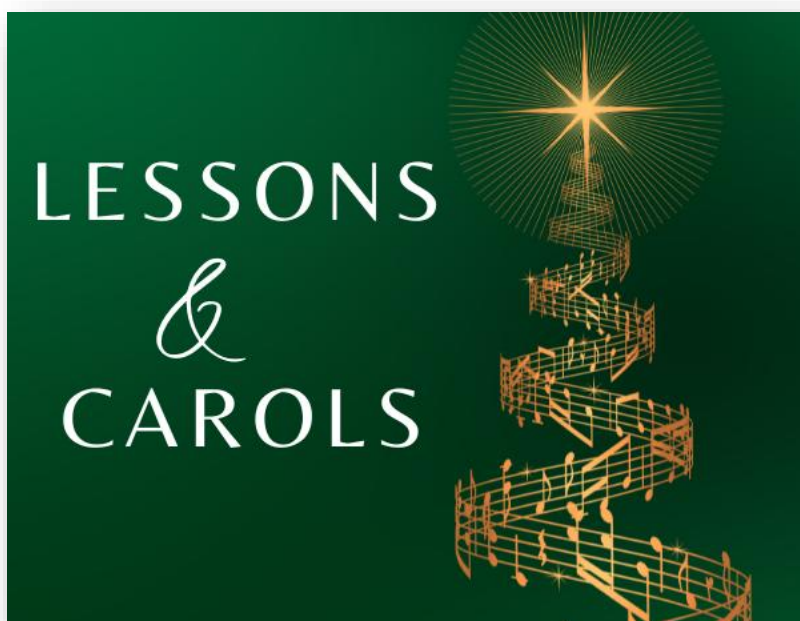


Deer Creek Shores Presbyterian Church

Third Sunday of Advent
Lessons and Carols

December 14, 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

CONCERNS, CELEBRATIONS, WELCOME AND
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Short

*INTROIT *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Hymn #133, v.1

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!

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING AND CALL TO WORSHIP

The Hine Family

*ADVENT LITANY

Barbara Henry, Liturgist

Our Lord, we enter this season of Advent, and our hearts echo the church's plea. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come into these days too filled and hours too hurried and be our peace. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come into this troubled and hurting world and be our hope. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come into this season of light and be our soul's true light.

Come, Lord, Jesus.

Come into this time of celebration and be our joy. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come into our lives and be life for us, now and forevermore.

Come and be Emmanuel—God with us.

God for us. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Barbara Henry, Liturgist

Now is the time for watching and waiting.

The time of pregnant expectation of new life.

Now is the season of hope unfolding.

The dark winter season when hope is waiting to be born.

Let us come before God with receptive and willing spirits.

May our souls magnify God's name, and may our spirits rejoice in God our Savior.

Rejoice! God comes to bring the birthday of life and hope!

***PRAYER OF ADORATION**

O Holy God, in the midst of our celebration of this Holy season, help us find joy as we hear again the angels message, and in heart and mind go to Bethlehem, and see this thing you have brought to pass. Help us find joy in the babe born in Bethlehem, your son, lying in the manger. We open your word to read the story of your love for all people. Help us to hear anew the story of the birth, Christ Jesus our Lord, the Holy child of Bethlehem who brings us forgiveness and salvation. Thank you for bringing your light into the world. Amen.

LESSONS AND CAROLS

First Lesson: Christ's birth and kingdom foretold by the Prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

Ron Studd

² 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.

⁶ For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

*CAROL

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Hymn #88

Second Lesson: The Prophet Micah prophesizes the glory of Bethlehem.

Micah 5:2-5a

Doug Savage

² But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴ And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; ⁵ and he shall be the one of peace.

*CAROL

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Hymn #121

Third Lesson: The Angel Gabriel visits the Virgin Mary.

Luke 1:26-35, 38

Linda Hardie

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.

*CAROL *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* Hymn #119

Fourth Lesson: In Bethlehem, Mary gives birth to her firstborn, a son.

Luke 2:1-7

Gail Smith

2 In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. 2 This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. 3 All went to their own towns to be registered. 4 Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. 5 He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. 6 While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 7 And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Procession of the Holy Family

CAROL

What Child Is This?

Rebecca Gerstenlauer
and Jonathan Simon

Fifth Lesson: Shepherds are visited by God's messengers.

Luke 2:8-14

Julie Schalla

8 In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11 to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

*CAROL

Angels We Have Heard on High

Hymn #113

Sixth Lesson: The shepherds visit the manger.

Luke 2:15-20

Emily Bouffard

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*CAROL

The First Nowell

Hymn #147

Seventh Lesson: The mystery of the Incarnation.

John 1:1-14

Diane Bandow

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

*CAROL

Joy to the World

Hymn #134

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY *In the Bleak Midwinter* Rebecca Gerstenlauer
and Jonathan Simon



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

*ACT OF PRAISE *(The 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 DEDICATION

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE





*The Sanctuary flowers are given today by
Will Tims in honor of his Aunt Linda Oliveira's
birthday.*

IN MINISTRY TODAY – December 14, 2025

Liturgist: Barbara Henry

Greeters: Mel and Gail Smith

Counters: Barbara Henry and Mel Smith

Fellowship: Linda Hardie

Flowers: Open

SERVICE NEXT SUNDAY, December 21, 2025

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Scripture Readings: Romans 1:18-25, Matthew 1:18-25

Sermon: "The Role of Joseph"

Rev. Dr. Richard Short

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: Nancy Tims & Linda Oliveira

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.)

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, Bobbye Wright, The family of
Jim Byrd, Glenn Simpson, Maribell Rosario, Jackson Jebcoat, The
Thambi Family

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)

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES – John & JoAnn Mulrey (3rd),
George & Loretta Marks (21st)

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 14

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

Wednesday, December 17

7:00pm – Choir

DATES TO REMEMBER

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 21. 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.

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

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



www.deercreekpreschurch.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.