

Grace Presbyterian Church

December 22, 2024

9:30 am

Welcome and Vision Statement

**We are an open and affirming congregation.
We genuinely welcome people of all ages,
race, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations,
beliefs,
and those who are cognitively
and or physically challenged.
Our vision is to be a community
of love and purpose,
each one engaged in ministry,
seeking to know Christ, growing in discipleship,
and embodying God's love for the world.**



**Fourth Sunday
of Advent**

Prayer Candles

Before Worship, you may offer a prayer and light a candle at the communion table.

We Gather

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call to Worship:

Advent Candle Lighting by Christian Education team

Beloved Sustainer, in a world where care is mocked by the powerful,

we stand as those who know the life-giving force of your love —for you, for our neighbors, for ourselves.

You call us to be fierce in love, bold in tenderness.

You enable us to be protectors of compassion, guardians of mercy in a world in need.

*Hymn #93 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”

We Reflect

Prayer of Illumination

The coming of our Lord is near,

And we wait for God’s light

to shine over all the earth,

Draw close, pain bearer, life giver, love sharer,

Shine through us, in us, around us,

shine for the world to see. Amen.

~ written by Christine Sine, and posted on **Godspace**

Reading from the Prophet Micah 5:2-5a

A time for Children and the Young in heart

Reading from the Gospel of Luke 1:26-38

SERMON

*Hymn #100 "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout"

We Respond

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission is **to Know, Love, and Serve God**

Offertory Invitation *Musical Meditation*

Prayer of Dedication

**Gracious God,
we thank you for the gifts before us
and ask that you bless them
that we might use them to be a blessing to others.
As we finish this journey of Advent,
care for us as you did your servant Mary,
that we might serve you as she did,
carrying God's grace into the world. Amen.**

(Many thanks to all who contribute to the mission and ministry of our church in offering plates during worship and by electronic giving throughout the month).

Prayers of God's People (sharing of Joys and Concerns)
Lord, in your mercy/with thanksgiving, **Hear our prayer.**

We Are Sent

*Hymn #104 "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"

*Charge and Benediction

God of our Greatest Joy,
may the joy we find in you leap within us this day.
Give us the imagination to sing your praises
in all that we do and in all that we are,
for you have done great things for us.
Our souls magnify you and our spirits rejoice in you!

Amen.

Posted on Liturgy Link by Rev. Stephen M. Fearing,
Shelter Island Presbyterian Church, NY

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Peace be with you!

And also with you

(We invite you to offer a sign of peace to those around you and as you gather for fellowship. We remind you to ask what folks feel comfortable with...a verbal greeting, a handshake or fist bump, etc. Do not assume.)

POSTLUDE

***Indicates, please stand in body or spirit.**

All songs not from Glory to God are used by permission of CCLI #1124594