

This Week at Gilead

Today Sunday, December 29

- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship. This is a family service- all children will remain in the sanctuary.
- Following worship, join us for coffee/fellowship in the lounge.

Monday, December 30

- No Stretch Exercise Class- will resume Monday, January 6th.

Tuesday, December 31 **New Year's Eve**

Wednesday, January 1 **New Year's Day**

May the year ahead be filled with blessings for you and your loved ones!

Thursday, January 2

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

Friday, January 3

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

Sunday, January 5 **Epiphany, Communion Sunday** Rev. Elizabeth Murphy, preaching.

- 9:10 a.m. Gilead Singers rehearse.
- 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship.
- Please join us in "de-greening" the church after 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.

Upcoming:

Sunday, January 12th- Secret Pal party after worship, where we'll reveal our 2024 pals and choose new ones for the coming year. Bring a treat to share. All are invited to join this fellowship in 2025!

Tuesday, January 14th- Stated Session meeting, 6:30 p.m. in the manse.

Sunday, January 19th- Deacon's meeting following worship.

Sunday, January 26th- Our Bible Study, "Love Carved in Stone" (on the Ten Commandments), resumes following worship. We invite all to join us- see Mariah Warren if you're interested.

GILEAD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

9 Church Street, Carmel, NY 10512

(845) 225-4586

Mary Temple, Music Director
Lexie Fischer, Office Assistant

gileadpresbyterian@gmail.com

Diana Drake Behan, Church School Superintendent
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 29, 2024, 10:00 a.m.
The First Sunday after Christmas, Year C

We welcome Duane Stroud-Bouffé to the pulpit today!

OPENING MUSIC

"What Child is This?"
Mary Temple, organ

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 148:1-6)

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

People: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

Leader: Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

People: Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

All: He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

***FAVORITE CAROL (choose a favorite carol from either the purple or gray hymnals)**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, the past month has been a blur of getting "ready" for Christmas, yet we have failed to ready our hearts. We get angry when things fail to go our way, when we are cut off in traffic or in line at the store. We snap at our families when they leave messes or do not help out with chores. We see others' pictures of their celebrations and gifts and feel envious rather than focusing on our blessings. As the year draws to a close, help us to empty our hearts of negativity, so that we may receive your peace

and look to the future renewed and ready to share your love. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***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.**

***FAVORITE CAROL**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

¹²As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. ¹³Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. ¹⁷And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. *Colossians 3:12-17*

⁴¹Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. ⁴³When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. ⁴⁴Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. ⁴⁵When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." ⁴⁹He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰But they did not understand what he said to them. ⁵¹Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. ⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

Luke 2:41-52

LESSONS AND CAROLS

***FAVORITE CAROL**

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

FAVORITE CAROL

***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.**

TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

***PURPLE HYMNAL #136 "Go, Tell it on the Mountain!"**

*BENEDICTION

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Medley on "I Saw Three Ships"
Mary Temple, organ

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

*Thank you to our Lay Reader today, Tina Annunziato,
to Diana Drake Behan for sharing carol histories,
and to our videographers, Lexie Fischer and Stephanie Gould.*

