



PHPC News to Know

Weekly news and updates right in your bulletin.

Project Angel - STARTS TODAY!

Join us for Project Angel, a simple, meaningful way to give this Advent. Donate in honor of loved ones and support our mission partners. Browse gift options and visit the Project Angel table in the Narthex beginning Dec 7. Pay by cash, check, card, or Realm. More details in the newsletter.

Stephen Ministry - FIVE WISHES Workshop - Today @ 11:15am

Today at 11:15 AM in the Sanctuary for a Five Wishes class led by Rev. Chrystal Brigman. Learn how to complete this simple, compassionate “living will with heart and soul.” Booklets provided, all are welcome. More information available in the newsletter or contact Matt Hoffman.

Women’s Advent Gathering - Tonight @ 6pm

All ladies of PHPC are invited to come together and share a meal at the start of Advent, tonight at 6pm. We’ll gather for a potluck dinner in the Narthex and work on creating some lovely Christmas crafts to get in the holiday spirit. If you have a craft in mind you would like to suggest and lead, or if you’d be willing to be a hostess of a craft table that is set up and ready to go, please reach out to Marianne Anderson to coordinate.

Walking Group - CANCELLED December 13

Our monthly PHPC community walk is taking a break for December, but we’ll be back in January, just in time for those New Year fitness resolutions!

Christmas Choir Concert - December 14 @ 10am

Save the date! Join us for worship on Sun, Dec 14 with full orchestra and the PHPC Chancel Choir. Afterward, enjoy a potluck brunch. Please bring a ready-to-serve brunch or lunch for 8–10 (no desserts). Fellowship Committee provides drinks, dessert, utensils, and PB&J. All are welcome!

A Stitch and A Prayer - December 17 @ 10am

This ministry holds regular meetings the third Wednesday of each month at 10am in the Bride’s Room. Our group welcomes both experienced and beginner knitters and crocheters. If you’d like to learn more or get involved, please contact Margot Ashley.

Men’s Breakfast - December 20 @ 8:30am

The Men’s Breakfast is held monthly on the third Saturday at 8:30 - 9:30 am in the Jerusalem room and Kitchen. We are hoping this gives men who have to work on Friday morning, the opportunity to participate. There will be lots of coffee/tea, conversations, a hearty breakfast, and a devotion. All men of PHPC and friends are welcomed. For more information or questions, email Jeff Milway.

The Longest Night Prayer Service - December 21 @ 4pm

For many, the typically joyful season of Advent can feel especially heavy. Advent reminds us that God meets us in the full range of our emotions, inviting us to hold joy and grief together. You are warmly invited to a prayer service honoring this tender balance on the longest night of the year, Sunday, December 21 at 4:00pm in the prayer chapel with Pastor Katie.

Year End Giving

As you plan year-end giving, consider these options:

Donating Appreciated Stock – You may gain tax advantages by donating appreciated stock. Contact Katie Karel for instructions.

Donating from your RMD – You can direct all or part of your Required Minimum Distribution to PHPC for possible tax benefits.

Donations must be received or postmarked by Dec. 31 for 2025 tax credit.

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 to subscribe to the Chosen Word weekly email newsletter.



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 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 Saltsiak, *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*

Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church



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www.pleasanthillpc.org


Celebration of the Lord’s Day

Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025

Prelude	Hyoun Joo Song
Gathering Around the Word	
Welcome and Announcements	The Rev. Katie Day
Introit	
*Call to Worship	Keith Funderburk
One: We gather together in this place: All: prophets and dreamers, singers and poets, One: we who dare to imagine a world renewed; All: we who dare to dream God’s dream. One: We watch with Malachi and John. All: God’s peace will soon appear. One: The hills and valleys will meet, All: and all things will be at rest. One: We long for a world restored, renewed. All: The fire of God’s justice burns in our hearts. One: Come and worship, all you who dream and wait. All: We have come to wonder and praise.	
Lighting of the Advent Candles	The Ching Family
One: The birth of Jesus has been told and retold a thousand times and in a thousand ways. All: Its impact cannot be contained in any one perspective. But who is telling the story changes how we hear it, how we imagine it, how we experience it. We light the candle of hope because hope creates a path for a new, unknown story to unfold. One: Close your eyes for a moment... Jesus, like Malachi, John, and other prophets before him, calls us in the loudest of cries to peace. All: Today, we also light the candle of peace because peace requires us to pay attention to the needs of those around us.	
*Hymn 82	Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
Call to Confession	
Prayer of Confession	
God of peace, we confess the ways that we maintain “peacefulness” at the expense of seeking justice for our neighbors and our world. We turn our eyes away from human suffering to maintain false contentment in our own hearts. We settle for compromises that harm the vulnerable, rather than risk discomfort or loss. We ask to be soothed rather than stirred up. Make us a holy and risk-taking people. Forgive and inspire us. Shape us as bold witnesses to your coming reign. We pray in the name of Jesus, Amen.	
* Please stand in body or spirit.	

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	
Special Music	Children’s Choir
The Lord is My Shepherd	
Children’s Sermon	
Parents may walk their children age 3 to Kindergarten to Room B103 to check-in to Play & Praise.	
Prayer for Illumination	Keith
Scripture Reading	Keith
Malachi 3:1–6	
Anthem	Chancel Choir
I Shall Know Him Douglas E. Wagner	
I shall know him when he comes, not with a sound of pipe or drum, but by the holy harmony which his coming makes in me.	But in a manger, crude he’ll sleep, warmed by the breath of cows and sheep. Come, Lord Jesus, tarry not. Find in me a resting spot. My heart is open, come dwell within. Let life be born in me again.
He shall wear no royal robe or a crown of precious gold but he my Lord, my King shall be always, ever there for me.	By the holy harmony which his coming makes in me, I shall know him, I shall know him, I shall know him when he comes.
He shall not in castle warm, live in splendor safe from harm.	
Scripture Reading	Matthew 3:1–12
Sermon	The Will to Dream: Prophetic Peace
Sealing the Word in Our Lives	
Children will return from Play & Praise to sit with their families during communion.	
*Music	
Come to the Table arr. Amanda Meisenheimer	
Come to the table. Come to the table. Come to the table and celebrate with us. (repeat)	
We are all welcome. We are all welcome. We are all welcome. Come celebrate with us. (repeat)	
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.	
Responding to the Word	
Moment for Ministry: Fellowship	Carol Ann Stough and Mary Don King
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.	
An offering for our Little Free Pantry will be received in the Narthex today. Gifts of canned and nonperishable foods provide free meals to our neighbors in need.	
Please sign the red friendship pad and create a name tag.	
Offertory	Hyoun Joo
Prayer of Dedication	
*Sung Response	Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee. Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.
Following the Word Into the World	
*Charge and Benediction	
*Postlude	Hyoun Joo
Parts of today’s liturgy have been adapted from Illustrated Ministry. Copyright License: 176415 and Stream License: CSPL 129485	
Large print Bibles and copies of the hymns are available at the usher desk in the narthex. Please see an usher if you need one.	