



John McMillan Presbyterian Church
10:00 am Worship

To Know, To Glorify and to Serve God

December 1, 2024



Welcome to John McMillan Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 1, 2024; 10:00am

We're glad you are here today. We are a community of people who are disciples of Jesus Christ, and it is our mission to provide a way for this community and the communities around us to know, glorify and serve God. It is our hope that our worship and fellowship today will allow us all to feel God's presence. If you have any questions about the church, or if there is any way we can help you or pray for you, please let us know.

The Service of the Lord's Day

The Prelude

"Savior of the Nations, Come" – arr. Douglas Wagner

We Gather for Worship

The Advent Chant

The Welcome & Announcements

Mary Cullison

*The Passing of the Peace

The Lord be with you. ***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Let us pass the peace of Christ to each other.

The Advent Candle Lighting

Sarah Douglas & Toni Sulkowski

Advent's Holy Light

Chancel Choir

*The Advent Litany

For those of us facing difficult challenges

Ignite our hearts with hope.

For the end of wars wreaking havoc and pain in our world

Ignite our hearts with hope.

For safety for those fleeing the tyranny of oppression

Ignite our hearts with hope.

For the light of forgiveness to shine in our hearts

Ignite our hearts with hope.

The Candle Lighting

Advent's Holy Light (Reprise)

Chancel Choir

The Candle Lighting Prayer

***The Advent Hymn #104**

"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"

We Are Called to Pray

The Call to Confession *(please be seated)*

The Prayer of Confession

Coming Christ,
you may not find us as you hoped.
We've looked away from signs
we do not wish to see.
We've stopped listening to distress
we do not wish to hear.
We are numb to inconvenient truths.
Keep us alert, O God,
to the needs of our neighbors.
Revive our hearts
laden with compassion fatigue.
Sharpen our minds clouded by worries.
Sober our lives addicted to privilege.
Show us the signs of your coming,
that we may stand before you,
the Son of Man,
in whose name we pray.

The Time for Silent Confession *(A time of silence for personal confession)*

The Assurance of Forgiveness

As sure as the fig tree blossoms,
so sure is the salvation of God,
poured out for the world
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

***The Gloria Patri #581** *(please stand)*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

The Prayers of the People and 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.

The Anthem

Chancel Choir

"I Shall Know Him When He Comes" - By Doug Wagner

I shall know Him when He comes, not with sound of pipe or drum, but by the holy harmony which His coming makes in me. He shall wear no royal robe, or a crown of precious gold, but He my Lord, my King shall be always, ever there for me. He shall not in castle warm live in splendor, safe from harm. But in a manger, crude He'll sleep, warmed by the breath of cows and sheep. Come, Lord Jesus, tarry not. Find in me a resting spot. My heart is open, come dwell within. Let life be born in me again. By the holy harmony which His coming makes in me, I shall know Him when he comes.

We Hear the Word

The Word for Today

Jeremiah 30: 18-22

Rev. Jeff Tindall

The Application of the Word

"Hope"

***The Hymn of Reflection #97**

"Watchman Tell Us of the Night"

We Respond in Faith

The Invitation to the Offering

The Collection of the Offering

The Offertory

*The Doxology # 609

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise God in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*The Prayer of Dedication

We Share the Table of the Lord

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper *(please be seated)*

The Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving (see screens for responsive reading)

The Words of Institution

The Breaking the Bread and The Sharing of the Cup

- We take the elements together as a reminder that we are all a part of the body of Christ.
- Gluten-Free Wafers are now available. They are in the wrapper on each tray.

The Prayer of Sending

We are Sent in God's Name

*The Christmas Carol #121

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

*The Benediction

*The Postlude

"Variation on 'Veni Emmanuel' – arr. Gregg Sewell

**please stand if you are able*

Christmas Events & Information

Advent Sermon Series

So, Advent starts December 1st. We have 25 days until we celebrate “The Nativity of the Lord”, otherwise known as Christmas. Pastor Jeff will be preaching a series of sermons on the four themes of advent – hope, peace, joy and love. These match the four candles on the Advent Wreath. What is interesting is that Pastor Jeff will be taking his texts from the Old Testament Prophet Jeremiah, otherwise known as the “Weeping Prophet”. Despite the tears, Jeremiah has much to say about hope, peace, joy and love. Come celebrate Advent with Jeremiah.

Church Decorating

November 30th | 9:00 am | JMPC Sanctuary

Help is needed to decorate the church for the Christmas season on Saturday, November 30th beginning at 9:00 am. All help is appreciated! If you have any questions, please contact Cindy Fast swfast@verizon.net

Christmas Concert

Sunday, December 15th | 4:30 pm

We will celebrate the season with our annual Christmas Concert followed by a fabulous potluck dinner. Our concert will feature upbeat, sacred Christmas music presented by the choir, band, bells and talented soloists. Please join us for this joyous musical evening. It's the most wonderful time of the year!

Click here to sign up or use the QR Code:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094CAA922A4FE3-53464703-christmas>



Be an ANGEL this Christmas!

November 24th – December 8th

Many children in our sister church First Duquesne Presbyterian Church and the surrounding community do not have coats or gloves to keep them warm this winter. Our Christmas Collection this year will be:

- NEW coats, hats, gloves/mittens, and scarves for the children of Duquesne
- Warm winter clothing for children and teens is also welcomed: sweaters, fleeces, sweatpants, etc.
- Gift cards to Walmart in denominations of \$10 or \$15 are also welcome additions

Soccer balls and scoop ball play sets are often requested items if you would like to add a toy

All items will be distributed at the First Presbyterian Church of Duquesne Christmas Market.

Bring your *unwrapped, NEW items* and place them under the Angel Tree in the Narthex between November 24 and December 8. If you prefer to order coats online and have them delivered, you can send them to me or the church office. All sizes for toddlers to adult (some preteens and teens are in adult sizes) are acceptable. If you have questions, contact Cheryl Davies at 412.901.8939. Porch pickup is also available.

Christmas Eve Services

Tuesday, December 24th | 4pm & 7:30pm

Join us Christmas Eve for a Family Service at 4pm or A service of Lessons and Carols at 7:30pm.

Upcoming Events & Information

Church Office

Leslie's last day in the church office was Wednesday, November 27th. We are currently searching for her replacement. In the meantime, Mary Cullison will be completing the bulletins and answering emails. The front desk office will have a volunteer Monday through Thursday, 9am to 12pm. After November 27th Leslie will no longer have access to the JMPC email or phone system and should not be contacted via personal email or phone regarding JMPC business.

Kids' Club/Youth Group

Our groups will meet two more times in 2024 on December 4th and December 11th. December 11th will be our traditional Christmas party. Let's send the fall session out in style. We are looking forward to seeing you!

Brown Bag Bible Study

Wednesday, December 4th | 12:00 pm | Fellowship Hall

BBBS has begun our study of the New Testament letter *1 Timothy*. *1 Timothy* is the first of three "pastoral letters" (along with the letters *2 Timothy* and *Titus*) which discuss church leadership and pastoral oversight of churches both organizationally

and theologically. There is a lot to talk about in 1 Timothy. Subjects that might surprise you and puzzle you. Any questions? Contact Pastor Jeff. Come and see (and bring your lunch)!

Front Desk Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to sit at the front desk weekday mornings until a new office manager is hired. The only tasks we are asking are to answer the telephone, welcome visitors and sign for packages. No computer work will be necessary. If you are available to help, please use the link or QR code to sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094CAA922A4FE3-53439237-front>



Leslie Bogdon's Reception

Sunday, December 15

After years of faithful service our office manager Leslie Bogdon is leaving to take a position with Pittsburgh Presbytery. The great news is that while we are losing her as an employee, we are welcoming her as a new member. You will still get to see her- just not to talk about office work! We want to honor her time of service here with a reception after worship on December 15. Please join as we say thank you to Leslie.

Pastor Jeff's Celebration

Saturday, January 25 and Sunday, January 26

As you all know, Pastor Jeff will be leaving us to enjoy a well-earned retirement. His last Sunday in worship will be Sunday, January 26, 2025, where he will preach one last time. We will be celebrating his 10+ years of service to JMPC and retirement with a dinner on Saturday, January 25, 2025. Details and signups will appear soon but save the date now. We will all want to celebrate with Pastor Jeff and look back at his years of leadership and ahead to new adventures, including plenty of Camille time!



The flowers today are given to the Glory of God in gratitude to Pastor Jeff for his pastoral care to the congregation of JMPC.



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

10:00 am Worship
 10:00 am Sunday School
 3:00 pm Passion Twirl & Poms
 7:00 pm Reflections Group

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

1:00 pm Church Bridge
 1:00 pm Pickleball

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

3:00 pm Passion Twirl & Poms
 5:00 pm South Hills Flute Studio
 7:00 pm Meeting Night

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

10:00 am Staff Meeting
 12:00 pm Brown Bag Bible Study
 4:00 pm South Hills Flute Studio
 5:00 pm Kids Klub & Youth Group

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

1:00 pm Pickleball
 5:00 pm South Hills Flute Studio
 6:00 pm Celebration Ringers
 7:00 pm Line Dancing -Krisie Brownlee

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

4:30 pm South Hills Flute Studio

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

8:00 am Passion Twirl & Poms
 2:00 pm South Hills Players

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

10:00 am Worship
 10:00 am Sunday School
 1:00 pm Private Event – Mary Amaditz
 3:00 pm Passion Twirl & Poms
 7:00 pm Reflections Group



We would love to have your birthday on file in the office. If we've missed your birthday, please contact the church office as we may not have it on file. Thank you!

December 1	Grace Bogdon
December 1	Samantha Gaudelli
December 2	Sarah Gilliland
December 4	Ryan Krieger
December 5	Barb Clark
December 5	Cooper Kenney
December 5	Levi Zunic
December 6	Noelle Chenevert
December 6	Jordan Little
December 6	Alana Little
December 6	Sophia Sweeney
December 8	Ellianna Wolstoncroft
December 8	Carol Partyka

JMPC Prayer Concerns (As of Thursday, November 26, 2024)

(Please contact the Church Office with any Joys & Concerns)

Prayer Requests

Prayers for JMPC during this time of several transitions.

Bill Bell, friend of Pastor Jeff who is recovering from hip replacement surgery.

Richard Ellis, JMPC member, who had a stroke yesterday.

Previous Prayers Requested

Prayers for Michal Wargo, wife of David Wargo and the daughter-in-law of the late Art and Alice Wargo who was diagnosed with Stage 4 Metastatic Adenocarcinoma.

Sandy Jones, friend of Emilee Little, Sandy is currently suffering from brain cancer.

Joyce Ewing who broke her ankle.

Ron Brown, Marielle Brown's father-in-law whose brain cancer has reoccurred.

Lynn Willison's friend Gary Marshal, who has been diagnosed with melanoma.

Prayers for Scott and Sandy Nowak's granddaughter Aliva, that she gets well.

Prayers for Jim & Linda McCalmont as they struggle with Jim's health concerns.

Chris Woods, Jenni Knopp's father who is recovering from a bicycle accident.

Becca Semke, Fred & Nancy Page's daughter is recovering from breast cancer surgery.

Megan Morford Brown, good friend of Pastor Jeff, who is having a liver transplant on December 13th.

Kelsie, family friend of Carolyn Brow, diagnosed with leukemia is hospitalized and undergoing chemotherapy. Thankful for no blast cells!

John Sheridan Carolyn's nephew who is undergoing chemo.

This week, please pray for:

Rich & Lori Mirarchi

Ron Mrenak

Alexis Neely

Scott & Sandy Nowak

Geoff, Marnie, Marissa & Evan Oakley

Welcome Visitors

We are grateful to have you join us in worship this morning and ask you to please register your name in the Friendship Pads.

Our Nursery is available during worship for children up to 3 years old in room 7.
Sunday School is available during worship in room 16/18 for children 3 years old to 3rd grade, September through May.

On Wednesday Nights, we gather for Kids Klub (ages 9-12, 3rd- 6th grade) and Youth Group (ages 12-18, 8th-12th). We learn about God, have dinner, and join in fellowship.
Bring \$3 for dinner and friends are always welcome!

To learn more about our programs, church activities & missions, we invite you to also:

Pick up a copy of our newsletter, the *Interface* in the Narthex (Lobby).

Contact the church office (412) 833-4704 or jmpc@johnmcmillanpc.org

Visit our website: www.johnmcmillanpc.org

Visit us on Facebook or our YouTube channel.

NOTES

JMPC STAFF

Ministers: All People of JMPC
Music Director: Carolyn Brow
Preschool Director: Kim Doughty

Senior Pastor: Rev. Jeff Tindall
Organist: Elisabeth Jeffries
Tech/AV: Jackie Druga

JMPC SESSION – Clerk: Cindy Fast

Spiritual Development: Suzie Burland, Kathleen Mazzola, Joe Smith
Outreach: Michelle Chenevert, Cheryl Davies, Lynn Willison
Resources: Bryan Durkin, Sam Page, Chris Todd

JMPC DEACONS

Class of 2025: Jeanie Bonnewell, Toni Sulkowski, Laura Waterstram
Class of 2026: Joann Bair, Bob Burland, Judy Willison
Class of 2027: Scott Nowak, Zach Smith, Paul Zandhuis

Our partners in ministry

The staff of Pittsburgh Presbytery; Congregations in the South Branch of Pittsburgh Presbytery; First Presbyterian Church of Duquesne and Pastor Judi Slater; The Chigumula Church in Malawi Africa; South Hills Interfaith Movement; World Vision; Hebron USA, Chiapas Partners

In the Event of an Emergency

November Deacon of the Month: Paul Zandhuis (412) 595-7125.

Please call Paul or Pastor Jeff with any pastoral concerns.

Direct call/text: Pastor Jeff @ (412) 225-7550

E-mail: jeff@johnmcmillanpc.org

You can also call the church at (412) 833-4704.

Pastor Jeff receives e-mails on his phone as well as on his computer.

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