

The Church Staff

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The Session

<u>2024</u>	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
Patty Baylor	Diane Lynd	David Baylor
Frank Lemmon	Barb Majoris	Debra Conner
Betsy Lyons		Tom Lyons

Clerk of Session Geoffrey Anderson clerk@crossroadsgibsonia.org
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CCLI License # 1761713

WELCOME GUESTS!

We are glad you are worshiping with us today!
On our welcome table in the Fellowship Area, you will find cards for prayer requests, a sign-in sheet, and the worship bulletins.

Please sign in at the welcome table and include your phone number.
Those entering our church may choose to mask at any time.
If you are feeling ill, please stay home.

If you are worshiping with us virtually, you may easily find our YouTube live stream by going to www.crossroadsgibsonia.org and clicking the link on the homepage.

CROSS ROADS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 1, 2024
First Sunday of Advent



3281 Wexford Road
Gibsonia, PA 15044
724-935-3636
www.crossroadsgibsonia.org
office@crossroadsgibsonia.org

Our Mission:

Love God. Love Neighbors. Grow Disciples.

Our Vision:

As Christian believers, we gather for worship in the strength of the Holy Spirit. We teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ by ministering in His name to the needs of those in our community, seeking the transformation of people's lives, and equipping them to reach out to the larger world for the sake of the glory of God.

Order of Worship
December 1, 2024 10:00 AM
First Sunday of Advent

Prelude Creator of the Stars at Night P. Fejko

Welcome / Announcements / Prayer Concerns / Passing of the Peace

Call to Worship [responsive]

Leader: Cast your cares upon the Lord, and He will sustain you.

People: We anticipate the coming of the One who hears our prayers;

Leader: The One who heals our infirmities;

People: The One who renews our faith;

Leader: The One who inspires our hope

People: Let us wait upon the Lord who loves and sustains us.

***Hymn** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus GTG-red, # 82

Lighting of the Advent Candle - HOPE Ken and Debra Conner

Faithful God, out of war's chaos, you bring the order of peace. Renew us in hope that we may work toward Christ's advent of peace among all nations. God of promise, God of hope, into our darkness come.

Congregational Response

O Come, O Come Emmanuel GTG-red, # 88, v. 1

***Prayer of Confession** [unison]

God of eternity, as we begin our journey to Bethlehem, help us to identify the wilderness in our own souls - the uneven ground and rough places that would hinder Your coming. Cast aside we pray all pride that would prevent us from hearing a new word, from seeing Your face in the familiar. Touch our hearts that we may see Your beauty in the small and weak, Your grace in acts of mercy and words of kindness. Expand our souls and prepare us for Christmas. Both within and among us, "make straight in the desert a highway for our God," through Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen. *[a time for silent, personal confession]*

Choral Anthem Advent Alleluia K. Christopher

Scripture Lesson Mark 13:28-37 p. 47, NT

Sermon About That Day No One Knows

Rev. John Free, Guest Pastor

Our Joyful Response - Tithes & Offerings

Offertory Noel Tomlin/Cash/Redman

***Congregational Response** Glory to God GTG-red, # 583

***Prayer of Gratitude for God's Abundance**

***Affirmation of Faith - The Apostles' Creed** [GTG-red, p. 35]

I believe in God, the Father almighty, 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.

Holy Communion -

Invitation

Pastoral Prayer/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.

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer Following Communion

***Hymn** Prepare the Way, O Zion GTG-red, # 106

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude For the Beauty of the Earth CRPC Ringers

[Please remain seated during the Postlude. Thank you.]

**Please rise in body or in spirit*

Abbreviation Key: Glory to God Hymnal = GTG-red
Celebration Hymnal = CH-blue
Cross Roads Songbook = CRSB-light blue

What's Happening at Cross Roads?

We welcome back **Rev. John Free** as he leads us in worship this morning.

Blessings Box - Our Mission Committee has allocated \$100/month from your mission giving to purchase items for the Blessings Box, but the need from the community is even greater. We have shoppers who are in tune with what really needs to be purchased. What we really need are additional monetary donations. Please note on the check or envelope that it should be directed to the Blessings Box. Thank you.

Prayer List:

Please pray for: George A., Alex G., Eleanor B., Diane L., Dave B., Nick M., Esther Quinn & family (Esther V.'s great-granddaughter), our troops, frontline workers, healthcare workers, and all those impacted by illness.

Upcoming Events:

Please join us at 9:00 AM each Sunday for Adult Sunday School, led by Tom Lyons. We begin our studies with the Book of Kings.

The Cranberry Men's Choir will return to Cross Roads for a concert on Wednesday, December 4, at 6:30 PM. Sign up on the Fellowship bulletin board to provide 2-3 dozen cookies for the reception that will follow. Thanks.

There will be a Christmas luncheon at The Christy House in Sewickley on Friday, December 6. We'll meet at the church at 12 Noon. Seating is limited. Please use the sign up sheet in the Fellowship Area if you plan to join us.

Poinsettia order forms are due back to Betsy with payment by next Sunday, 12/8.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be Tuesday, 12/24, at 7 PM.

Calendar at a Glance

(see the full calendar on our website homepage)

Sunday, December 1

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School
10:00 AM Worship and Communion, in-person in the Sanctuary,
streaming online via YouTube
11:00 AM Mission Committee
11:30 AM Bells
12:00 PM Choir

Wednesday, December 4

6:30 PM Cranberry Men's Choir

Friday, December 6

12:00 Noon Christmas Luncheon

Sunday, December 8

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School
10:00 AM Worship, in-person in the Sanctuary,
streaming online via YouTube
11:00 AM Cookie Sunday

Sunday, December 15

9:00 AM Adult Sunday School
10:00 AM Worship, in-person in the Sanctuary,
streaming online via YouTube
11:00 AM Finance Committee
Worship Committee
11:30 AM Bells
12:00 PM Choir

Wednesday, December 18

7:00 PM Session