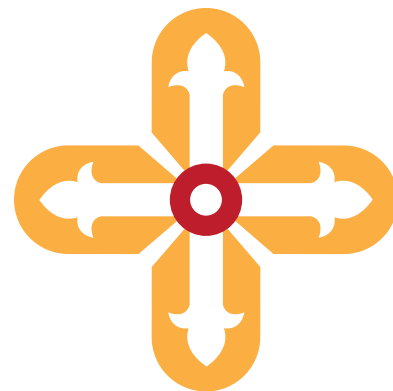


GLENN MEMORIAL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



■ The Worship of God

DECEMBER 19, 2021 | 8:30 A.M.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



GLENN CHURCH WELCOMES YOU

Glenn Memorial United Methodist Church is committed to loving God and loving neighbor with our whole selves – heart, mind, soul, and strength. As Jesus loved those around him, we believe that all persons are of sacred worth and dignity as part of God’s creation. We welcome all persons into the full life and ministry of our congregation, regardless of race, culture, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, family or socioeconomic status, education, politics, physical or mental ability, or faith history. Glenn Memorial UMC has been a proud affiliate of Reconciling Ministries Network since 2014, and welcomes and affirms all LGBTQ+ persons.



LET US KNOW YOU’RE HERE

Register your attendance online, using the QR code, or in the attendance pad at the end of the pew. We will use contact information in case of the need for contact tracing for COVID-19. Thank you for continuing to support public health protocols of masking and distancing.

Childcare on the Playground is available throughout the service. Masks required for all (age 2 & older).
Parent/guardians, please escort your children and sign in with our Childcare Staff.

Hearing devices, pew cushions, and Children’s Worship Kits are available from an usher.



Your gifts directly support the ministries of Glenn.

Scan the QR code or visit www.glennumc.org/give to donate securely online.

The flowers on the altar are in honor of the marriage between Jay and Jeremy Burns-Horton,
who were married in the Little Chapel yesterday.



■ We Gather

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Rorate Caeli

Jeanne Demessieux (1921-1968)

One of the most talented organists of her time and a student of Marcel Dupré, Jeanne Demessieux was known for her impeccable technique and artistic flair. Also a skilled composer, she wrote hugely difficult études as well as simpler, reverent chorale preludes like this one, based on the Advent chant Rorate Caeli (“Drop down ye heavens from above...”).

WORDS OF WELCOME

Please stand as you are able in body or spirit.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Our souls magnify the Lord, and our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

ALL: God has looked with favor on the lowliness of God’s servant.

One: God’s mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

ALL: God has shown strength with God’s arm. God has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

One: God has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly;

ALL: God has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

One: Come, for God is doing a new thing!

ALL: Come, let us worship God!

HYMN UMH #213

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

ADVENT CANDLELIGHTING

Read by the Allen Family

I've got the love of God in me, — I've got the love of God in me, — I've got the
Spi-rit of the Son of God, — I've got the love of God in me.

■ We Hear God's Word

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 12:2-6

²Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the Lord God is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation.³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. ⁵Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. ⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

May God bless the reading of the Word.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able in body or spirit.

THE SECOND LESSON

Luke 3:7-18

⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?" ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." ¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." ¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." ¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

May God bless the reading of the Word.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Will Christmas Greenery Bear Christian Fruit?

■ We Respond

Please stand as you are able in body or spirit.

HYMN

Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice

LAGRANGE

1. Wild and lone the pro-phet's voice ech-oes through the de - sert still, call - ing
2. "Bear the fruit rep - en - tancesows: lives of jus - tice, truth, and love. Trust no
3. With such preach - ing stark and bold John pro claimed sal - va - tion near, and his
us to make a choice, bid - ding us to do God's will: "Turn from
oth - er claim than those; set your heart on things a - bove. Soon the
time - less warn - ings hold words of hope to all who hear. So we
sin and be bap - tized; cleanse your heart and mind and soul. Quit - ting
Lord will come in pow'r, burn - ing clean the thresh - ing floor: then will
dare to jour - ney on, led by faith through ways un - trod, till we
all the sins you prized, yield your life to God's con - trol."
flames the chaff de - vour; wheat a - lone shall fill God's store."
come at last like John to be - hold the Lamb of God.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (WRITTEN BY STEPHEN M. FEARING)

All: We believe that God has come to us; that God brought us into being, that this God gave us breath and purpose, that we have been blessed to be a blessing to others, that we have fallen short of this commandment but that God has nevertheless loved us despite our brokenness. We believe that God is coming to us; that God is not happy to leave us alone, that this God will come to us as a particular human being, that God will be made known to us in flesh and bone like ours, that Mary will soon give birth and Joseph will soon clap his hands in joy, that Jesus Christ will be born and our salvation made complete. We believe that God will come to us; that God will have the final word and that Word will be good, that this God will give us the presence of the Spirit to continue our work, that we are called to be disciples to all the corners of the earth, that the day is coming when tears and pain will be no more, and all will gather at the Table to sing an endless and perfect "Alleluia!"

MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

The Lamb

Elizabeth Poston (1905-87)

Little Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee? Gave thee life, and bid thee feed By the stream and o'er the mead; Gave thee clothing of delight, Softest clothing, woolly, bright; Gave thee such a tender voice, Making all the vales rejoice? Little Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee? Little Lamb, I'll tell thee, Little Lamb, I'll tell thee: He is called by thy name, For he calls himself a Lamb, He is meek, and he is mild; He became a little child. I a child, and thou a lamb, We are called by his name. Little Lamb, God bless thee! Little Lamb, God bless thee!

-Text from "Songs of Innocence" by William Blake (1757-1827)

Please stand as you are able in body or spirit.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow

VENI, EMMANUEL

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God, all crea - tures here — be - low. Praise God, a - bove ye heav - n'ly hosts. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Re - (Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost.)

joice! Re - joice! E - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

■ We Go Forth

CLOSING HYMN UMH #218

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

CAROL

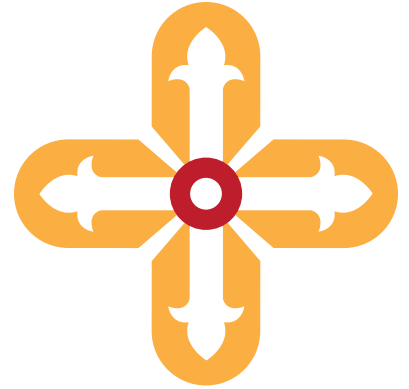
BENEDICTION

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen ("Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming")

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)





■ Announcements & Special Events

INVITED: GIVING & STEWARDSHIP 2021 - 2022

Thank you for your generous 2021 support of our ministry budget and to all who have pledged your 2022 gifts. For information about end-of-year giving, contact Pam Gwinner (pgwinner@glennumc.org) in the Finance Office.

YOUTH & ALUMNI ADVENT SERVICE

Tonight, December 19 | 5pm | Sanctuary

All church attendees welcome, as the youth and youth alumni lead the service through music, word, & Holy Communion. As we all start to gather again, this is an opportunity to reconnect with Glenn youth alumni, celebrate the season of Advent, and enjoy fellowship with one another.

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER

Tuesday, December 21 | 7pm | Little Chapel

Many of us have struggles in our lives that make being jolly and merry the farthest things from our hearts and minds, especially in 2021. Whether you are grieving, stressed, or lonely, join us on winter's longest night to find comfort and hope in the midst of this season.

JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM WALK-THRU NATIVITY

Thursday, December 23 | 4-5:30pm | Around Glenn's Campus

Make your journey to Bethlehem this year! Park at Emory's Fishburne Deck for a 30 minute walk that brings the story of the first Christmas to life. Volunteers are needed for cast and crew!



To register for upcoming events or to learn how you can become more involved at Glenn, please visit glennumc.org/upcoming-events or contact any of our staff.

THE REV. MARK WESTMORELAND
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THE REV. SUSAN PINSON
Senior Associate Pastor for Children,
Older Adults, and Congregational Care
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THE REV. BRENT HUCKABY
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**GLENN
MEMORIAL**
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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■ Upcoming Services

Sunday 12.19 | Advent IV

8:30am Service (Little Chapel)
11am Service (Sanctuary)
5pm Youth & Youth Alumni Service (Sanctuary)

Tuesday 12.21 | In the Bleak Midwinter

7pm Service (Little Chapel)

Thursday 12.23 | Journey to Bethlehem

4-5:30pm Walk-thru Nativity (Glenn campus)

Friday 12.24 | Christmas Eve

5pm Festival Worship with Brass and
Candlelighting (Sanctuary)
11pm Communion Service with Candlelighting
(Sanctuary)

Sunday 12.26 | Christmas I

11am Service (Sanctuary)

Sunday 1.2 | Christmas II

11am Service (Sanctuary)

Sunday 1.9 | Epiphany / Baptism of Our Lord

8:30am Service (Little Chapel)
11am Service (Sanctuary)
5pm The Gathering (Sanctuary)

Sunday 1.16 | Epiphany II

8:30am Service (Little Chapel)
11am Service (Sanctuary)
5pm The Gathering (Sanctuary)