



With Love.

AN ADVENT SERIES

Christmas Eve Service Times
4:00 | 5:30



Gashland Evangelical Presbyterian Church
is an affiliate of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.
Find out more about the EPC by visiting www.epc.org.

WELCOME TO GASHLAND EPC

Welcome! We are so grateful to worship with you this Christmas Eve, a night filled with joy, hope, and the celebration of God's love. As we gather tonight, amidst the festivities, food, and fellowship, it's easy to get swept up in the celebrations. But have you ever paused to ask: what is Christmas really about? At its heart, Christmas is a love letter—a love letter from God, written just for you. God wants you to know, deeply and personally, that you are loved beyond what words can fully express. His love for you is greater than you could ever imagine, so deep that He will pursue you, no matter the distance, no matter the cost.

That is why years ago on the first Christmas Day, God sent his one and only Son, Jesus, to us with love. John 3:16 reminds us of this glorious truth: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." For the past four weeks, we've been exploring 1 Corinthians 13, the famous love chapter, through our Advent sermon series called 'With Love'. This chapter of Scripture helps us better understand the depth and beauty of the love we have received through Christ. Tonight, we invite you to pause, reflect, and truly receive this love.

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. The following pages will give you a chance to learn about Gashland EPC, our weekly worship times, and opportunities to connect in community.

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Tonight's Christmas Eve Offering

Each year, on Christmas Eve, we take a special offering which goes to help our missionaries. The Leadership of the church has decided that this year, our Christmas Eve offering will be shared by two of our missionaries. We will send funds to Robert Mulumbi and Greg & Elizabeth Mook.

Robert Mulumbi is ministering in Kenya. Robert has planted 7 churches in Kenya and is serving as Bishop over them. As Bishop he provides leadership, mentoring, shepherding, and accountability. Robert also oversees the International Bible Institute that trains people for ministry. They currently have 214 students. Robert oversees as well the Nancy George Primary Academy which has 450 children and 33 staff. Donations given tonight will be used to help Robert purchase a van that his church plants will use for their essential travel needs.

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. They are working to cultivate a reproducing church of Syrian refugees in Lebanon through evangelism and discipleship.

Gashland 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 (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

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude & Special Offering

"In Dulci Jubilo" | Diane Bish/Gilbert Martin

Introduction: 1 Corinthians 13:13

Hymn: **271 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee** (v. 1,2)

Part I: A Divine Love

Choir Anthem: **One Small Child** | Mark Hayes

Hymn: **256 Love Has Come** (v. 1,2,3)

Responsive Reading:

Leader: O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant

People: O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant

Leader: O come and behold Him, born the King of Angels

People: O come, let us adore Him

Leader: O come, let us adore Him

People: O come, let us adore Him. Christ the Lord of love.

Part II: A Determined Love

Bell Choir Anthem: **Gentle Mary Laid Her Child** | arr. Benhnke

Hymn: **279 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly** (v. 1,2)

Responsive Reading:

Leader: O come, all you unfaithful

Come, weak and unstable

Come, know you are not alone

O come, barren and waiting ones

Weary of praying, come

See what your God has done

People: Christ is born, Christ is born

Christ is born for you

...

(Responsive Reading continued on next page)

Order of Service (cont.)

Responsive Reading Continued:

Leader: O come, bitter and broken
Come with fears unspoken
Come, taste of His perfect love
O come, guilty and hiding ones
There is no need to run
See what your God has done

**People: Christ is born, Christ is born
Christ is born for you**

Choir Anthem: Love Came Down at Christmas | Mark Hill

Part III: A Dear Love

Choir & Bell Choir Anthem: Christmas Day | Gustav Holst

Choir Anthem: God So Loved The World | John Stainer

Advent Candle

Hymn: 285 O Holy Night (v. 1)

Congregational Candle Lighting

Hymn: 270 Joy to the World (v. 1,2,3,4)

Who We Are: GEPC Vision

Here at Gashland our vision for our congregation is to:

Love Jesus, Live as Family, Look to the Fields

In scripture we are told that the greatest commandment is to love God with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength. This is our heart for Gashland EPC—that we would not only love Jesus but strive to fall deeper in love with Him every day, allowing His love to transform us in ways we never thought possible.

We also desire to live as family—real, loving, and committed to one another. In Christ Jesus, we are brothers and sisters, bound by a love that transcends bloodlines. This bond is deep and transformative. It's our desire to live out this spiritual reality by supporting one another through life's joys and challenges. We want to be a church that not only knows each other's names but knows each other's lives—the highs and the lows, the struggles and the victories. We aim to be a community that encourages, challenges, and helps one another grow in faith, reflecting the gospel in every relationship.

Lastly, we desire to look to the fields—both near and far. In John 4:35, Jesus tells His disciples, "Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest." In this passage, Jesus challenges us to see the opportunity before us—to recognize that God has already prepared a harvest if we are willing to see it. At Gashland EPC, we are committed to looking to the fields with open eyes, living out the Great Commission by taking the gospel to the ends of the earth. We want to be a church that shares the good news of Jesus boldly and faithfully with everyone the Lord places in our path.

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 (Traditional Worship)

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

11:00 am Worship in the Ministry Center (Blended Worship)

Livestream Worship at:

- gashland.org/830-livestream/
- gashland.org/1100-livestream/

Connect With Gashland EPC

Gashland EPC Website

Visit our website at 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.

Contact Us

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

Church Office: 816.436.3583

Prayer Requests: gashland.org/prayer

Gashland EPC on Facebook & Instagram

Keep our latest news, photos, and conversations in your newsfeed by liking us on Facebook at facebook.com/GashlandEPC and following us on Instagram,

GEPC Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday School | Sunday Mornings from 9:45-10:45am

Pray Always

During the Sunday School hour, we will gather to talk to the Lord. There will be a short lesson or scripture reading, then we will pray for what anyone would like to bring. Whether you pray out loud or to yourself, you will find others who believe that praying together and praying regularly are important.

Teacher: Mark Lancaster

Room: Sanctuary

Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, Verse by Verse

Paul's letter to the Ephesians is a classic example of his thought alongside Romans. Ephesians is heavenly in content and expansive in the truths it proclaims while remaining approachable and pragmatic in its instructions. Here are three things we'll consider as we study Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

1. Ephesians is deliberately broad and general.
2. The Ephesian Christians were marginalized.
3. The church in Ephesus grew in the midst of spiritual warfare.

The dangers facing the Ephesian Christians were not just the threat of physical violence or social marginalization, but assault from spiritual forces of evil. Paul warns about "rulers," "authorities," and "cosmic powers" (Eph. 6:12)."

Teacher: Kelly Dunn

Room: Reception Room

The Women's Class: The Lives of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob

In this session, we will study Genesis 12-36. As we read these chapters, we will see how, through the lives of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, God uses ordinary, imperfect people to fulfil his wonderful plan for humanity. We will discuss how the character of God is revealed through their experiences, and how these verses are still relevant to us today.

Teacher: Laura Cooper

Room: 217-218

Adult Sunday School | Continued...

The Men's Class: Testimony

Psalm 71:15-18 reminds us of the importance of sharing our testimony, to proclaim God's glory in our salvation; we are called to tell of His power in our lives, from our youth to our old age. Please join us for the Men's Class as we hear from our Elders at Gashland; each will be personally sharing the story of their saving faith, to give glory and honor to the Lord, who is mighty to save. This class is open to men of all ages, as we seek to hear the reason that others have for a saving faith, that it may better inform our own testimony before the world.

Teacher: Dallas Reeve

Room: 221

First and Second Timothy

Paul's letters to Timothy are his last letters before his martyrdom. Although written in the first century, they are extremely relevant for church life today, offering practical instructions for Christian leaders and workers, such as the inspiration and authority of scripture, the characteristics of church leaders, the role of women in the church, and the nature of holiness. The injunctions directed to Timothy regarding his responsibilities have served as a pattern for Christian ministry, and have been used widely in ordination services. Please join us as we study these two short yet powerful books which provide godly wisdom to the church in all ages, blending practical advice and sound doctrine.

Teachers: Jim Lorenzetti, Peter Marshall, Matt Martinie

Room: Fellowship Hall

Abide: The Gospel of Matthew

Abide is ministry for youngish adults that emphasizes community, sharing life, and growing in our love for Jesus. We meet weekly in the South Ministry Lobby for fellowship and bible study. We also have social events that take place monthly.

Teachers: Justin Ewing and Landon Welch

Room: South Ministry Lobby

GEPC Student & Children Ministries

Student Ministries

Josiah Durfee, Director of Student Ministries | josiah@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.

- High School Sunday School | Sundays @ 9:45am
- Middle School Sunday School | Sundays @ 9:45am
- High School and Middle School Refresh | Wednesdays @ 6pm

Children's Ministries

Nicole Moncada, Interim Director of Children's Ministries | nicole@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 to learn more!

- Kidsquest | Wednesday Nights during Spring & Fall @ 6pm
- Children's Sunday School | Sundays @ 9:45am
- Children's Church | Sundays @ 2nd Service*

* Kids dismissed for Children's Church right before the sermon

Little Lambs Ministries

Amanda Ewing, Interim Director of Children's Ministries | amanda@gashland.org

In Little Lambs, we create a safe and loving environment for our youngest family members to learn about Jesus. We love getting to know each child and seeing what captures their attention. In addition to feeding, rocking, reading to and playing with children, we incorporate prayer, a Bible lesson, worship, and other activities to share God's love with these little ones.

- Little Lambs Ministry | Sundays @ 8:30am, 9:45am, 11:00am
- Little Lambs Ministry | Wednesday Nights during Spring & Fall

Staff

Michael Morefield, Senior Pastor | michael@gashland.org

Josh Lee, Director of Community | josh@gashland.org

Josiah Durfee, Director of Student Ministries | josiah@gashland.org

Nicole Moncada, Interim Director of Children's Ministries | nicole@gashland.org

Amanda Ewing, Interim Little Lambs Ministry Director | amanda@gashland.org

Kelly Hackleman, Director of Music | kelly@gashland.org

Kathy Welch, Office Administrator | kathy@gashland.org

Larry Harris, Interim Worship Director for 1st Service

O Holy Night

Verse 1

O holy night the stars are brightly shining
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth
Long lay the world in sin and error pining
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn

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,



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