



We are Christians committed to discerning and doing God's will
through worship, study, fellowship, and mission.

We seek to continue to grow as an open, supportive,
and compassionate community of neighbors.

Welcoming everyone. Including all.

Session, March 2025

The doors of this church are as wide as God's love.

The Rev. Dr. Frank Irvine, Founding Pastor, 1958

Sunday, November 30, 2025

The First Sunday of Advent

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S DAY

** At the asterisk, please rise in body as you are able.*

Our worship service begins with Prelude music at 10:10 am.

*We kindly ask that conversations come to a close
so that worshipers may enter a spirit of quiet meditation and for
our livestream broadcast to begin.*

****ALL HYMNS TODAY ARE FROM THE GLORY TO GOD HYMNAL****

PRELUDE

Prelude Solennel (Veni Emmanuel)

Richard Purvis

LIGHTING THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

The Hollingsworth Family

ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING HYMN (See Insert)

Verses 1 and 2

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The days are surely coming, says the LORD,
when I will fulfill my promise to my people.
Justice and righteousness will fill the land
and all will live in peace and safety.

*HYMN No. 82

Glory to God hymnal

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Hyfrydol

PRAYER OF THE DAY

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, have mercy on us.
We are not ready for your coming.
We live in sin, as though there was no justice.
We live in fear, as though there was no grace.
Forgive us, LORD. Show us your mercy and steadfast love.
Lead us in your truth, and teach us your paths,
for you are the God of our salvation. Amen.

RESPONSE No. 121, vs. 4

Glory to God hymnal

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Believe the good news of the Gospel:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***RESPONSE No. 113, Refrain** Angels We Have Heard on High

Glory to God hymnal

Glo-ri-a in excelsis Deo, Glo-ri-a in excelsis Deo!

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH

GIFT OF MUSIC

How Shall We Know Him?

Gilbert M. Martin

How shall we know him when he comes? Not by any din of drums;
neither by the manner of his airs, nor by anything he wears.
How shall we know him when he comes? Not by any rush of wings;
neither by the flashing of a sword, nor by anything untoward.
How shall we know him when he comes? Not by any flag unfurled;
neither by a gesture or a frown, nor by any golden crown.
We shall know him when he comes!
And his coming known shall be by the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee.

CHILDREN DEPART FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 13:11-14

SERMON

"Fragile Virtue for a Fragile Age"

Isaiah 2:1-5

***HYMN No. 756**

O God of Every Nation

Llangloffan

Glory to God hymnal

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

A Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada

We are not alone; we live in God's world.
We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the church: to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus,
crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.
We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

*A HYMN OF THANKS No. 144, vs. 4

Glory to God hymnal

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him: give my heart.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Almighty God, as we keep watch for your new heaven
and new earth, we present these offerings to You,
trusting that they will help bear witness
to Your work in this world.
And we offer our varied ministers as well,
hoping each of us may be a part of Your answer
to the cries of this world.
Empower and inspire us, so that all that we might do
might be a reflection of Your love and glory. Amen.

*HYMN No. 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Truro

Glory to God hymnal

*BENEDICTION

HYMN OF GOING FORTH No. 542, Verse 1

Glory to God hymnal

God Be With You Till We Meet Again

POSTLUDE

Prepare the Royal Highway

Paul Manz

This congregation's custom is to remain in the sanctuary for the postlude.

Those wishing to exit are kindly asked to do so quietly.

SERVING THIS MORNING

Preacher

Rev. Teresa Peterson

Director of Music & Organist

Charles Miller

Liturgist

Judy Goerke

Greeters

Marilyn Beadle, Joy Park, and Bob Szwed

Coffee Hour

Dave and Pam Hollingsworth

Security

Jeff Wensorski

WELCOME TO CHERRY HILL CHURCH: We are deeply grateful you have joined us in worship today! Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone, without exception, into the life of this congregation.

OFFERING: Your offering may be placed in the offering plates at each sanctuary door, mailed to the church office, using the QR code provided, or by accessing our secure and easy online giving option through our website @ www.cherryhillchurch.org. Easy instructions are provided. Thank you for supporting the ministry at Cherry Hill!



WORSHIP AIDS: Hearing assist devices are in the narthex and in Weir Foyer, along with instructions on using the system. Large print bulletins and hymnals are also available. Please ask a greeter for a copy.

CHILDCARE FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN is provided during the worship service upstairs in the nursery (above the church offices). Olivia Gee is our childcare provider. Please ask a greeter for directions.

THE SUNDAY MORNING 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY CLASS, led by Maged Radamis, focuses on the Book of Zechariah. Class meets in the Conference Room.

THE SUNDAY MORNING 11:45 AM BIBLE STUDY CLASS, led by the Rev. Dr. John Whitfield meets in the Conference Room. The class is focusing on Paul's letter to the Romans.

MONDAY STUDY: Please join us as we continue the new book study centered on *The Message of Jesus* by Adam Hamilton. The author takes us through six major themes about which Jesus taught.

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS booklets, entitled *Draw Near*, have been sent electronically by Kim this past week. Paper copies are also available on the large table in Weir Foyer starting today.

HELPING HAND FOOD PANTRY is collecting toiletries to give to our clients, including toothpaste, toothbrushes, bar soap, shampoo, and toilet paper in **FOUR PACK PACKAGES**. We also continue to need Cereal, Canned Vegetables, Canned Spaghetti Sauce, Spaghetti Pasta, Macaroni, and Peanut Butter, bags of Dried Beans and bags of Rice in 1 lb. weight. We always appreciate cash donations too. Thank you for your continued generous support of this church mission!

SAVE THE DATE! All women are invited to our Women's Retreat from Friday, April 10 to Sunday, April 12, 2026. We are excited to be back at the Weber Center in Adrian. It's a wonderfully restorative and prayerful time, and a great opportunity for sisterhood. If you're interested in being on the planning committee, please reach out to Leslie Garber.

A PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S GATHERING is planned for Wednesday, December 10, at 1:00 pm at First Farmington Presbyterian Church. To reserve tickets, call Sue Carlson at 248-330-7188. or email her at srdcarlson@me.com. The program will begin with a musical program followed by the play "Operation Whispering Pines" about a group of feisty retirement home residents who outsmart the devious owner. Light refreshments will follow the program.

2026 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN – LIVE GENEROUSLY: As of Wednesday, November 26, we have received 43 pledges totaling \$151,801. Our thanks to all who have already pledged. If you have not returned your pledge card, you may place it in the offering plate or mail to the church office. Pledge cards are available in the church office.

YEAR END GIVING AND 2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES: As we come to the end of the year, please consider whether you have paid your per capita and fulfilled your pledge for 2025. For those making year end gifts, please remember the church in your giving. All donations must be received no later than Sunday, December 28, to claim a charitable deduction for 2025. For those that generally use offering envelopes, the 2026 boxes will be available Sunday, December 7, in Weir Foyer.

SAVE THE DATE: VANGUARD VOICES’ LESSONS AND CAROLS will be held on Sunday, December 21, at 6:00pm. Come hear Dearborn’s premier choral ensemble present carols and anthems of the Christmas/Holiday season in a musical event patterned after the famed Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at King’s College, Cambridge, England. G. Kevin Dewey will conduct, and Joseph Balisteri will be the organist.

BIRTHDAYS THIS COMING WEEK

Mary Boudreau 11/30 Cathie Wensorski 12/01 Fred King 12/03
Jane Stockton 12/03 Bruce Yinger 12/05 Elaine Terrell 12/05
Jim Thorpe 12/05 Janet Reickel 12/06 Cheryl Herman 12/06

IN OUR PRAYERS

Members to Remember (Those Unable to Attend Worship)

Evelyn Poti Lewis Sequin Winnie Murphy
Judy Ewasuk Ekanem Ekpenyong Pam Thorpe

Health Concerns & Support

Bob Stead John Haury Marv Oberdier Sharon Cloney John Nichols
Pamela Moore Judy Tisdale Yvonne Parks (Pastor’s cousin)
All those who serve as caregivers to the ill and infirmed
Cherry Hill Church Pastor Nominating Committee
Staff, Elders, and Deacons of Cherry Hill - The Presbytery of Detroit

THIS WEEK AT CHERRY HILL

Sunday, November 30	9:00 am	Bible Study
	9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:15 am	Worship/Sunday School
	11:30 am	Coffee Hour
	11:45 am	Bible Study
Monday, December 1	10:00 am	Sew What Group
	1:00 pm	Study Group
Tuesday, December 2	10:00 am	Peace Circle
Wednesday, December 3	9:30 am	Helping Hand Food Pantry
	7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, December 4	7:00 pm	Christian Education Meeting
Sunday, December 7	9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:00 am	Bible Study
	10:15 am	Worship/Communion
		Sunday School
	11:30 am	Coffee Hour (December Birthdays)
	11:45 am	Bible Study



CHERRY HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

24110 Cherry Hill Road, Dearborn, Michigan 48124 – 313-563-4800

office@cherryhillchurch.org www.cherryhillchurch.org

A Member of the Presbytery of Detroit of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Church Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday – 8:30 am-2:30 pm / Friday – 8:30 am-Noon

Church Staff, Email & Direct Dial Phone Numbers

Rev. Teresa Peterson, Interim Pastor

Pastor@cherryhillchurch.org – 313-768-5904

Charles Miller, Director of Music & Organist/Church Coordinator

Charles@cherryhillchurch.org – 313-768-5905

John Renaud, Facilities Manager & Sexton

Facilities@cherryhillchurch.org – 313-768-5913

Kim McDonald, Business & Church Administrator

Kim@cherryhillchurch.org – 313-768-5907

Michael Sellers, Social Media Manager

John Peterson, Custodian

Olivia Gee, Sunday Childcare Provider

The Rev. James P. Russell, Associate Pastor Emeritus

We Light the Advent Candles 175



1 We light the Ad-vent can - dles a - gainst the win - ter night,
 2 The first one will re - mind us that Christ will soon re - turn.
 3 We light the sec - ond can - dle, and hear God's ho - ly Word,
 4 Three can - dles now are gleam - ing and show us the true way,
 5 Four can - dles burn - ing bright - ly an - nounce that Christ has come,



to wel - come our Lord Je - sus who is the world's True Light,
 We light it in the dark - ness and watch it gleam and burn,
 it tells us, cling to Je - sus, pre - pare to meet your Lord,
 re - joice, the Bap - tist cries out, your Lord has come to - day,
 pre - pare, my heart, be - lieve it, and give the Christ child room,



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WORDS: Gracia Grindal (1943-)
 MUSIC: German folk tune
 Words © 1999 Hope Publishing Company

WIR HATTEN GEBAUET
 7.6.7.6.7.6.