



December 24, 2025

Christmas Eve

5:30pm

+ indicates you are invited to stand

Prelude

*Silent Night*

Wilbur Held

Lighting of the Christ Candle

[Liturgy by Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | [sanctifiedart.org](https://sanctifiedart.org), adapted]

One: In a fearful world, where do you see the presence of God?

**All: We see God's fingerprints all around us. We see God in the beauty of the stars.  
We see God in the love of this community. We see God in the dreams we hold for a better world.**

One: You are right. Even in a fearful world, God is here. God is all around us.

On this holy night, we light the Christ Candle as a reminder that God became human in Jesus,  
and God keeps appearing to us on earth.

May this flicker of light help us remember that even in a fearful world, God's love is all around us.

**All: Thanks be to God for a love like that! Amen.**

+Hymn 137 *He Came Down*

Prayer

The Story of Christmas

Scripture	From Isaiah 9
Hymn 121 ( <i>sing seated</i> )	<i>O Little Town of Bethlehem</i>
Scripture	Luke 2:1-5
Song	Walking to Bethlehem
Song	No Room for You!
Song	Mary Had a Tiny Baby
Song	Come, See the Baby!
Scripture	Luke 2:8-20
Song	At the Manger
Song	Happy Birthday, Jesus!

(songs are from *Songs for Small Singers* by Sue Hawkins Duckett)

Offering of Food and Support for our Pastor's Discretionary Fund



Offerings of food will be shared with our neighborhood food pantry.  
Anything put into the designated wall boxes beside each door at the back of the Sanctuary  
tonight will be contributed to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, which supports church members  
and neighbors in need. Monetary gifts and pledges to GPPC may also be given online at  
<https://www.ginterparkpc.org/giving>, or by using the QR Code to the left. Use the drop-down  
menu to contribute to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

Hymn 115 (sing seated) *Away in a Manger*

Prayer

One: God of small things, you came among us as a tiny and vulnerable baby, open to all who met you.

**All: Teach us to care for the hurt and tender places in our hearts and in the hearts of others; help us to nurture your compassion in our world.**

One: We thank you for the love you have shared with us in Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. We pray for everyone who needs your light. We pray for public leaders, community organizers, teachers, police officers, and all who are charged with seeking the common good.

**All: Shine upon them and give them peace.**

One: We pray for people who work in hospitals, hotels, restaurants, airports, and bus stations – all who work and watch this night;

**All: Shine upon them and give them peace.**

One: We pray for people who are sick and dying, cold and hungry, lonely and grieving, in prison, at war, and far from home.

**All: Shine upon them and give them peace.**

One: We pray for families and friends – those who are with us, those who are far from us, those who need your guidance, and those in our memories, who now live with you;

**All: Shine upon them and give them peace.**

One: We pray for ourselves. Let there be peace enough in our hearts and minds to receive your good news in light, in word, in song, and in the faces of others. Help us to treasure the blessings of Christmas, and use us to do your work in the world, for the sake of Jesus Christ.

**All: Amen.**

+Hymn 134 *Joy to the World*

+Charge and Blessing

+ The Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Postlude

God Rest, Ye Merry

Wilbur Held

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***Tonight at 9:00pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion***

A traditional service of scripture, hymns & prayers, culminating with the Lord's Supper and singing by candlelight. (*Children are very welcome at the service, no nursery available.*)

**Sunday, December 28, 2025 - 11:00am - Brunch Church**

We will be meeting in the Fellowship Hall for worship, which will include hymn singing, Bible study, prayer, and the eucharist - all shared over brunch! We will be providing bread, gluten free crackers, orange and grape juice, and baby quiches (*or something similar*). To bring additional food or to assist otherwise with the brunch, please sign up using the link in the newsletter online. We will invite you to make a special offering for a baby in GPPC's community, whose father was recently abducted by ICE and deported to Guatemala: money, Spanish language baby books, or beautiful and useful gifts for a baby boy.

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POINSETTIAS - Thanks to everyone who purchased a poinsettia to decorate our chancel. If you would like to take your poinsettia home tonight, please return after tonight's 9:00pm Candlelight Service to do so.

ANNOUNCEMENTS about events in the life of GPPC are available through a weekly e-newsletter. If you would like to be added to the distribution, please contact Karen Mitscherlich at [ginterparkpc@gmail.com](mailto:ginterparkpc@gmail.com).

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