

This Week at Gilead

Today Sunday, December 8

- 9:15 a.m. Gilead Singers rehearse for worship.
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship.
- Following worship, join us for coffee/fellowship in the lounge.

Monday, December 9

- 11:00 a.m. Stretch Exercise Class.

Tuesday, December 10

- 6:30 p.m. Stated Session meeting in the manse.

Wednesday, December 11

- 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer on Zoom; the link is in the weekly email.

Thursday, December 12

- 7:00 p.m. Gilead Singers rehearsal.

Friday, December 13

- 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Gilead Food Pantry

Sunday, December 15 **Third Sunday of Advent; Pageant Sunday**

- 9:15 a.m. Gilead Singers rehearse.
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship. Rev. Perry Wootten, preaching.

December Mission: We have adopted two families this year to share the joy of Christmas with. Wish-list tags can be found in the lounge on the snowflake bulletin board and on the Christmas tree. Please help make this Christmas special for two of our local families! We ask that all gifts be wrapped with the gift tag placed on the outside. Gifts can be left in the lounge by Sunday, December 22nd.

Upcoming:

Saturday, December 21- Carol singing, leaving at 2:45 p.m. from the church parking lot. Let Mary know if you're interested in joining the carolers.

Tuesday, December 24: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 29: Christmas carol sing during worship.

*Through the month of December, Stop and Shop of Mahopac will donate \$1 to Gilead's Food Pantry for every \$2.50 community bag (reusable shopping bag) sold. Spread the word! We're grateful to have been selected as Stop and Shop's December recipient.

GILEAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 Church Street, Carmel, NY 10512

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Mary Temple, Music Director
Lexie Fischer, Office Assistant

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Office Hours: Wednesdays 9:30 – 12:30

Follow us online! Visit our website for our social media links & to subscribe to our email list!

www.gileadchurch.org

GILEAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Convinced of God's Grace, we affirm that there can be no exclusiveness in the body of Christ. We welcome all regardless of race, ethnic heritage, national origin, age, ability, gender, marital status, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic standing; and we encourage the full participation of all in the life of our congregation.

Sunday, December 8, 2024, 10:00 a.m.
Second Sunday of Advent, Year C

We welcome Edgar Hayes, CRE to the pulpit today!

OPENING MUSIC "Prepare Ye (the Way of the Lord)" by Stephen Schwartz
Brittany Carrasco, Stephanie Schleicher, & Duane Stroud-Boutté

During the opening music, let us quiet the noise from outside, cease our conversation with the world, and begin listening for the music of God's voice.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19)

Leader: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin of Manasseh.

All: Stir up your might, and come to save us! Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Leader: O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers? You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure. You make us the scorn of our neighbors; our enemies laugh among themselves.

All: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved. But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself. Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name. Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

***PURPLE HYMNAL #92 "While We Are Waiting, Come"**

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE
(Congregation responds following both readers)

The Roth Family

Congregation: We wait as people who yearn for peace that bears the fruit of community, equity, and flourishing for all.

SONG OF LIGHT Light two candles, Christ is coming, Christ, the Peace of the World, Light two candles, Christ is coming, Christ is coming soon!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, You are the Savior of us all. Each one of us is a sinner. You have given Your life that we should live and be free from the grip of sin and death. Yet some days it seems as if evil is winning. Some days I allow my selfish desires to get the best of me. I falter and faint from the barrage of negativity from the latest news headlines. I grow weary from my own day to day struggles. Fill us with Your Word to give us the strength and courage we need to live free and be lights in this world. Be with us and in us as we patiently await with the hope of Your promised return. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

***THE GLORIA: Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.**

*THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: Peace be with you. **People: And also with you.**

ANTHEM

"Peace, Peace"
Gilead Singers

by Rick & Sylvia Powell
arr. by Fred Bock

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

The children are dismissed to Sunday School.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

¹See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like washers' soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD, as in the days of old and as in former years. *Malachi 3:1-4*

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight. ⁵Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, ⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'" *Luke 3:1-6*

SERMON

"Ready or Not, Here He Comes"

Edgar Hayes

*PURPLE HYMNAL #623

"I've Got Peace like a River"

PASTORAL PRAYER

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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

CONG. RESPONSE (PURPLE HYMNAL #469) "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"
Gilead Singers

Plainsong, 5th c.

***DOXOLOGY: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PURPLE HYMNAL #835

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

"Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord"

POSTLUDE

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent"
Mary Temple, organ

French Melody

*The congregation is invited to stand. **BOLD:** Congregation responds/sings.

*Thank you to our Lay Reader today, Brenda Verdesi,
and our videographers, Lexie Fischer and Stephanie Gould.*