

Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church

**Second Sunday of Advent
The Lord's Supper**

December 7, 2025 – 11:00 am



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

PRELUDE

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS
CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

Rev. Dr. Short

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Linda Jackson

*CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus, #82, v.1
***Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.***

*ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Ron, Susan and Evie Studd

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Diane Bandow, Liturgist

God of grace, ever faithful to your promises, the earth rejoices in hope of our Savior's coming and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts to receive him when he comes, for he is Lord forever and ever. **Amen.**

*HYMN 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

CONFESSION AND PARDON

*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.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Rev. Dr. Short

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Amen

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

Amen

***SHARING THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also, with you!**

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Diane Bandow, Liturgist

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Diane Bandow, Liturgist

Isaiah 11:1-3, 6-9

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. ² The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him—the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord—³ and he will delight in the fear of the Lord. He will not judge by what he sees with his eyes, or decide by what he hears with his ears; ⁶ The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down

with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. ⁷ The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. ⁸ The infant will play near the cobra's den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest. ⁹ They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Please sing with the choir.

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly #128

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Rev. Dr. Short

* *HYMN 266*

Joy to the World

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 3:1-12

Rev. Dr. Short

¹ In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea ²and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah: "A voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" ⁴John's clothes were made of camel's hair, and he had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵People went out to him from Jerusalem and all Judea and the whole region of the Jordan. ⁶Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁷But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to where he was baptizing, he said to them: "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹And do not think you can say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing

fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

MEDITATION

Are You Ready?

Rev. Dr. Short

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Nicene Creed**

BCW p.64

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

***HYMN #581** *(Gloria Patri)*

Glory Be to the Father

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 EUCHARIST

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Rev. Dr. Short

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS



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

* OFFERING SONG

Hymn 606, 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

Diane Bandow, Liturgist

Blessed are you, God of all creation; through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

Blessed be God forever.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Rev. Dr. Short

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Rev. Dr. Short

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.

Eternal God, holy and mighty, it is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, and to worship you in every place where your glory abides. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, eternal God, now and forever. **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 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Rev. Dr. Short

SENDING

***HYMN 526**

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Short

POSTLUDE

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IN MINISTRY TODAY – December 7, 2025

Liturgist: Diane Bandow

Greeters: Linda Hardie and Nancy Tims

Counters: Linda Hardie and Rich Wilks

Fellowship: Barbara and Waymond Henry

Flowers: Poinsettia Dedication

Bread, Organ Side: Gail Smith

Cup, Organ Side: Tanna Savage

Bread, Pulpit Side: Linda Jackson

Cup, Pulpit Side: Diane Bandow

SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY, December 14, 2025

Third Sunday in Advent

Lessons and Carols

Rev. Dr. Richard Short

IN MINISTRY – December 14, 2025

Liturgist: Barbara Henry

Greeters: Mel and Gail Smith

Counters: Barbara Henry and Mel Smith

Fellowship: Linda Hardie

Flowers: **Open**

IN MINISTRY – December 21, 2025

Liturgist: Nancy Tims

Greeters: Vikki and Ken Terry

Counters: Nancy Tims and Linda Oliveira

Fellowship: **Open**

Flowers: **Open**

IN MINISTRY – December 24, 2025

Liturgist: Nancy Tims

Greeters: **Open**

Counters: **Open**

Fellowship: **Open**

Flowers: **Open**

IN MINISTRY – December 28, 2025

Liturgist: Linda Hardie

Greeters: Nancy and Jim Wilson

Counters: Linda Jackson and JoAnn Mulrey

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

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Bridge Pastor: Rev. Dr. Richard Short
pastor@deercreekpreschurch.org
Church Administrator: office@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, Chantel Druivenga, Sudie LaPlue, Linda Oliveira,
Wright Family, Don and Betty Shuman, Jerry and Linda Snowden,
Reverend Sid Gunter, Isaac Bucks, Jim Wilson, Bobbie Wright,
The family of Jim Byrd.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS — Brenda Gossett (6th), Laura McGovern (6th), Barbara Henry (9th), Linda Oliveira (10th), Lauren McNamera (13th), Nancy Lee Nemerof (15th), Chris Reins (16th), Rich Neville (19th), Christy Glymph (20th), Gail Smith (22nd), Suzanne Vicente (22nd), Don Irwin (29th)

SANCTUARY FLOWERS – 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. Thank you for your contribution toward enriching our worship services.

– The Worship Committee

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

OTHER NEEDS—If you have any need or concern, please do not hesitate to contact any Elder or the church office (church phone and email are monitored daily during normal business hours Mon-Thurs, 9:00-1:00).

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, December 7

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

Wednesday, December 10

7:00pm – Choir

DATES TO REMEMBER

Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Women will enjoy a Christmas POTLUCK LUNCHEON on Thursday, December 11, hosted by Charlotte Dewberry in her home at 8105 Lanier Drive. Please bring a small dish to share, AND please RSVP to me no later than noon on Friday, December 5. Parking is limited, so carpooling from the church parking lot is recommended. (A few cars can park next door to Charlotte's home at the old fire station). We will gather at 10:30AM for Bible study. Linda Hardie will lead our lesson #3, "Jesus Is Tested" from our study guide, "Finding Resilience, Joy, and Our Identity in Jesus Christ." (The Coordinating Team will meet at 9:45).

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.

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**
- **Text: the word circle to 216-279-1607**

PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM – Wednesday, Dec 17, 11am in the Sanctuary.

PRESCHOOL CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK – Dec. 22nd – January 5th.



www.deercreekpreschur.ch.org

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!

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.

These five priorities for the life of the congregation in 2025 were identified by the Session at its recent Leadership Retreat. Look out for the important action steps that are being identified towards expressing these priorities. 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.

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.