GARY United Methodist CHURCH

Advent worship activity! Scan now to participate or visit https://bit.ly/4CePcV6.

SUNDAY, NOV. 29, 2026, 9 A.M.

First Sunday of Advent
This worship experience will be livestreamed and recorded.

Prelude	Of the Father's Love Begotten arr. John Carter	Robert Sacks, piano
Welcome		Pastor Daniel Cochran
Advent Candle Lighting		Mark, Janet, Anna and Jack Mathis
*Passing of the Peace		
*Opening Hymn	O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (verses 1, 2, 5 and 7)	*Hymnal* 211
Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance		Pastor Jonathan Crail
Scripture Readings	Psalm 23, *Luke 1:46-55	Greg Perisho
*Gloria Patri		*Hymnal* 70
Children's Time		Carey Williams Bebar Director of Christian Education
Reflection	The Poetry of Advent: A Bishop's Reflection	Bishop Dan Schwerin
*Reflection Hymn	Thank You, Lord	*Hymnal* 84

**You are invited to stand in body or spirit.*

(continued)

A People's Prayer for Advent — George “Modavador g” Salter

Offertory — The Lamb — Chancel Choir
Ron Barnett, poetry from *Songs of Innocence*, William Blake

Gifts can also be made at garychurch.org/give or by texting “give” to 630-320-0668.

*Doxology — Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow — *Hymnal* 94

*Dedication of Our Tithes and Offerings

*Sending Hymn — My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout (Canticle of the Turning) — Words on screens and back page

*Faith in Action and Benediction

Postlude — Fugue in F Major
attr. George F. Handel

George “Modavador g” Salter, Rhyme 2 Reason, *Founder*

Modavador is an ordained minister, author, conference speaker, Bible story teller instructor and gospel hip-hop recording artist. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Modavador served as a ministry volunteer at the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice: Illinois Youth Center (IYC), St. Charles.

Currently, Modavador is conducting extensive research, programming and piloting a peer-to-peer storytelling curriculum for inmates at a maximum-security prison in collaboration with Sharing God’s Love, Inc.

George received his Master of Arts in Educational Leadership from Gateway Seminary and his Bachelor of Science in Management Science. He graduated with honors from SUNY at Geneseo School of Business. George is a member of Second Baptist Church, Wheaton, where Rev. Kevin Williams is the Senior Pastor.

George and his wife, Nina, have three daughters and three grandchildren.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This morning, Sun., Nov. 29, at Gary Church:

- **In-Person Worship:** 9 and 11:11 a.m. Assisted listening devices and large print hymnals are available by asking an usher. Livestream and recorded worship are available at garychurch.org.
- **Sunday School:** 10 a.m. for all ages.
- **Fifth Sunday Photos:** 10 a.m., Commons. Smile! Gary Church photographers will be set up to take your picture to update our online directory.
- **Special Blend Fellowship:** 10 a.m., Commons.
- **Embodied Light:** 10:10 a.m., Anderson Room. Expect hands-on participation in poetry, movement, music and visual art during Advent.

Fifth Sunday Appeal for United Voices for Children: A special offering will be collected today, Sun., Nov. 29. Your gift will provide support for at-risk children, youth and families. You can also give at garychurch.org/give.

Advent Soup Suppers: Wednesdays, Dec. 2, 9 and 16, 5:15-6:30 p.m., Commons. Enjoy soup and fellowship during Advent. Sign up to participate and/or to provide soup at garychurch.org.

Midweek Advent Series: Heaven and Earth: Wednesdays, Dec. 2, 9 and 16, 6:30 p.m., Heritage Room, led by Rev. Steve Conger. We will study *Heaven and Earth: Advent and the Incarnation* by Will Willimon. Books are available for $10. Register at garychurch.org.

New Gary Church merch: You can get 15% off your order through Wed., Dec. 2, from the Gary Church Logo Store using the discount code GaryChurch15SH at garychurch.org.

Cookie Walk: Sat., Dec. 5, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Commons. Joy Circle and the United Women of Faith invite you to their Christmas Cookie Walk to raise money for missions. Bakers of homemade cookies needed. Contact Ida Whitcomb or Suzy Wible (office@garychurch.org).

Christmas Sharing: Sat., Dec. 12. For over 50 years, Christmas Sharing has helped needy families in CUSD 200. It's not too late for cash donations or to take an ornament off the tree in the Commons. Donations can be made at garychurch.org/give.

Lessons and Carols: Sun., Dec. 13, 9 a.m. and 11:11 a.m., Sanctuary. Advent lessons and music shape this unique family worship experience.

Outreach Senior Christmas Luncheon: Fri., Dec. 18. A $15 donation can be made at garychurch.org/give and will provide them a place at the table. Still need some bakers to make a mashed potato casserole (recipe provided) and to serve. Sign up in the Commons to help.

Longest Night Service: Mon., Dec. 21, 7 p.m., Sanctuary. Traditionally held on winter solstice, this service will provide a time to remember loved ones, share our hurting places with God or simply step aside from the stresses of the season.

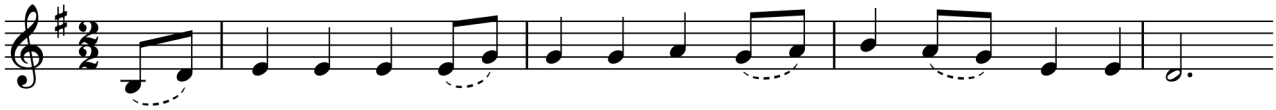
Christmas Eve Worship, Thurs., Dec. 24, Sanctuary:

- 4 p.m. Family Worship (bring a stuffed animal)
- 7 p.m. Traditional Worship
- 9 p.m. Worship with communion

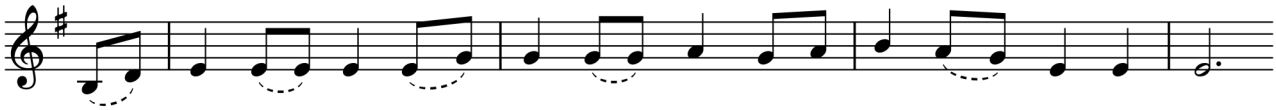
Great East Window: The large stained glass window in the Sanctuary balcony has been removed for restoration. Donations to the stained-glass window fund can be made at garychurch.org.

Free items at Welcome Desk: Stop by the Welcome Desk in the Commons for free items received from The United Methodist Church at The Leadership Institute.

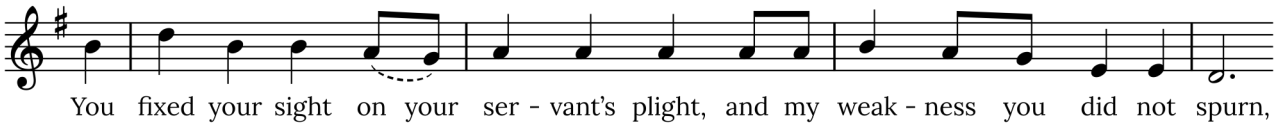
My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout (Canticle of the Turning)



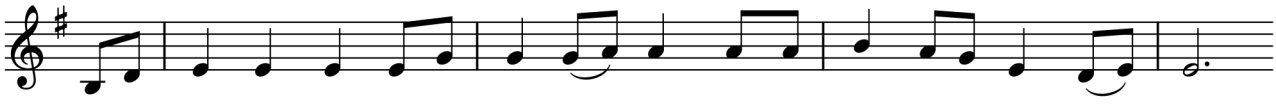
1. My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the God of my heart is great,
2. Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
3. From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a stone will be left on stone.
4. Though the na-tions rage from age to age, we re - mem-ber who holds us fast:



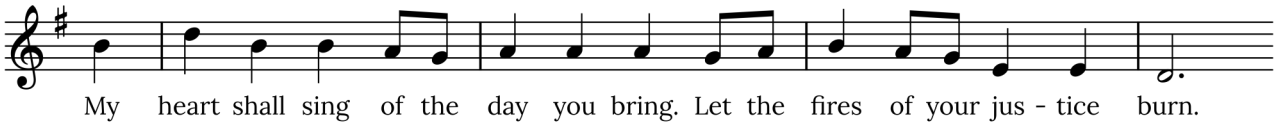
and my spir - it sings of the won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
and your mer - cy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Let the king be - ware for your jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant from his throne.
God's mer - cy must de - liv - er us from the con-quer-or's crush-ing grasp.



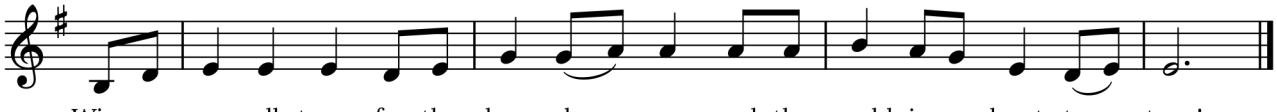
You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my weak - ness you did not spurn,
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
The hun - gry poor shall_ weep no more, for the food they can nev - er earn;
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the prom - ise which holds us bound,



so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
'til the spear and rod can be crush'd by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn!

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