Announcements

- Children and youth are invited to Faith Formation class following the Passing of the Peace. We also have a hugging room at the back of the sanctuary for parents with young children to use as desired.
- **LEAP Christmas Gift Bags**: This year GPC will provide 102 gift bags to infants and children at the LEAP preschool. You are invited to sponsor bags! Each bag is $25. A sponsorship table will be on the patio for the next few Sundays.
- **Document Shredding Opportunity!** If you have documents you need to securely dispose of, you are welcome to bring them to the office, starting on Tuesday, November 24th all the way up to Tuesday December 15th between 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. (except not on Mondays or weekend days) to have them all shredded at no cost.
- **Christmas Potluck:** GPC's annual Christmas Brunch Potluck will be on December 13th at 10:45 in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish to share and join us for food, fellowship and Christmas carols!

GOLETA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

NOVEMBER 29, 2026

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PRELUDE	"Creator of the Stars of Night"	Michael McCabe
	"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"	Gilbert Martin
	"Watchman, Tell Us of the Night"	Gilbert Martin

WELCOME Rev. Jim Pazan

LIGHTING THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Susan Solano

Leader: Christ is coming!

People: We will keep awake!

Leader: Christ is coming!

People: We will be ready!

Leader: Christ is coming! He will gather his people from the ends of the earth.

People: Praise be to God! We will worship and prepare.

HYMN OF PRAISE #2 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Verse 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.
Israel's strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.

Verse 2

Born Thy people to deliver, Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.

*please rise in body or spirit

By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

CALL TO CONFESSION Susan Solano

Preparing for Christ's coming requires honest examination of our lives and our hearts. Let us turn to God in prayer to confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Prince of Peace, the wars and rumors of wars betray our addiction to violence, our destructive and dehumanizing ways. We deserve your judgement and condemnation. Yet, you remain faithful, a steadfast source of peace in the midst of our warring madness. Holy God, turn us from evil. Return us to Christ's nonviolent path. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Leader: 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.

People: **Thanks be to God. Amen!**

CHOIR ANTHEM "Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel" Jay Althouse

Come, O come, Emmanuel;
All the world attending.
Ransom captive Israel,
Son of God descending.

Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel!
Now the day is nearing.
A King shall come to Israel,
Son of God appearing.

Savior, Child of God above,
Valleys rise to meet him.
Lord of light and Lord of love,
Mountains bow to greet him.

Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel!
Now the day is nearing.
A King shall come to Israel.
Son of God appearing.

Come, O come, Emmanuel.
Come, O come, Emmanuel.
Son of God appearing.

PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: May the Peace of Christ be with you

People: And also with you

HYMN OF PREPARATION #9 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Verse 1

O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Verse 2

*please rise in body or spirit

O come, Thou Day-spring, come and cheer Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight.

(Refrain)

Verse 3

O come, Desire of nations, bind All peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease; Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.

(Refrain)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Savior God, guide us by your word and Spirit, that we might hear your truth, heed your call and be prepared for Christ's coming this Christmas. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 64:1-9

1 O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains
would quake at your presence— 2 as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire
causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the
nations might tremble at your presence! 3 When you did awesome deeds that we
did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. 4 From
ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God
besides you, who works for those who wait for him. 5 You meet those who gladly
do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we
sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. 6 We have all become like
one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade
like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. 7 There is no one who
calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your
face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. 8 Yet, O LORD,
you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of
your hand. 9 Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember
iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

MESSAGE "Patient Hope" Rev. Jim Pazan

HYMN OF RESPONSE #20 "Watchmen, Tell Us of the Night"

Verse 1

Watchman, tell us of the night, What its signs of promise are.
Traveler, o'er yon mountain's height, See that glory-beaming star.
Watchman, does its beauteous ray Aught of joy or hope foretell?
Traveler, yes; it brings the day, Promised day of Israel.

Verse 2

Watchman, tell us of the night; Higher yet that star ascends.
Traveler, blessedness and light, Peace and truth its course portends.
Watchman, will its beams alone Gild the spot that gave them birth?
Traveler, ages are its own; See, it bursts o'er all the earth.

Verse 3

Watchman, tell us of the night, For the morning seems to dawn.
Traveler, darkness takes its flight, Doubt and terror are withdrawn.
Watchman, let thy wanderings cease; Hasten to your quiet home.
Traveler, lo! the Prince of Peace, Lo! the Son of God is come!

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD "People, Look East" Dale Wood

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Susan Solano

*please rise in body or spirit

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.

***Closing Hymn** #422 "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

Verse 1

God, whose giving knows no ending,
From Your rich and endless store,
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
Costly cross, grave's shattered door:
Gifted by You, we turn to You,
Offering up ourselves in praise;
Thankful song shall rise forever,
Gracious donor of our days.

Verse 2

Skills and time are ours for pressing
Toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
All at peace in health and freedom,
Races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labor,
Lest we strive for self alone;
Born with talents, make us servants
Fit to answer at Your throne.

Verse 3

Treasure too You have entrusted,
Gain through powers Your grace conferred;
Ours to use for home and kindred,
And to spread the gospel Word.
Open wide our hands, in sharing,
As we heed Christ's ageless call,
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
Serving You by loving all.

***Benediction** Rev. Jim Pazan

Postlude "Sleepers, Wake! A Voice Astounds Us" Robert J. Powell

*please rise in body or spirit