Cherry Hill PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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 29, 2026
The First Sunday of Advent

**** 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 ARE FOUND IN THE GLORY TO GOD HYMNAL

PRELUDE Prelude on *Veni Emmanuel* Richard Purvis

WELCOME & NEWS OF THE CHURCH

LIGHTING THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE Jan and John Porath

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING HYMN (Verses 1 and 2; see insert)

***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** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus *Hyfrydol*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

CALL TO 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 were 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.

SILENT CONFESSION

RESPONSE No. 121, v. 4

O Holy Child of Bethelehem, 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

Glor-i-a in excelsis Deo. Glor-i-a in excelsis Deo.

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 Isaiah 2:1-5

SERMON **"The Will to Dream: Vigilant Hope"**
Matthew 13:24-37

***HYMN No. 97** Watchmen, Tell Us of the Night *Aberystwyth*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from 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

***DOXOLOGY** No. 144, v. 4

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 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*

***BENEDICTION**

***HYMN OF GOING FORTH No. 545** Lord, Bid Your Servant *Land of Rest*

POSTLUDE Savior of the Nations, Come Paul Manz

This congregation's custom is to remain in the sanctuary for the postlude.
Those wishing to exit may do so quietly.



SERVING THIS MORNING

Preacher	Rev. Teresa Peterson
Director of Music & Organist	Charles Miller
Liturgist	Anna Dewey
Greeters	Sue Dalton, John Kill, James Flynn
Security	Walter Siegl
Coffee Hour	Don and Elaine Filiak

WELCOME TO CHERRY HILL CHURCH: We are profoundly grateful you have joined us in worship today! Inspired by the radical hospitality of 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 below, or by our secure and easy online giving option at our website: **www.cherryhillchurch.org**. Easy instructions are provided. Thank you for supporting the ministry at Cherry Hill!

WORSHIP AIDS: Large print bulletins, Bibles, and large print hymnals are available on the tables in the front of the Sanctuary and in the Narthex. Please ask a greeter for a copy and return them to the tables following the service.

THE SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS at 11:45 am, led by Dr. John Whitfield, continues the study of the first eleven chapters of Genesis. This class is held in the Conference Room near the church office.

HELPING HAND FOOD PANTRY is in continuing need of canned soups and broth, healthy cereals, canned vegetables, rice, dried beans, and canned tuna. Cash gifts are also extremely helpful. Your donations are truly welcomed and appreciated!

2027 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN – GO AND DO THE SAME: As of Friday, November 20, we have received 31 pledges totaling $131,000. 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 2027 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 2026. For those making year end gifts, please remember the church in your giving. All donations must be received no later than Monday, December 28, to claim a charitable deduction for 2026. For those that generally use offering envelopes, the 2027 boxes will be available Sunday, December 6, in Weir Foyer.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY: On Sunday, December 13, we will be receiving two new members as they confirm their faith. Please join us in welcoming Aleksander and Elijah, and keep them in your prayers!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for Dearborn's Meals on Wheels: Monday through Thursday, kitchen helpers (no cooking) at 7:00 am, and delivery drivers at 9:00 am. Both jobs take approximately two hours and don't require commitment to all four days. If available, please call Lori at 734-552-1722.

SAVE THE DATE: VANGUARD VOICES' LESSONS AND CAROLS will be held on Sunday, December 20, at 6:00 pm. 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. The audience will join in the singing of Christmas carols. G. Kevin Dewey will conduct, and Charles Miller will be the organist.

WARMING TREE: The Deacons again will be collecting items for the Warming Tree. Donated items (coats, gloves, scarves, and hats in a variety of sizes for children and adults) will be distributed by Dearborn Goodfellows. **All donated items must be on the tree no later than NEXT SUNDAY, December 6.** Thank you for your generous support of this mission!

IN OUR PRAYERS

Members to Remember (Those Unable to Attend Worship)

Lewis Sequin Winnie Murphy
Judy Ewasuk Ekanem Ekpenyong Pam Thorpe

Health Concerns & Support

Bob Stead Marvin Oberdier John Nichols Judy Goerke
Pamela Moore Judy Tisdale David Murphy (friend of Deb Szwed)
Our New Pastor and her family
as they prepare for their move to Dearborn
Staff, Elders, & Deacons of Cherry Hill / The Presbytery of Detroit

BIRTHDAYS THIS COMING WEEK

Mary Boudreau 11/30 Cathie Wensorski 12/1 Fred King 12/3
Jane Stockton 12/3 Bruce Yinger 12/5 Elaine Terrell 12/5 Jim Thorpe 12/5

THIS WEEK AT CHERRY HILL

Sunday, November 29	9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:15 am	Worship / Sunday School
	11:30 am	Coffee Hour
	11:30 am	Elder / Confirmation Meeting
	11:45 am	Confirmation Class
	11:45 am	Bible Study
Monday, Nov. 30	10:00 am	Sew What Group
Wednesday, Dec. 2	9:30 am	Helping Hand Food Pantry
	6:15 pm	Worship & Music Committee
	7:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Friday, December 4	**Office Hours by Appointment Only**	
Sunday, December 6	9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:15 am	Worship / Communion / Sunday School
	11:30 am	Coffee Hour & Birthday Celebration
	11:45 am	Bible Study

ADVENT

Light looked down and saw the darkness.
"I will go there," said light.
Peace looked down and saw war.
"I will go there," said peace.
Love looked down and saw hatred.
"I will go there," said love.
He, the Lord of Light,
the Prince of Peace,
the King of Love,
came down and crept in beside us.

John Bell



CHERRY HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
24110 Cherry Hill Road, Dearborn, Michigan 48124 313-563-4800
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A Member of the Presbytery of Detroit - the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Church Office Hours:
Monday through Thursday – 8:30 am-2:30 pm
Friday Office Hours are by appointment only

Church Staff, Email & Direct Dial Phone Numbers
Rev. Emily Bruno, Pastor Designate
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
Kim McDonald, Business & Church Administrator
Kim@cherryhillchurch.org – 313-768-5907
Michael Sellers, Social Media Manager
Alora Bazzi, Child Care Provider
Alex Gonzalez, Custodian
The Rev. James P. Russell, Associate Pastor Emeritus