

# Welcome to Derry Presbyterian Church

We proclaim God's Word, share God's love, and practice God's justice.



**December 22, 2024**  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

8:00 and 10:30 am

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[derrypres.org](http://derrypres.org)

## Welcome to Derry Church!

Whether this is your first visit or you come so often it's like a second home, we are glad that you're here. No matter where you are in your faith journey, no matter what questions or burdens you carry, Derry is a safe place to ask questions and discover that God is with you and for you.

**Bold print** indicates congregational reading or response.

**An asterisk \*** indicates to rise in body or spirit.

**Offerings:** place in the wooden boxes at the entrances or scan this QR code:



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### PRELUDE

*Puer Nobis Nacitur*

arr. David Lasky

Dan Dorty, Director of Music and Organist (8 am)  
Lois Lee, Organist (10:30 am)

### GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Stephen McKinney-Whitaker

### HERITAGE MOMENT

Bobbie Atkinson (8 am) • Marty Vance (10:30 am)

### INTROIT

*What Child Is This?*

arr. Kevin McChesney

Derry Ringers Quartet: Rebecca Fioravanti, Claire Folts  
Debbi Kees-Folts and Natalie Taylor

### CALL TO WORSHIP (based on John 3:16, Romans 5:8, 1 Corinthians 13:7)

Marty Vance

Hear the good news of great joy: God so loved the world that God gave God's only Son,  
**so that everyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.**

God demonstrates God's own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**How great our joy!**

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, and endures all things.

**How great our joy and our love in God, who is with us and for us.**

### \*HYMN 110

*Love Has Come*

BRING A TORCH

### LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLES

The Vance Family

Candle lighting liturgy (*four candles are lit*)

Let us pray together...

**Lord of love, you give us more than we can think to ask, coming to us in the improbable union of flesh and spirit. Teach us to love this world and all people as you love us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. We confess that we do not love you with all our heart, soul, and strength, and we do not love our neighbors as ourselves. We still resist your love and grace. Forgive us, Lord. Show us the creative power of hope. Teach us the peace that comes from justice. Fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained, but must be shared. Magnify your love within us. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you, that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.**

SUNG RESPONSE *One Candle Is Lit* (verse 4) CRADLE SONG  
**Come, wander where lion and lamb gently play,  
where evil is banished and faith takes the day.  
A babe in a manger to fool the world's eyes.  
One candle is lit for God's loving surprise.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION AND SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 2:8-20 Martyr Vance  
The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

CONVERSATION WITH CHILDREN (10:30 am) God's Hidden Hands Puppet Ministry  
*Your children age 4 - 2nd grade are welcome to participate in KIWI in Room 3.  
They will return to the Sanctuary during the last hymn.*

SERMON "Practice Joy" Rev. McKinney-Whitaker

ANTHEM (10:30 am) *How Great Our Joy* arr. Craig Courtney  
Sanctuary Choir • Mary Lemons, Accompanist

THANKSGIVING FOR GIFTS GIVEN AND RECEIVED Rev. McKinney-Whitaker

\*SONG OF RESPONSE *How Great Our Joy*  
**This gift of God we'll cherish well, that ever joy our hearts shall fill.  
How great our joy! (Great our joy!)  
Joy, joy, joy! (Joy, joy, joy!)  
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high! (Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!)**

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.**

\*HYMN 134 *Joy to the World* ANTIOCH

\*BENEDICTION

\*POSTLUDE *Ding Dong, Merrily On High* arr. D. Dorthy

## **TODAY**

### **Christmas Breakfast**

8:30 - 10 am Fellowship Hall

### **11 Minute Lessons: Sermon on the Mount**

8:45 & 11:45 am Chapel • Led by Pastor Stephen

### **Youth Christmas Party**

5:30-7:30 pm Youth Room

## **THIS WEEK**

### **Christmas Eve Candlelight Services**

2:30, 5 & 7:30 pm Tuesday, Dec 24 Sanctuary

Streaming at 5 & 7:30 pm

Nursery care at 2:30 & 5 pm

### **Christmas Day Worship**

10:30 am Wednesday, Dec 25 Chapel

## **UPCOMING**

### **Church Office Closed**

Dec 24 - 26 and Jan 1

### **Monday Night Study Group discusses:**

**“The Sun Does Shine” by Anthony Ray Hinton**

7 pm Monday, Jan 6 Room 2 and Zoom

### **FREE Terrific Tuesday Dinner**

5 pm Tuesday, Jan 7 Fellowship Hall

Featured entrée: Walking tacos

### **Curious Conversation**

6 pm Tuesday, Jan 7 Hammond Library

### **Evening Worship with Communion:**

**Epiphany in the Rearview Mirror**

6 pm Tuesday, Jan 7 Chapel

led by Debbie Hough

### **GriefShare Support Group Begins**

2-4 pm Wednesday Jan 7, continuing through

Apr 3 in the John Elder Classroom

Contact the church office to register

*For more information, please review the eNews. Paper copies are available at the Welcome Table.*

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## **Current Mission Offering**

Christmas Joy Offering - Provides assistance to current and retired church workers, develops future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges, and equips communities of color. One half of donations received will be used locally to support Allison's Hill Ministries. Make checks payable to Derry Church and note Christmas Joy Offering on the memo line (envelopes are in the pew racks), give online at [derrypres.org/give](http://derrypres.org/give), or scan this QR code:

