judy Crow  
Tereza Kisele  
Carol Ann Stough  
Pat Thiede

## Tenor

Mark Clark  
Sung bok Oh  
Cordell Prater  
John Reineking  
Tom Stricker  
Greg Veal

## Bass-Baritone

Barry Arnold  
Keith Funderburk  
Stan Fyfe  
Ralph Griffin  
Doug Griswold  
Paul Hooker  
Brian Ireland  
Aldo Liedtke  
Dale Murphy  
Drew Phillips  
Paul Shane



# Orchestra

## Violin

Huijeong Lee  
Ian Chen  
Alex Lipsky  
Daun Kwag

## Flute

Kimberly Bateman  
Blair Carrier

## French Horn

Helen Werling

## Harp

Tyler Hartley

## Percussion/Timpani

Michael Garrett  
Charles Goorsky  
Carson Lee

## Oboe

Katie Smith

## Trumpet

Michael Raphael Meo  
Alex Rodiek

## Piano/Organ

Hyoun Joo Song

## Viola

Katie Taylor

## Clarinet

Beth Bryant

## Cello

Katie Schlaland

## Bassoon

Michelle Hung

## Trombone

Ed Nicholson  
Devin Witt  
Phil Truex

## Double Bass

David Metrio



# Praise in Motion Dance Company

Director: Susie Grimley

Assistant Director: Christian Smith

Teaching Staff:

Riley Bryson Hope Laman Avery Scott Lee Addie Linder  
Emma Starnes Samantha Starnes Emily Vanderkley Melanie Wilson

Dancers:

Luci Avery	Lily Fisher	Katelyn Holley	Jennie Ortega	Samantha Starnes
Lyla Bryan	Gloria Fort	Madeline Howell	Christian Phillips	Betenas Tesfai
Riley Bryson	Amelia Fortunato	Ava James	Rhema Ponizhaylo	Ella Tinney
Everleigh Ellis	Samantha Grabowski	Ava Narh	Cheyenne Presley	Lydia Tinney
Liz Erwin	Imani Hawks	Alex Nelson	Selah Russell	Elin Waters
Taylor Ethridge	Callie Hightower	Isabella Nelson	Emma Starnes	Heather Wilson

Parts of today's liturgy have been adapted from  
*The Will to Dream - Illustrated Ministry*

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## 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 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 are available. Parents with children sitting in the Playground 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 2026

Amanda Dannemiller  
Alan Klein  
Drew Phillips  
John Reineking

### Class of 2027

John Cason  
Dave Huffman  
Sharon McLeod  
Linda Murphy

### Class of 2028

Rob Keith  
Dan Miller  
Meg Watkins  
Serena Wright

## Deacons

### Class of 2026

Isaac Assan-Mensah  
Nora Badinger  
Jan Mueller  
Margaret Snyder

### Class of 2027

Cindy Heuer  
Jon MacLean  
Shannon Scott

### Class of 2028

Lee Bourgeois  
Erik Mjorud  
James Park

## Church Staff

**The Rev. Katie Day**, Senior Pastor and Head of Staff

**The Rev. Jennie Sankey**, Associate Pastor (on Maternity Leave)

**The Rev. Carrie Barnes**, Temporary Pastoral Care Support

**Adnan Zukanovic**, Facilities Director

**Katie Karel**, Financial Administrator

**Hilary Mize**, Ministry Support Assistant

**Steve Dean**, Director of Music

**Hyoun Joo Song**, Organist

**Andy Kim**, AV Technician

**Van Saltysiak**, Livestream Technician

**Talitha Minton**, Director of Preschool

**Grace Andrade**, Director of Youth Ministry

**Kayla Otim**, Director of Children’s Music

**Hema Chudasama**, Nursery Caregiver

**Farzana Javaid**, Nursery Caregiver

**Alina Spring**, Play & Praise Leader

## Advent and Christmas at PHPC 2025

Dec 17 10:00am **A Stitch and A Prayer**  
*Join PHPC’s monthly knitting of shawls and caps to comfort neighbors in need.*

12:00pm **Hybrid Advent Book Study**  
*Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes*

Dec 20 8:30am **Men’s Breakfast**  
*Join the men of PHPC for a devotion, fellowship, and food.*

Dec 21 **Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
10:00am **Advent Worship & Laundry Love Collection**  
11:15am **Family Carnival & Project Angel Alternative Gift Market**  
4:00pm **Longest Night Prayer Service**  
*An intimate service of prayer, reflection, and remembrance.*

Dec 24 **Christmas Eve Services**  
5:30pm **Candlelight Worship with Interactive Nativity**  
*Pick out your favorite nativity character and join the story at this child-friendly and child-led service.*

7:30pm **Candlelight Worship with Communion**

*Celebrate Christmas with a traditional service full of music, favorite Christmas carols, candlelight and communion.*

Dec 28 **Christmastide**  
10:00am **Casual Worship followed by Waffle House Brunch**