



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, December 21, 2025**  
**The Fourth 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.*

#### PRELUDE

Joy to the World  
Once in Royal David's City

David Cherwien

#### LIGHTING THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE

*The Haury Family*

#### ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING HYMN (See Final Page)

Verses 1 and 5

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Out of little Bethlehem comes one who is to rule in Israel.

**He shall be great to the ends of the earth.**

Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

**God's mercy extends from generation to generation.**

**Holy is God's name!**

#### \*HYMN No. 133

*Please see insert*

O Come, All Ye Faithful

*Adeste Fidelis*

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God our Savior, we ask for your mercy.

Though we have heard Mary's song,  
we still seek security in pride, power, and possessions.

Though we know your story,  
we resist the costs of following you.

We pass by those considered lowly in this world.

We turn away from hungry people  
who still wait to be filled. Forgive us, we pray.

Help us to work for the justice you intend.

Make us messengers of the peace you bring.  
As we wait for you, turn our apathy  
into acts of love and service.  
We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. 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**

Christmas Lullaby

John Rutter

Clear in the darkness a light shines in Bethlehem: Angels are singing their songs in the air.  
Wise men have journeyed to greet their Messiah, but only a mother and baby lie there. Ave Maria.  
Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing. Ave Maria: maiden and mother of Jesus our King.  
Where are his courtiers and who are his people? Why does he bear neither scepter nor crown.  
Shepherds his courtiers, the poor for his people, with peace as his scepter and love for his crown. Ave Maria...  
What though your treasures are not gold or incense? Lay them before him with hearts full of love.  
Praise to the Christ Child, and praise to his mother who bore us a Savior by grace from above. Ave Maria...

**CHILDREN DEPART FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Romans 1:1-7

**SERMON**

**"The Quiet Saint"**

Matthew 1:18-25

**\*HYMN No. 119**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

*Mendelssohn*

*Glory to God hymnal*

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*from "A Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church, USA*

This is the good news which we have received,  
in which we stand, and by which we are saved,  
if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins  
according to the scriptures, that He was buried,  
that He was raised on the third day,  
and that he appeared first to the women, then to Peter,  
and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.  
We believe that Jesus is the Christ,  
the Son of the living God.  
Jesus Christ is the first and the last,  
the beginning and the end;  
He is our Lord and our God. Amen.

## 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

You deliver us, O God, from exile, separation,  
and despair into communion with each other,  
with you, and with your good news.  
We thank you for all that draws us close together,  
astounding us with lives transformed by gratitude.  
Accept our gifts as signs of our gratitude  
for what you give us every day  
and as honor to your presence in our world;  
for the sake of those who stand in need and Jesus Christ,  
who save us. Amen.

#### \*HYMN No. 134

Joy to the World

*Antioch*

*Glory to God hymnal*

#### \*BENEDICTION

#### HYMN OF GOING FORTH No. 545, Verse 1

*Glory to God hymnal*

Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace

#### POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo

Johann Sebastian Bach

*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	Pam Hollingsworth
Greeters	Shirley Mayland, Janet Reickel, and Bob Szwed
Holiday Enhanced Coffee Hour	Deacons & Fellowship Committees
Security	Walter Siegl

**WELCOME TO CHERRY HILL CHURCH:** We are 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 provided, or by accessing our secure and easy online giving option through our website @ [www.cherryhillchurch.org](http://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 11:00 AM BIBLE STUDY CLASS**, led by Rev. Dr. John Whitfield continues to meet in the Conference Room.

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE at 5:00 pm IN THE SANCTUARY!** Our Choir will lead the singing of our most beloved carols, Katie Garber will be our vocal soloist and sing *O Holy Night*, and the service will close with the traditional singing of Silent Night by the glow of candlelight. We are grateful to Olivia Gee for graciously providing childcare. Please note that because of the use of the Chapel by the congregation of Our Lady of Peace (National Catholic Church), this 5:00 pm service will be the only one offered for our congregation and visitors.

**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!

**2026 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN – LIVE GENEROUSLY:** As of Wednesday, December 17, we have received 53 pledges totaling \$177,301. 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 are available in Weir Foyer.

**VANGUARD VOICES' LESSONS AND CAROLS** is **THIS EVENING**, December 21, 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. G. Kevin Dewey will conduct, and Joseph Balisteri will be the organist. Many carols will be sung by the audience along with the choir – a true sonic spectacular!!

**BIRTHDAYS THIS COMING WEEK**

Elaine Filiak 12/25    Lew Sequin 12/26    Ron Stockton 12/27

**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

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, December 21	9:00 am	Choir Rehearsal
	9:00 am	Bible Study
	10:15 am	Worship/Sunday School
	11:30 am	Enhanced Holiday Coffee Hour
	11:45 am	Bible Study
	6:00 pm	Vanguard Voices: Lessons & Carols Concert
Monday, December 22	10:00 am	Sew What Group
Wednesday, Dec. 24	OFFICE IS CLOSED	
	4:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal
	5:00 pm	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service in the Sanctuary
Thursday, December 25	CHRISTMAS DAY / BUILDING IS CLOSED	
Friday, December 26	BUILDING IS CLOSED	
Sunday, December 28	9:00 am	Bible Study
	10:15 am	Worship/Sunday School
	NO COFFEE HOUR IS OFFERED TODAY	
	11:45 am	Bible Study

## CHERRY HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

[office@cherryhillchurch.org](mailto:office@cherryhillchurch.org)   [www.cherryhillchurch.org](http://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](mailto:Pastor@cherryhillchurch.org) – 313-768-5904

Charles Miller, Director of Music & Organist/Church Coordinator

[Charles@cherryhillchurch.org](mailto:Charles@cherryhillchurch.org) – 313-768-5905

John Renaud, Facilities Manager & Sexton

[Facilities@cherryhillchurch.org](mailto:Facilities@cherryhillchurch.org) – 313-768-5913

Kim McDonald, Business & Church Administrator

[Kim@cherryhillchurch.org](mailto:Kim@cherryhillchurch.org) – 313-768-5907

Michael Sellers, Social Media Manager

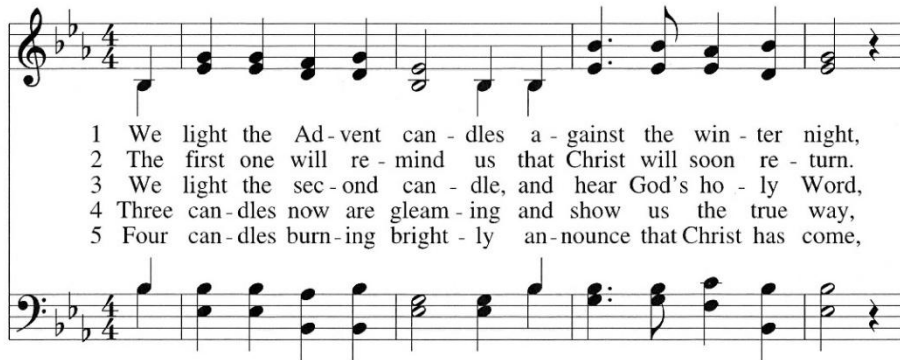
John Peterson, Custodian

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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