

Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church

First Sunday in Advent

November 30, 2025 – 11:00 am



The Greening of The Church

7620 Lanier Drive, Cumming, GA 30041
(770) 887-6801

office@deercreekpreschurch.org
www.deercreekpreschurch.org

ORDER OF WORSHIP

** Please stand in body or in spirit*
(**Bold** = unison; ***Bold Italics*** = sung)

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND PRAYER REQUESTS

Rev. Dr. Short

*CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT

Lift Up Your Heads,
Ye Mighty Gates, pg. 93 v 2

*Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love
and joy.*

*ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Gail Sands & Leslie Bailey

CHOIR: *What Child Is This*, Hymn #145

*OPENING PRAYER

Evie Studd, Liturgist

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will is to restore all things in
your well-beloved Son, our Lord and King: Grant that the people
of earth, now divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and
brought together under his gentle and loving rule; who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

*HYMN 88

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Short

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Dr. Short

**God of the future, you are coming in power to bring all nations
under your rule. We confess that we have not expected your
kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised**

judgment. We accept lies as truth, exploit neighbors, abuse the earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ comes to judge the world. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. May the God of mercy, who forgives you all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen**

SHARING THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also, with you.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

O Little Town of Bethlehem, pg 121, v. 4.

***O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!***

THE WORD

FIRST READING: *The Evergreens, Wreaths, and Poinsettias*

Isaiah 2:1-5

Nancy Tims

This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem: ² In the last days the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established as the highest of the mountains; it will be exalted above the hills, and all nations will stream to it.

³ Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. ⁴ He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their

spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. ⁵ Come, descendants of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

(Please help us place the evergreens, wreaths and poinsettias during the singing of this next hymn.)

***HYMN 105 v.1, 4, 5**

People, Look East

(Children are invited to come forward to place the Nativity.)

SECOND READING: *Nativity*

Luke 2: 1-7

Ken Terry

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while^[a] Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register. ⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. Thanks be to God.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Rev. Dr. Short

***HYMN 115**

Away in a Manger

THIRD READING: *The Tree and Chrismons*

Psalms 96:11-13

Rich Wilks

Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD; for the Lord is coming, for the Lord is coming to judge the earth. God will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with the truth. Thanks be to God.

(Please help us add the Chrismons to the tree during the singing of next hymns.)

CHRISTMAS MEDLY

Please sing along one verse of each hymn while we decorate the church.

Angels We Have Heard on High Hymn #113

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

O Come, All Ye Faithful Hymn #133

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant; O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem! Come, and behold him, born the King of angels! O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

O Little Town of Bethlehem Hymn #121

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

Silent Night, Holy Night Hymn #122

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright 'round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear Hymn #123

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old, from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold: "Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all-gracious King": the world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

***HYMN 137**

He Came Down

FOURTH READING: *The Candles, Windows, and Lights*

Isaiah 9:2

Linda Jackson

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

Thanks be to God.

***HYMN 110**

Love Has Come

FIFTH READING: *The Lord's Coming*
Romans 13:11-14

Diane Bandow

And do this, understanding the present time: The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. ¹² The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in carousing and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. ¹⁴ Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the flesh.

Matthew 24: 36-44

³⁶ “But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son,^[a] but only the Father. ³⁷ As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; ³⁹ and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left. ⁴² “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. ⁴³ But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him. **Thanks be to God.**

MEDITATION “The Bible and the Newspaper” Rev. Dr. Short

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—Apostles’ Creed** (unison)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, the Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead;

He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE THANKSGIVING

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Good Christian Men Rejoice* Piano & Organ
Sudie LaPlue & Charlotte Dewberry



To make an offering online, scan this code or visit www.deercreekpreschurch.org. Thank you for your support.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Dr. Short

Almighty and merciful God, from whom comes all that is good, we praise you for your mercies, for your goodness that has created us, your grace that has sustained us, your discipline that has corrected us, your patience that has borne with us, and your love that has redeemed us. Help us to love you, and to be thankful for all your gifts by serving you and delighting to do your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*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 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 SENDING

***HYMN 97**

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Short

POSTLUDE

Sudie LaPlue



Flowers beautify the Sanctuary of our church and are a gift to God and those who attend our worship service. Giving flowers is a lovely way to remember someone or commemorate a special occasion. If you would like to sign up for a date to place flowers in the sanctuary during our service, please see the registration book in the fellowship hall.

IN MINISTRY TODAY – November 30, 2025

Liturgist: Evie Studd

Greeters: Bouffard Family

Counters: Nancy Tims and Linda Oliveira

Fellowship: Linda Oliveira and Nancy Tims

Flowers: **OPEN**

SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY, December 7, 2025

Second Sunday in Advent (Communion)

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 11: 1-10, Matthew 3:1-12

Sermon: Are You Ready?

Rev. Dr. Richard Short

IN MINISTRY – December 7, 2025

Liturgist: Diane Bandow

Greeters: Linda Hardie and Nancy Tims

Counters: Linda Hardie and Rich Wilks

Fellowship: **OPEN**

Flowers: **OPEN**

If you would like to assist in any of the above capacities, please contact the church office or sign up in the Fellowship Hall.

THE SESSION

Diane Badow (2025)	Don Wagner (2025)
Charlotte Dewberry (2026)	Jerry Scarborough (2026)
Ron Studd (2027)	Linda Jackson (2027)
Nancy Tims, Clerk of Session	
Elders-Elect: Barbara Henry, Linda Oliveira	

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Bridge Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Richard Short pastor@deercreekpreschurch.org
Church Administrator:	office@deercreekpreschurch.org
Clerk of Session:	Nancy Tims, clerk@deercreekpreschurch.org
Music Director:	Sudie LaPlue, sudieplayspiano@gmail.com
Preschool Director:	Lauren McNamara , 770-888-5101 deercreekpreschool@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN PRAYER *Please review prayer list and notify the office of updates.*

Mitch Hughes, Leslie Etherton, George Marks, Loretta Marks, Harriette Cady, Sudie LaPlue, Linda Oliveira, Wright Family, Don and Betty Shuman, Jerry and Linda Snowden, Reverend Sid Gunter

Giving Tree - Shady Grove RV Park: Please help make Christmas special for 3 young girls ages 6, 8, and 11 as well as the residents at the Shady Grove RV Park by helping with the Giving Tree located in the Sanctuary. Tags with wishes are on the tree and the tag should be placed on the gift and returned to the church by December 21st. Residents would enjoy fleece blanket throws, hot chocolate mix, apple cider mix, and Christmas candy. If you do not like to shop, monetary donations are accepted. Place the donation in the offering plate indicating it is for the Giving Tree and we will shop for you. Questions? Contact Linda Jackson at linda.s.jackson25@gmail.com.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS — Julie Schalla (4th), Laurel Hine (13th), Mary Bouffard (23rd), Linda Jackson (23rd), Lydia Hine (26th), Lorretta Marks (28th), Jodi Wacho (30th)

PRAYER REQUESTS—Please send all prayer requests to the church office at office@deercreekpreschurch.org.

Bulletin announcements due by Noon on Wednesday
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00am-1:00pm
If no one is present during these hours, phone
and email are monitored remotely.

THIS WEEK AT DEER CREEK SHORES

Sunday, November 30

10:00am – Adult Sunday School – Grace Cox Room

Wednesday, December 3

7:00pm – Choir

DATES TO REMEMBER

LIFELINE SCREENING – Thursday, Dec. 11 - Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church will host Lifeline and will be offering safe, painless, non-invasive preventive health screenings that are typically not a part of a routine physical. To be more proactive about your health for yourself, your family, and your community, please register for these health screenings today. Please refer to the attached flyer to get more info about how you can sign up.

Three ways to register:

- **Call toll-free: 1-800-324-9458 promo code HABC001**
- **Online: [LLSA.SOCIAL/HABC](https://llsa.social/habc)**
- **Text: the word **circle** to 216-279-1607**



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7620 Lanier Dr
Cumming, GA 30041



Welcome to Deer Creek Shores!

We would love to connect with you! Consider signing the Friendship Pad found in the Pews. or checking in digitally this morning so we can follow up with you!

Join us **LIVE** on Facebook Sunday @ 11AM

FACEBOOK

Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church - Home

Connect and Catch up with us @ any time

Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church - YouTube

Membership at Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church

If you are reading this information in our Worship Bulletin, you already belong here at Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church. Here, all are welcome, and membership in the congregation is not required to participate in any of our activities and ministries. By becoming a member, you will have voice and vote in congregational meetings and can better express your commitment to Jesus Christ through this church. Welcoming people as members helps us to get to know them better and to support you more fully – letting all of us stay engaged and grow in faith together. Individuals may join the church by Profession of Faith and Baptism (for those who have never been baptized), by Reaffirmation of Faith (for those who are not currently active members of another Christian church), or by Transfer of Church Letter (for those on the active role of another church.) Contact the office to find out more.

Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church – Priorities for 2025

1. Increase membership and participation through connecting with and serving those who reside in our community through enhanced community outreach. To include Youth and Preschool.
2. Revitalize the Congregational Care Ministry within our church and congregation.
3. Increase regular opportunities for the congregation to gather outside of worship for fellowship.
4. Create policies including Child Protection, Sexual Harassment, Anti-Racism, as required by the Book of Order.
5. Improve and develop leadership and communication skills for this church.

Pray that these priorities and the action steps identified will help lead the congregation forward in its life and witness. Be considering ways you can participate in expressing these priorities.



Poinsettia Dedications

In Memory

Ken & Vikki Terry in memory of Lamar & Nell Duke

Ken & Vikki Terry in memory of Ken & Claire Terry

Jerry Scarborough in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Harry Scarborough

Jerry Scarborough in memory of Mr. & Mrs. James Welch

Jerry Scarborough in memory of Griffen Seagers

Diane Bandow in memory of Randy Bandow

Julie Schalla in memory of Bill Schalla

Don & Pat Wagner in memory of Sam & Ruth Wagner

Don & Pat Wagner in memory of Silas & Hazel McGinnis

Don & Pat Wagner in memory of Bruce Castleberry

Adrianna Oliveira, Samuel Oliveira & Will Tims in memory of our grandparents

Bubba and Shelley McDonald in memory of Sunny McDonald

Bubba and Shelley McDonald in memory of Hugh Hailey, Jr.

Linda Hardie in memory of Eben Hardie, Jr.

Linda Hardie in memory of Edria and John Hughes

Brita Long in memory of Lee Haugen Long

Brenda Gossett in memory of my parents

*George and Loretta Marks in memory of our mothers & fathers
and brothers & sisters*

In Thanksgiving

Rich Wilks in thanksgiving for our church family

Linda Oliveira in thanksgiving for my wonderful sister Nancy.

Nancy Tims in thanksgiving for my family

Charlotte Dewberry in thanksgiving for Rev. Dr. Short

Charlotte Dewberry in thanksgiving for Sudie and Roy

Brita Long in thanksgiving for June and John Temples

Jo Ann Mulrey in thanksgiving for my family

Brenda Gossett in thanksgiving for my children and grandchildren

George and Loretta Marks in thanksgiving for all our blessings





Hello Deer Creek Families,
December is here, a month full of joy, celebration, and the true magic of the Christmas season! Our classrooms are buzzing with excitement as we prepare for festive activities, special performances, and plenty of holly-jolly fun. We have some wonderful events coming up, so be sure to mark your calendars!

We are also thrilled to share some exciting news, we are officially in the process of opening a second toddler room in the next few weeks! This is such a wonderful milestone for our preschool, as it means our enrollment is growing and we are able to welcome even more children to experience the love of Jesus in our nurturing preschool environment. Thank you for supporting and sharing in this growth with us!

December Happenings

December 8th-10th – Holly Jolly Week

During Holly Jolly Week, our preschoolers will enjoy Christmas Pajama Day, Merry & Bright Day, and Grinchmas, three joyful days filled with cozy PJs, bright Christmas colors, and all things Grinch!

Saturday, December 13th – Mrs. Lauren's Birthday!

We are so grateful for her leadership, heart, and dedication to our preschool family!

Monday, December 17th – Ms. Ashley & Mrs. Emily's Christmas Program

Join us as our sweet preschoolers share songs, smiles, and the joy of Jesus' birth in this heartwarming Christmas performance. Families are invited, we can't wait to celebrate together!

December 22nd – January 5th – Christmas Break (No School)

We wish all our Deer Creek families a peaceful and joy-filled Christmas break. Enjoy this time with loved ones, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new year on Tuesday, January 6th!

As we celebrate this special season, we are incredibly thankful for each of our preschool families and congregation. These children bring so much joy, laughter, and light to Deer Creek every day. Thank you to everyone for allowing us to be a part of their early learning journey.

Registration is always ongoing, and we currently have space in our:

One's - Blooming Believes, Young Two's - Joyful Sprouts, and
Pre-K class - Kingdom Kids.

Wishing you a December full of joy, family, and God's blessings!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:
770-888-5101
DEERCREEKPRESCHOOL@GMAIL.COM