

## THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES

**Monday, Dec 1:** Psalm 124; Genesis 8:1-19; Romans 6:1-11;

**Tuesday, Dec 2:** Psalm 124; Genesis 9:1-17; Hebrews 11:32-40;

**Wednesday, Dec 3:** Psalm 124; Isaiah 54:1-10; Matthew 24:23-35;

**Thursday, Dec 4:** Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Isaiah 4:2-6; Acts 1:12-17, 21-26;

**Friday, Dec 5:** Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Isaiah 30:19-26; Acts 13:16-25;

**Saturday, Dec 6:** Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19; Isaiah 40:1-11; John 1:19-28;

*The First Sunday of Advent*

### In the Time of Herod

I didn't live during Herod's time—that brutal, murderous king, God save his soul.

But even hundreds of years later, I know the prayers of his people.

I know the prayers of the mothers and the children under his rule.

I know the prayers of the young men under his angry arm.

I know their prayers, because anyone who has ever lived in this soft world for more than two days

knows how to pray for a miracle.

We rub our hands together.

We fold weary shoulders in,

a cage of bone to protect our bleeding hearts.

We sing, we shall overcome and bind my wandering heart to thee.

We walk across bridges and in front of powerful buildings.

We cover our cars in stickers that scream, we will not give up!

We allow a hungry cry to slip from our lips,

giving our lament a life of its own (with room to dance!).

And when all of that is said and done, we whisper to our creator,

God, break through the yelling and the fear. Break through the violence and the oppression.

Get past the Herods of this world, and come be here.

Like every bleeding heart before, we pray for a miracle.



## Beginnings Service

*First Sunday of Advent*

November 30, 2025

*Please take the opportunity to fill out the Prayer and Gratitude Card, along with a Connection Card.*

*You'll be invited to place them in the offering tray later in the service.*

### ENTRANCE

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

On Sundays and Mondays,

**on good days and bad days,**

early in the morning and very late at night,

**here in this room, and out in the world,**

**God, we long for you to break in.**

Meet us in this space.

**Surprise us with your presence.**

Fill this room with your good news.

**With hope, we sing, we worship, we pray. Amen!**

**Opening Prayer**

Inhale: **May your light break in.**

Exhale: **May your love bring healing.**

**UMH #196**

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

## PROCLAMATION & RESPONSE

### Prayer for Illumination

#### First Reading

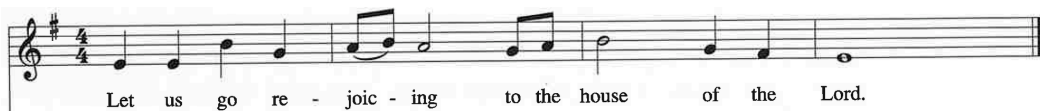
**Lamentations 3:55-57**

*After the Reading, the Reader says*

The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

#### Psalm Chant



- I rejoiced because they said to me, “We will go up to the house of the Lord.”  
And now we have set foot within your gates, O Jerusalem.
- Jerusalem, built as a city with compact unity.  
To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord.
- According to the decree for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.  
In it are set up judgment seats, seats for the house of David.
- Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! May those who love you prosper!  
May peace be within your walls, prosperity in your buildings.
- Because of my brothers and friends I will say, “Peace be with - in you!”  
Because of the house of the Lord, our God, I will pray for your good.

#### Gospel Lesson

**Luke 1:5-13**

*Silence follows. Then the People stand as they are able.*

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

**People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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*After the Gospel, the Pastor says*

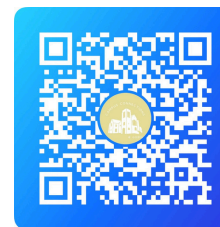
The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

#### Sermon

## COLLEGE STUDENTS

Stay connected with other college students by joining the new Gobin College Student GroupMe. Scan the QR code to join.



### GOOD NEWS!

Gobin Church has been selected as a recipient of the National Fund for Sacred Places grant! This incredible honor affirms our ongoing efforts to preserve our historic sanctuary and expand our ministry of beauty, justice, and belonging in the heart of Greencastle.

To learn more about the project and what this means for our future, visit [www.gobinchurch.org](http://www.gobinchurch.org).

## STAY CONNECTED

### Want to receive our weekly email updates?

Sign up here: [www.gobin.live/email](http://www.gobin.live/email)

### Stay in the loop

Print communication is important. Email can sometimes be even better. And occasionally a quick text message is best! If you'd like to stay “in the loop” and receive text updates about all things Gobin, text the word “loop” to (765)650-4644. Make sure to save this number as “Gobin Church”!

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE

If you or someone you know is ill, injured, or otherwise in need of prayer or visitation, please fill out a prayer card, or let the pastoral staff or church office know. Jai will work to keep us connected.

Here are members of our Gobin connection who need prayer & comfort at this time:

*Margot MacCracken, Brandie Sitton, Andrea Insley, Ashlee Vitz, Sandy Miller, Katie Isaacs-Bailey, Jim & Windy Watt, Phillip Caldwell, Luke & Sherry DeJaynes, Larry Rider, Ann Hansen, Leland Zellers, Marcia Linville, Matt Fruits, Kids Hope mentors & students, Vahyrian residents, residents of the Putnam Co. Jail, Kyaw, Vivi, Treasure, Yun Ling, Ajaypal Singh and all ICE detainees in the Clay Co Detention Center*

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, please fill out a prayer request card or send an email to [prayers@gobinunc.org](mailto:prayers@gobinunc.org)

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## OPPORTUNITY FOR PRAYER

You may have noticed the votive candles near the entrance to the sanctuary. We invite you to take one and join Wednesday morning prayer from 7:45-8am wherever you are. If you wish to have a candle, but are not able to come to the church, contact us and we will arrange to have someone bring it to you.

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## WAYS TO GIVE

- Make checks payable to Gobin Church
- Text “Gobin” to 73256
- Online at [www.gobin.live/give](http://www.gobin.live/give)
- Scan the QR code



## THANKSGIVING & COMMUNION

### Invitation

### Confession & Pardon

**Ever-present God, we long to feel you close.**

**We long for you to break through the chaos and suffering of this world.**

**However, if we're honest, we rarely stand still long enough to feel you with us.**

**Forgive our rushing and distractions.**

**Forgive our wandering hearts, and center us in this space.**

**Remind us that even in the time of Herod, you are always there. Amen.**

Family of faith,

even when we doubt God's presence,

even when we fail to notice God's fingerprints in this world,

God is always moving closer to us.

Hear and believe the good news this Advent season:

**Nothing can keep God's love away.**

**We are seen. We are forgiven. We are not alone. Amen.**

### Passing the Peace

### Offering

### Offertory

### 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.**

### Offering Prayer

### The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise**

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Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the  
highest.

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Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

### Communion Song

#### The Breaking of the Bread

*A period of silence is kept.*

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

### Prayer after Communion

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have  
given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength  
of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our  
Lord. **Amen.**

### Hymn

“In the Time of Herod”

Insert

## SENDING FORTH

### Benediction

### Postlude

## LET’S DECORATE FOR ADVENT!

All are invited to join us as we prepare the sanctuary for the Advent season!  
Come help decorate our worship space and enjoy a time of fellowship as  
we get ready to celebrate the hope and joy of Christ’s coming.

We will gather on **Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>** after the 11 AM Mosaic service  
for the hanging of the greens. Lunch will be provided.

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## ADVENT & CHRISTMASTIDE

*Join us as we gather for worship during this season.*

*Sunday services will be at 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM.*

First Sunday of Advent	November 30
Second Sunday of Advent	December 7
Third Sunday of Advent	December 14
Fourth Sunday of Advent	December 21
Longest Night	December 21 @ 6:00 PM
Christmas Eve	December 24 @ 6:00 PM
First Sunday of Christmas	December 28
Epiphany	January 4