



**AS WE WAIT**  
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

***Christmas Eve Service Times***  
4:00 | 6:00





Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church  
is an affiliate of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.  
Find out more about the EPC by visiting [www.epc.org](http://www.epc.org).

# WELCOME TO GASHLAND EPC

Thank you for sharing Christmas Eve with us!

Welcome! Whether in person or virtually, we are so glad to worship with you this Christmas Eve! For the past four weeks we have looked at what it means to wait well. God's people waited for His first coming, as a baby, and God's people wait now for His second coming. Waiting is also a part of our lives in numerous other areas as well, like waiting in line at the grocery store, waiting to be married, waiting for a child, or, like our church in this season, waiting for a senior pastor. We practice waiting for the Lord by waiting well in these things, and we know our waiting is not in vain. This Christmas Eve we are doing something a little differently. Instead of lots of Christmas carols and a sermon, we are going to go through the story of the Bible, looking at how God's people have waited for Him throughout the centuries, and how He has always showed up for them.

If you are visiting with us tonight, we want you to know that you are welcome to worship with us throughout the year on Sunday mornings, both in person and virtually at [gashland.org](http://gashland.org). The following pages will give you a chance to learn about Gashland EPC, our weekly worship meeting times, various ministry groups, and events.

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# Worship at Gashland

We are so glad that you have joined us for worship and fellowship! If this is your first time at Gashland, we know that visiting a new church can be a little overwhelming, so we want to do our best to help you feel completely comfortable during your visit. Below you will find our weekly worship times. We hope you will join us for Sunday worship and that you enjoy the Christmas worship service this evening!

## Weekly Worship Schedule

8:30 am Worship in the Sanctuary & at [gashland.org/830-livestream/](https://gashland.org/830-livestream/)

9:45 am Sunday School Classes (Adults, Students, & Children)

11:00 am Worship in the Ministry Center & at [gashland.org/1100-livestream/](https://gashland.org/1100-livestream/)

## Connect With Gashland EPC

### Gashland EPC Website

Visit our website at [www.gashland.org](http://www.gashland.org) to get the latest information about GEPC events, classes, and groups as well as listen to sermons online. Our worship and meetings times are also listed.

### Gashland EPC on Facebook & Instagram

Keep our latest news, photos, and conversations in your newsfeed by liking us on Facebook at [facebook.com/GashlandEPC](https://facebook.com/GashlandEPC) and following us on Instagram, [@gashlandepc](https://instagram.com/gashlandepc).

### Contact Us

Address: 8029 North Oak Trafficway | Kansas City, MO | 64118

Church Office: 816.436.3583 | Prayer Requests: [gashland.org/prayer](https://gashland.org/prayer)

### Staff

Michael Morefield, Associate Pastor of Discipleship | [michael@gashland.org](mailto:michael@gashland.org)

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Kelly Hackleman, Organist & Pianist | [kelly@gashland.org](mailto:kelly@gashland.org)

Kathy Welch, Office Administrator | [kathy@gashland.org](mailto:kathy@gashland.org)

# Tonight's Offering

We are excited to announce that our special Christmas Eve Offering will be going to Northwest Haiti Christian Mission and Greg and Elizabeth Mook! Northwest Haiti Christian Mission is a faithful partner in the North West (NW) state of Haiti. Bringing a Christian witness and various life-giving ministries is a real struggle in the poorest western country amidst political and civil strife. Most mission visits have been suspended due to safety issues. Even so, a brand-new birthing center is helping mothers deliver safely every day. Beside the services given, NWHCM is the largest employer in the NW state. Funds help Haitians keep their faith-based jobs. Learn more at [www.nwhcm.org](http://www.nwhcm.org)!

Greg and Elizabeth Mook are EPC missionaries in Beirut, Lebanon. Their goal as missionaries is to plant a church that ministers to an unreached people group. So they are working to cultivate a reproducing church of Syrian refugees in Lebanon through evangelism and discipleship. Recently, the Mook's ministry team had to be evacuated for about 2 months at the start of the war to the south of them. They recently all returned just in time for the Christmas season and are glad to be back. The Mook family is eager to get back to Arabic language learning, a Bible study with a family of fairly new believers, helping with the youth ministry at their local church, and visiting people in their homes to pray with them and share about Jesus. Pray for all these things and for their stress levels being so close to conflict.

Gashland EPC is thrilled to partner with these two ministries and live out the great commission through them! You can give in person tonight or give online at [gashland.org](http://gashland.org) (Select the "GIVE" tab at the top of the page and then select "Christmas Eve Offering" to designate where your gift is being given.) Thanks for participating in the kingdom!

# Christmas Eve | Order of Service

Introduction & Welcome

Prelude & Special Offering

*Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* | J.S. Bach | Organ, String Quartet

Part 1: The Old Testament

Narration: Creation & the Fall

Song of Reflection

*In Labor All Creation Groans* | Bifrost Arts | Ellie McGinty

Narration: Creation & the Fall

Scripture Reading: Genesis 3:15

Narration: Creation & the Fall

Responsive Reading:

All: We wait for the day when the serpent will one day be crushed. We wait for a day when a Messiah will rescue us from this evil and this curse. We wait for a day when sin, death, and Satan will be conquered.

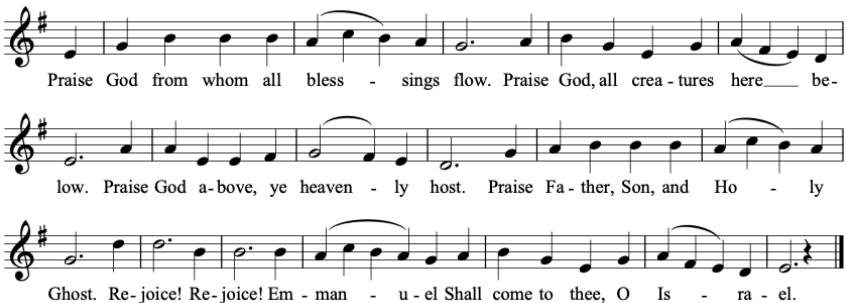
Leader: And so God's people waited.

Narration: Abraham

Scripture Reading: Genesis 12:1-3

Narration: Abraham

Congregational Hymn: Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God from whom all bless - sings flow. Praise God, all crea - tures here - be -  
low. Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly  
Ghost. Re - joyce! Re - joyce! Em - man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

# Order of Service (cont.)

## Responsive Reading:

All: We wait for the day when the Messiah will bless all the families of the earth. We wait for the day when God's blessings will flow as far as the cures is found. We wait for the day when the curse will be no more.

Leader: And so God's people waited.

Narration: The Exodus

Congregational Hymn: Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence



1. Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;  
2. King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on earth he stood,  
3. Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard on the way,  
4. At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim, with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand  
Lord of Lords, in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,  
as the Light of light de - scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,  
veil their fac - es to the pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,



Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth, our full hom - age to de - mand.  
he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heaven - ly food.  
that the powers of hell may van - ish as the shad - ows clear a - way.  
"Al - le - lu - ia, al - le lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Lord most high!

## Responsive Reading:

All: God, we wait in pain, in suffering, in sickness, in sin, in brokenness, and in the curse. We wait for Your Messiah to come. Come quickly. Deliver us. Save us. Redeem us.

Leader: And so God's people waited.

Narration: David

Congregational Hymn: 285 | O Holy Night | v. 1, 2, 3



## Order of Service (cont.)

### Responsive Reading:

**All:** We wait and we watch for the Star of the morning, for this conquering Son of Adam, who would bless all the families of the earth, who would ransom our lives as a perfect Passover Lamb, and who would rule eternally as the Most High King, leading God's people in perfect righteousness, justice, and goodness.

**Leader:** And so God's people waited.

**Narration:** The Prophecies of Christ

**Scripture Reading:** Isaiah 7:14

**Scripture Reading:** Jeremiah 23:5-6

**Scripture Reading:** Micah 5:2

**Choir:** Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

### Responsive Reading:

**All:** We wait for the day of Your greater redemption to come. We wait for the day of our greater inheritance. We wait for You, O Lord.

**Leader:** And so God's people waited.

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### Part 2: The New Testament

**Narration:** The Birth of Jesus Foretold to Mary

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 1:26-38

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 2:1-7

**Choir:** Baby, What You Goin' Be?

### Responsive Reading:

**All (with great voice):** God, You are faithful! We have waited for this day. Your promises are unfolding just as You have spoken! Your Messiah, Jesus, the Son of the Most High, is coming! He will reign on the throne of David for all eternity! Praise be to God!

## Order of Service (cont.)

**Leader:** The day of Advent had arrived. The waiting was over.  
Emmanuel had come.

**Advent Candle Lighting | Christ Candle**

*4 pm | McCoy Family*

*6 pm | Lorenzetti Family*

**Narration:** Emmanuel Has Come

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 2:8

**Narration:** The Shepherds & the Angels

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 2:9

**Narration:** The Shepherds & the Angels

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 2:10-14

**Hymn:** 278 | Angels We Have Heard on High | v. 1, refrain

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 2:15-19

**Narration:** The Shepherds & the Angels

**Scripture Reading:** Luke 2:20

**Narration:** Come, Lord Jesus, Come

**Congregational Hymn:** pg. 8 | Joy to the World | v. 1, 2, 3, 4

# Joy to the World!

> 1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth re - ceive her  
 > 2. Joy to the world! the Sav - ior reigns; Let men their songs em -  
 3. No more let sin and sor - row grow, Nor thorns in - fest the  
 > 4. He rules the world with truth and grace And makes the na - tions

King. Let ev - ery heart pre - pare Him room,  
 ploy, While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
 ground. He comes to make His bless - ings flow  
 prove The glo - ries of His righ - teous - ness

And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture  
 Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing  
 Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
 And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His  
 1. And heav'n and na - ture sing,

sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
 joy, Re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
 found, Far as, far as, the curse is found.  
 love, And won - ders, won - ders of His love.  
 heav'n and na - ture sing,

# Engage GEPC Ministries

## The Heart of *Engage*

Church is much more than a Sunday morning experience. It is about engaging with God and with one another, as God did not design us to be alone. He designed us to be in a relationship with Him and also with one another.

Gashland EPC's vision is to connect with and serve alongside one another and grow in relationship with Him and each other by doing so. We believe that our calling is to participate in the furtherance of the Kingdom of God in a world that desperately needs to hear and experience the Gospel message, and that there are many ways to fulfill this calling.

Each ministry team has a main point of contact, and you may call the office to be put in contact with them. Please prayerfully consider participating in one or more of these ministries. We would love to have you join us in our mission and ministries here at Gashland EPC!

## Ministries to Engage With at Gashland

### Family & Adult Ministries

*Michael Morefield, Associate Pastor of Discipleship* | [michael@gashland.org](mailto:michael@gashland.org)

We have three main ministries at Gashland for adults and families. Men's Ministry and Women's Ministry provides social events, Bible studies, Sunday school classes, and fellowship for the men and women in our church. Some of these things are seasonal and some are year round, so contact these ministries at [men@gashland.org](mailto:men@gashland.org) and [women@gashland.org](mailto:women@gashland.org) for more information! Abide is our ministry for youngish adults and adults with young families. Its design and purpose is to help us abide in Jesus and with one another by growing in community, encouraging one another, and sharing life. Abide meets weekly on Sunday mornings during the Sunday School hour from 9:45-10:45am. Our aim on Sunday mornings is to have some light teaching, discussion, prayer, and then a time for us to connect, fellowship, and share life. Besides meeting on Sunday mornings, Abide also hosts an event or two each month for us to connect with one another! Contact them at [abide@gashland.org](mailto:abide@gashland.org) for more information!

# ***Engage GEPC Ministries (cont.)***

## **Student Ministries**

*Caleb Mason, Director of Student Ministries | [caleb@gashland.org](mailto:caleb@gashland.org)*

We want students here at GEPC to experience the joy of living a life that glorifies God, connecting in relationship with Him and their peers. In addition, the leadership at Gashland EPC desires to help equip parents and families as they faithfully seek to raise godly men and women. Refresh, our ministry for students, meets on Wednesdays from 6-8 pm.

## **Children's Ministries**

*Rachael Adams, Director of Children's Ministries | [rachael@gashland.org](mailto:rachael@gashland.org)*

We seek to introduce children to the redemptive story of the Gospel found in Scripture. Through relationships with their peers and their teachers, and through Bible-based, God-focused curriculum, we hope to point even the young to a life-long relationship with God. Visit [www.gashland.org/children](http://www.gashland.org/children) to learn more!

## **Ministries to Serve With at Gashland**

### **Worship Ministries**

*Worship Team | [worship@gashland.org](mailto:worship@gashland.org)*

Worship at Gashland includes not only music but beautification of the church building and grounds, running the sound board, and working the cameras. If you have any musical, technical, or artistic ability, we would love to talk with you and find a way to encourage you in those gifts here at Gashland.

### **Outreach Ministries**

*Outreach Team | [outreach@gashland.org](mailto:outreach@gashland.org)*

Our heart is to share the love of Jesus with our neighbors, city, nation and world. Gashland supports a number of local ministries at various levels through donations and drives. We also support many ministries and missionaries around the world. If you are looking for ways to serve the

## ***Engage GEPC Ministries (cont.)***

community outside of Gashland or have an idea for a way we could serve the community, shoot us an email!

### **Relationship Ministries**

*Relationships Team | [relationships@gashland.org](mailto:relationships@gashland.org)*

Gashland's goal is to foster loving relationships among the members of GEPC through Conversations, our Wednesday night adult ministry, and various social events. If you have gifts in event planning, organizing, and connecting people, please reach out to us!

### **Discipleship Ministries**

*Discipleship Team | [discipleship@gashland.org](mailto:discipleship@gashland.org)*

All of life is meant to be lived in community and with one another. It is the heart of Gashland that you would find a place to know and be known. GEPC wants to connect you and equip you, and most importantly help you to grow in your love and knowledge of Jesus Christ. We offer various Sunday morning adult classes, community group opportunities, and small group Bible studies throughout the year. If you have a passion for teaching, leading discussion, or fostering discipleship among people, we would love to talk to you!

### **Helps Ministries**

*Helps Team | [helps@gashland.org](mailto:helps@gashland.org)*

Do you love to make people feel welcome? Do you enjoy helping set up and tear down for events? Please email us if you are interested in serving. There are a variety of events, tasks, dates, and times available!

### **Mercy Ministries**

*Mercy Team | [mercy@gashland.org](mailto:mercy@gashland.org)*

We are called to care for one another and love one another in the world, but specifically in our church family as well. If you feel called to use your gifts to

## ***Engage GEPC Ministries (cont.)***

serve others by visiting shut-ins, helping the elderly in our church with home improvement projects, or making meals for those who have had a major life event, please reach out to us! If you would benefit from any of the services listed on our website at [gashland.org/mercy-ministries](https://gashland.org/mercy-ministries), we would love to hear from you!

*Visit our website at [gashland.org](https://gashland.org) for more ministries, volunteer opportunities, and information!*



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