



PEACHTREE ROAD
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
THE FIRST DAY *of* DECEMBER, 2024

EIGHT FORTY-FIVE AND ELEVEN FIFTEEN O'CLOCK

3180 PEACHTREE ROAD, NE . ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30305
WWW.PRUMC.ORG . (404) 266-2373

MORNING WORSHIP

DECEMBER 1, 2024 . 8:45 AM & 11:15 AM

THE GATHERING

CARILLON PRELUDE

Sally Westmoreland

OPENING VOLUNTARY

Veni, Emmanuel

arr. Raymond Haan
(b. 1938)

Douglas Bell, *cello*
Jonathan Easter, *organ*

THE GREETING

We welcome each of you to this service!

We pray that this time together will be a blessing in your life.

*† At the sound of the bells, please prepare
your hearts and minds for worship.*

THE CHORAL INTROIT

Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland

Savior of the nations, come; Virgin's Son here make thy home! Marvel now,
O heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

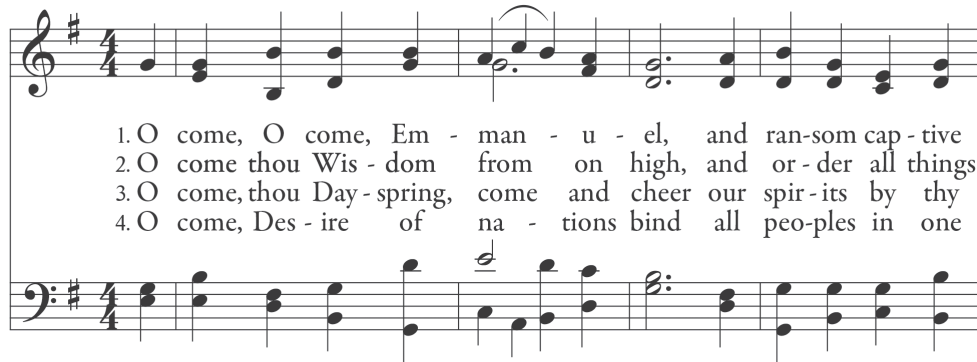
AT THE PROCESSION, *

HYMN 211

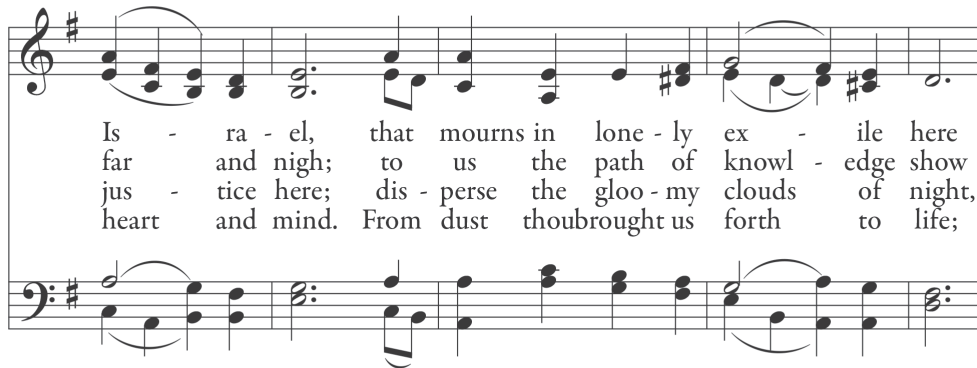
O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni Emmanuel

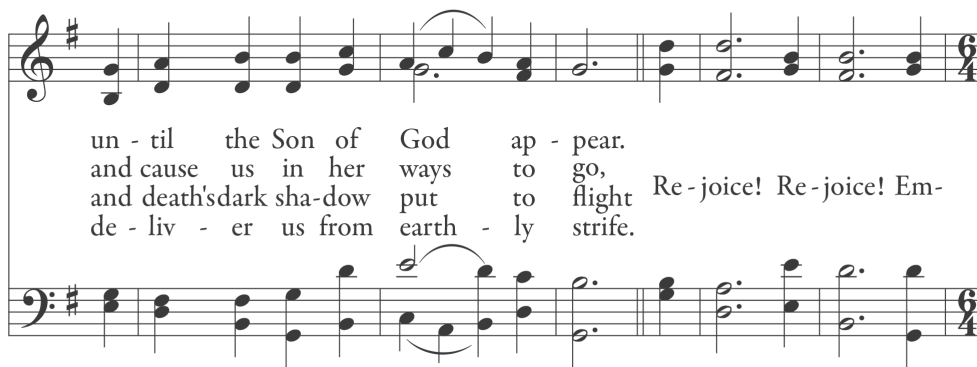
(stanzas one, two, six, and seven)



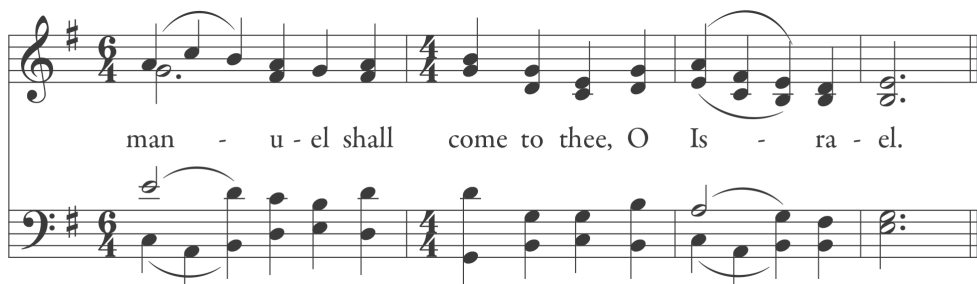
1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran-som cap - tive
2. O come thou Wis - dom from on high, and or - der all things
3. O come, thou Day - spring, come and cheer our spir - its by thy
4. O come, Des - ire of na - tions bind all peo - ples in one



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
far and nigh; to us the path of knowl - edge show
jus - tice here; dis - perse the gloo - my clouds of night,
heart and mind. From dust thou brought us forth to life;



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
and cause us in her ways to go,
and death's dark sha - dow put to flight Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
de - liv - er us from earth - ly strife.



man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *

Minister: Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

Minister and People: Mighty God, hear us this day as we open our hearts and our spirits to you. These times in which we live are often confusing and fearful. We are pushed to make preparations for a season which is supposed to bring hope and peace; yet we confess that we crowd this time with stress and obligation. We find ourselves being on edge, fretful, and wondering if we have done enough. Forgive us, we pray. Answer our fears with your presence. Slow us down and encourage us to take time to listen rather than shout, to stop and rest rather than run, so that our hopes and dreams are fulfilled in you.

Minister: Hear the good news: Do not be afraid! Your hope is secure in the Lord of heaven and earth. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God.
Amen.

GLORIA PATRI *

Charles Meineke

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE *

**

† *The people are seated.*

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Veni Emmanuel

Choir: O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns
in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Leader: Long ago a priest named Zechariah encountered the angel of the Lord
in the temple and was filled with fear. However, the angel said to him,
“Do not be afraid, for your prayer of hope has been heard.”
Zechariah was dumbstruck, but the angel challenged him to believe
the good news.

People: **During this season of Advent, we remember that challenge to believe
– the challenge to believe that God shows up in unexpected places,
at unexpected times. We want to believe. “Lord, help our unbelief.”**

Leader: We light this first candle of hope. Let this light remind us that
while we wait for the Lord, truly the Lord is already here.
Hope is here. Love is here. Joy is here. We are home!

†The Lighting of the Candle

Leader: Fill us with your hope, Lord.

People (all sing): **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM

RESPONSE: With God’s help we will so order our lives after the example of Christ,
that this child (*these children*), surrounded by steadfast love, may be established
in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN

Tune: *Stuttgart*

Child of blessing, child of promise, baptized with the Spirit’s sign; with this water
God has sealed you unto love and grace divine.

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CONGREGATION

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

AT THE GOSPEL PROCESSION, *

HYMN 196

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Hyfrydol

1. Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy
2. Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and

peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re - lease us,
yet a King, born to reign in us for - ev - er,

let us find our rest in thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so -
now thy gra - cious king - dom bring. By thine own e - ter - nal

la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art; dear de - sire of
spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone; by thine all suf -

ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
fi - cient mer - it, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of five systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

Charles Wesley, 1774

THE GOSPEL LESSON * Luke 1:5-15

† before the reading:

Cantor: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
St. Luke.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

† following the reading:

Minister: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

† the Alleluia is repeated.

SERMON

Zechariah: Don't Be Dumbstruck

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *

The Apostles' Creed

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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at 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 Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

AT THE OFFERTORY,

† An offering is collected to support the work of Peachtree Road United Methodist Church sharing God's love with the world. Please register your attendance in the Ritual of Christian Fellowship Folder. Let us know if you are new, would like to become a member or are interested in more information about Peachtree Road.

PRAYER

ANTHEM

And the glory of the Lord, Messiah

G.F. Handel

(1685-1750)

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

Isaiah 40:5

The Chancel Choir

AT THE PRESENTATION *

HYMN 95

Tune: *Old Hundredth*

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.

AT THE RETIRING PROCESSION, *

HYMN 206

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Houston

1. I want to walk as a child of the light.
2. I want to see the bright-ness of God.
3. I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.

I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.
I want to be with Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. The
Clear Sun of Righ-teous-ness, shine on my path, and
When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

star of my life is Je - sus.
show me the way to the Fa - ther.
shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain

In him there is no dark-ness at all. The

night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God. ☺

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus. ☺

Kathleen Thomerson, 1966

SENDING FORTH

BENEDICTION *

PEACE *

Minister: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

RESPONSE *

Tune: *Houston*

I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus. In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

Choir and Congregation

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Toccata on 'Veni, redemptor gentium'

Paul Manz
(1919-2009)

* Stand as you are able. ** Ushers will seat all those who are waiting.

Please turn off all mobile and electronic devices while in the Sanctuary.

Please Welcome to our Church Community These Children Being Baptized Today: Alice Sealey Redding, born June 6, 2024, daughter of Angela and David Redding; Margot Mae Wilson, born June 18, 2024, daughter of Mary Margaret and Tim Wilson.

The Flowers on the Altar are Given to the Glory of God

In Loving Memory of: Frank Smith honoring his December 5th birthday by his daughter, Martha Tate, and granddaughters, Laura Tate Yellig and Anne Tate Pearce.

In Loving Memory of: Their fathers, Scott Sizemore and George E. Sikes, their grandmother, Katherine M. Edenfield, their grandparents, Charles and June Falls, and their friend, Kim McCarty, by Denee, Garrett and Grace Sizemore.

In Loving Memory of: Frances Jeffers by her daughter, Jutta.

In Honor of: the baptism of Margot Mae Wilson by her parents and grandparents.

Altar Flowers: *If you would like to make a donation in honor or in memory of a loved one, please contact Linda Schutte at 770.329.2075.*

Preaching: Rev. Bill Britt, *Senior Minister*

Luke 1:5-15

Liturgists: Rev. Karen Webster Parks, *Executive Pastor*

Rev. Leslie Lyons Watkins, *Associate Minister*

Verger: Rev. Darren Hensley, *Deacon*

Music: Scott Atchison, *Director of Music and Organist*

Jonathan Easter, *Guest Organist*

The Chancel Choir

Lighting the Advent Candles Today:

8:45 – Sean, Camila, Winlon, Speight, Lola Cooper and Bowen Knowles

10:00 – Erik, Kate and Libby Johnson

11:15 – Fred, Mary, Neal, Rosa, Sadye and Fritz Sumter

For information on upcoming worship services please visit www.prumc.org.

WELCOME TO PEACHTREE ROAD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

We are glad you are with us today! **Please check in** to help us keep in touch with our faith community. Sign in using the red pads in your pew, scan the QR codes here, or check in with one click on the PRUMC App. Thank you! We hope you will join us again in the coming weeks.

Guest Check-in



Member Check-in



DECEMBER 1, 2024

TODAY

The Great Tree Lighting

Today, 5:30 pm, Sanctuary

Begin your Advent season with a night of light and wonder! All PRUMC children's and youth choirs will present beautiful Christmas music, culminating in the lighting of the Sanctuary's Great Chrismon Tree. Special Christmas treats and piano carols to follow in Grace Hall.

Advent Homebound Visitation

Share Christmas cheer with our homebound adults. On Sundays in Advent, select a member's card from the altar rail. Take a treat, send a note, or make a special visit. Let them know they are not forgotten this time of year.

2024 Advent Devotional

Prepare your heart for the Advent season through the PRUMC Advent Devotional. You are invited to join us for 25 days of insightful and inspiring devotions written by the clergy and laity of PRUMC. All those who are already subscribed to our Daily Devotions email will receive the Advent Devotions emails starting on December 1. If you wish to subscribe, please visit prumc.org/prayer.

LOCAL OUTREACH

Volunteer Now for Christmas Kindness

From **December 6-11**, the working poor of our city can select gifts for their families, with dignity, at no cost to them at our Christmas Kindness shop. During their time here, they are surrounded by the care of loving volunteers, who help them select and wrap their gifts. Join us at Christmas Kindness and experience the joy of serving others as you share the peace, hope, and love of this Christmas season. Volunteer at prumc.org/events.

MUSIC & ARTS

Atlanta Tuba Christmas

Friday, **December 6**, 12:00 pm, Front Turnaround

This annual performance of Christmas classics and sing-alongs takes place in cities across the country each year. Join our city's favorite tuba players for great music and great fun to get in the Christmas spirit! Performance includes sing-alongs and a tuba demonstration. Free and open to the public.

The Many Moods of Christmas

Sunday, **December 8**, 7:30 pm, Sanctuary

PRUMC Chancel Choir, Georgia Boy Choir, soloists, and orchestra present our Christmas classic featuring traditional Christmas hymns, moving new settings of familiar carols, and Handel's *Messiah*. This beautiful concert is one not to miss! Reception sponsored by PRUMC Friends of Music to follow in Grace Hall. Tickets available at prumc.org/events and at the church offices.

Carols by Candlelight

Sunday, **December 15**, 5:30 pm, Sanctuary

Join friends, neighbors, and communities from across the city for a heartwarming evening of Christmas cheer and fellowship. We will sing favorite Christmas carols together, ending with *Silent Night*, surrounded by candlelight and the glow of the great Chrismon tree. Reception in Grace Hall to follow.

Christmas With The Georgia Boy Choir

December 20 & 21, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary

Come hear the internationally acclaimed Georgia Boy Choir accompanied by orchestra and Great Organ! Enjoy sacred classics, Christmas carols, and well-loved holiday tunes including Atlanta's largest performance of *The Twelve Days of Christmas*. Tickets available at georgiaboychoir.org.

GLOBAL MISSIONS

Coffee with the Cobles

Sunday, **December 15**, 10:00 am, Heritage Hall

Catch up over coffee with PRUMC's missionaries to Kenya - Bill and Chat Coble! We will hear an exciting update on thriving initiatives including Water for Kenya, a new science lab for the school, and much more. All are welcome; no RSVP necessary. Coffee and pastries provided.

Holiday Shopping at The Dogwood Shop

Browse festive table settings, hostess gifts, sparkling holiday decor, and more! We are open Sunday through Friday, and all proceeds benefit PRUMC Global Missions.

PRUMC Global Mission Trips

If you feel a call to expand your heart and horizons, consider joining a PRUMC global mission team. Our impactful journeys open your heart, broaden your perspective, and renew your hope as you witness the incredible ways God is at work around the world. For more information, contact Cristin Kirbo at cristink@prumc.org.

Upcoming open trips include:

- Jan 29 - Feb 2** Women's Mission to Guatemala
- Mar 27 - Apr 6** Adult Mission to Kenya
- May 1 - May 5** Women's Mission to Costa Rica

WORSHIP

The Longest Night Prayer Service

Sunday, **December 22**, 5:30 pm, Moore Chapel

If you find the holidays difficult, or if you would like to experience a quiet service of reflection at this time of year, please join us for *The Longest Night*. This special candlelight service reminds us "the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it." John 1:5

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Tuesday, **December 24**, Sanctuary

Come celebrate this glorious night with us! Our beautiful services offer meaningful messages and magnificent music. Childcare available for ages 3 and under at the 4:00 and 6:00 pm services.

- 11:00 am** Christmas Service of Holy Communion
A celebration of the Eucharist
- 4:00 pm** Family Candlelight & Pageant
Children's choirs and nativity pageant
- 6:00 pm** Family Candlelight & Pageant
Children's choirs and nativity pageant
- 8:00 pm** Festival of Lessons & Carols
With Chancel Choir & Brass
- 10:30 pm** Festival Choral Eucharist
Eucharist celebration with Chancel Choir & Brass

THE DOVES OF PRUMC

Sanctuary and Dove Tours

Wednesday, **December 4, 11, 18**, Sanctuary
1:15 and 2:00 pm (with select 6:00 pm days)

Join a special 45-minute docent-led tour to learn about our Dove installation, the art of our stained glass windows, the carved cross, and more. It is an extraordinary, immersive experience, and you are invited to be a part of it! Reserve space on one of our remaining 2024 tours at prumc.org/doves. Additionally, if you would like to schedule a tour for a group of 15 or more, please contact Brittany Charron at brittanyc@prumc.org.

CENTENNIAL EVENTS

An Evening with Kate Bowler

Sunday, **January 26, 2025**, 5:00 pm, Sanctuary

Kate Bowler is a New York Times best-selling author, a Duke Divinity theologian, and the persona behind the popular podcast "Everything Happens." Together, we will explore what it means to live through the best of days, the worst of days, and all the in-betweens. Brought to PRUMC by the One Lamb Initiative. RSVP at prumc.org/events.

Mississippi Mass Choir

Friday, **February 7, 2025**, 7:00 pm, Sanctuary

Don't miss this Grammy-nominated choir who has stirred souls across the globe. This record-breaking music powerhouse will fill our sanctuary with their incredible vocals and spirit! This is gospel at its finest - "a masterclass in inspirational music" and "a testimony to unwavering faith."

Bishop Will Willimon

Sunday, **February 16, 2025**, 8:45 & 11:15 am, Sanctuary

Bishop Will Willimon is a renowned Methodist leader, theologian, and author, celebrated for connecting deep theology with everyday Christian living. Come be inspired to live out your faith with passion and authenticity.

ANNUAL STEWARDSHIP

End of Year Giving / Stock Donations

We are grateful for the generous stock donations the church receives at the end of the year. If you will be making a gift of stock to the church, please email the Business Office (ceceliao@prumc.org or rogerl@prumc.org) indicating the name of the stock you are donating. Many times, brokers transfer stock to our broker without indicating the donor's name. Your email would assist us in quickly identifying and matching stock donations with the correct donor information. Instructions for making a stock gift can be found at www.prumc.org/give. Thank you!

MEN

Men's Breakfast with Ron Greer: "Faith and Fidelity"

Friday, **December 6**, 7:00 - 8:00 am, Heritage Hall

Our focus will be on how we intentionally honor fidelity in all of our living and, specifically, in our marriages. RSVP at prumc.org/events.

2025 Men's Spiritual Retreat at Camp Glisson

Friday, **February 28**, 6:00 pm, to Sunday, **March 2**, 10:00 am

Join Rev. Bill Britt and Rev. Geoff Beakley for PRUMC's first men's spiritual retreat in the North Georgia mountains. Led by Dr. Brent Strawn, the preeminent Old Testament professor from Duke University, this retreat offers a chance to deepen your faith and strengthen bonds with other PRUMC men. Details and registration at prumc.org/events.

YOUTH

A Christmas Carol at the Alliance Theatre

Sunday, **December 8**, 1:30 pm, Meet at Harp Center

Join your friends for an afternoon out to get into the Christmas spirit! After enjoying the performance, we will have dinner at Colony Square and return to PRUMC at 6:30 pm. RSVP at prumc.org/events.

Middle School Christmas Party

Sunday, **December 15**, 5:00 - 7:00 pm, Harp Center

Wear your favorite Christmas morning attire and join us for Extreme Bingo and a festive Christmas breakfast! RSVP at prumc.org/events.

High School Christmas Party

Friday, **December 20**, 4:45 pm, Orient Express Vinings

Enjoy dinner with friends to celebrate the season. RSVP at prumc.org/events.

High School Ski Trip

January 17-20, 2025, Breckenridge, CO

Join us for a great weekend of skiing, snowboarding, devotions, and hanging out with your friends. Details and registration at prumc.org/events.

Renovatus Youth Retreat

January 31 - February 2, 2025

On this favorite weekend, we connect with God and each other through worship, games, and awesome activities. We always make great memories and have incredible experiences on this retreat. Join us! RSVP at prumc.org/events.

SENIOR ADULTS

Bus Transportation to Many Moods Concert

Sunday, **December 8**, 6:45/7:00 pm Pick Up

PRUMC Senior Adult Ministry will offer bus transportation to and from PRUMC for our December 8 Many Moods of Christmas concert. This service is open to senior adults in the Buckhead area. Please RSVP with your name and address to Heather C. Holdridge at heatherch@prumc.org or 404.240.8302. Space is limited.

Seasoned Saints Wednesday Programs

Wednesdays, 1:30 pm, C106

Dec 6 *Jingle Bingo*

Please bring a \$5 wrapped gift/prize and a treat to share.

Dec 18 *Ornament Show & Tell*

Bring a favorite ornament and share your story about it.

RSVP to Heather C. Holdridge at 404.240.8302 or heatherch@prumc.org if you plan to attend.

YOUNG ADULTS

Advent Bible Study

Tuesdays, **Now - December 10**, 6:30 pm

Join us for dinner and a small group study on Adam Hamilton's *Prepare the Way for the Lord: Advent and the Message of John the Baptist*. RSVP at prumc.org/events.

Young Adult Cabin Retreat

January 17-19, 2025, North Georgia

Pack your flannel and head to the mountains for a cozy weekend in the woods! Whether you love a morning hike or an evening board game, you won't want to miss this winter getaway filled with friends and fellowship. RSVP at prumc.org/events.

IF YOU ARE NEW

Take a Tour of the Church

Sunday, **January 12**, 10:00 am, Heritage Hall

Whether you are new or still trying to find your way around, please join us for a tour of the campus and a brief overview of the ministries and offerings at Peachtree Road. For more information, contact Brittany Charron at brittanyc@prumc.org.

Joining Day in Worship

Sunday, **January 12**, 11:15 am, Sanctuary

We are excited to welcome new members during the 11:15 worship service. For more information or to RSVP, please contact Brittany Charron at brittanyc@prumc.org.

To make a secure online gift, scan this QR code with your smartphone camera to be directed to our giving web page. There, you can easily complete your contribution. Thank you!

