



**FINDING GOD AT THE INTERSECTION OF OUR LIVES**

**December 23, 2023**

**ON CAMPUS TODAY AT GLENDALE CITY CHURCH, DECEMBER 23:**

- 9:00 a.m.: **Courtyard Café.** Enjoy simple breakfast foods & beverages in our Fellowship Hall lobby.
- 9:30 a.m.: **Grace Sabbath School class** with Pastor Leif, both live in the Fellowship Hall and on Zoom, meeting ID 818-244-7241. Book study: "Do I Stay Christian? — A Guide for the Doubters, the Disappointed, and the Disillusioned" by Brian McLaren.
- 9:30 a.m.: **The Living Project Support Group** meets weekly in the Council Room. "Telling my story. Listening to your story. Living our story."
- 11:00 a.m.: **Sanctuary worship service** with Pastor Greg Nelson. Also available online, <https://YouTube.com/c/GlendaleCityChurch>. **Next Sabbath, December 30:** worship service with Pastor Greg Hoenes.
- 11:00 a.m.: **City Kids Children's Praise**, Room 2. By 11:15 a.m.: • **Tiny Tots** (0-3 years old, together with a parent or guardian) go to Classroom 2; • **Godly Play** (4-12 years) go to Classroom 1. Noon pickup.

**OPEN TABLE WORSHIP:**

- 12:15 p.m.: Informal worship gathering downstairs in the Café. All are welcome as we share with music, story-telling, and interpersonal connections!

**THIS WEEK AT GLENDALE CITY CHURCH:**

- 7:00 p.m. **Social Jesus Heartgroup** by Herb Montgomery, each Wednesday at <https://Zoom.us/j/8182447241>, discussing Jesus' call to bringing justice and equality to all. Study guide or podcast: <https://RenewedHeartMinistries.com>.



## SATURDAY WORSHIP – 11:00 A.M. (PLEASE SILENCE YOUR ELECTRONIC DEVICES)

We welcome you as you worship with us online today. Please feel free to contact any of our pastoral staff if you have a question, want a visit, or need help:

- <https://glendalecitychurch.org>
- <https://facebook.com/glendalecitychurch>
- phone 818-244-7241

### **Prelude**

“On Christmas Night”  
based on the “Sussex Carol”  
Kemp Smeal, *organ*

*Robert Elmore*

### **Call to Worship**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

We come to worship the Savior born on Christmas Day.

**We come to greet the promised one — the child of Mary.**

We come to adore the King—born a servant in Bethlehem.

**We come to praise the Son of God — our Lord and our brother.**

Leif Lind

### **Opening Hymn**

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

No. 119

### **Greetings & Prayers of the Congregation**

*(Please remain standing for prayer)*

Leif Lind

### **Scripture Reading**

**Isaiah 9:6-7**

Tony Biehl

“For a child is born to us, a son is given to us.  
The government will rest on his shoulders.  
And he will be called:  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**His government and its peace will never end.**

**He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David  
for all eternity.**

**The passionate commitment of the Lord of Heaven’s Armies will make this happen!”**

**Sermon**

“Which Name of the Christmas Child  
Do You Most Need These Days?”

Greg Nelson

**Offertory Reflection**

“Love Came Down”

*B. & J. Johnson, J. Riddle, I. McIntosh, J. Edwardson*  
Greg Nelson, *solo*

*(Deacons will collect the offering as we meditate on the message in music. Please give as you're able — unless otherwise marked, loose offering goes to local church expense.)*

**Hymn of Response**

“Joy to the World”

No. 125

(1) Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing.

(2) Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy.

(3) No more let sin and sorrow grow, nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found.

(4) He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love.

**Benediction**

Greg Nelson

**Postlude**

“Symphony V – Toccata”  
Kemp Smeal, *organ*

*Charles-Marie Widor*



# Keep Up With City Church!

- Visit our website and sign up for our e-newsletter: <https://GlendaleCityChurch.org>
- Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram
- Download our "Glendale City Church" app at your App Store

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### Preaching schedule:

- **Dec 23** Greg Nelson
- **Jan 6** Greg Nelson
- **Dec 30** Greg Hoenes

Welcome to the **season of Advent!** This is a time, starting four weeks before Christmas, when most Christian denominations look forward to the coming of the Christ child to Bethlehem as well as the return of Christ at the Second Advent (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Advent>). As Seventh-day Adventists, this is something that we can gladly anticipate! The themes of peace, hope, joy, and love are celebrated through the lighting of the four Advent candles.



*Above: From last Sabbath's happy Open Table get-together!*

**Member concerns:** • **Anji Arm's uncle George Encinas** passed away Dec. 14. Please remember her family in prayer. • Prayers for **Charlie File's daughter, Tammy**, as she recovers from her operation.

A **visually impaired woman** in Glendale needs assistance with transportation, errands, etc. Contact Hala at 818-266-8500. This is a **paid position** on an as-needed basis.

One of City Church's **former associate pastors, Casey Bahr**, passed away in Palm Springs on December 1 after a recent stroke. Bahr, together with Pastor Rudy Torres, helped establish the A+ Adventist Preschool in 1981. He last spoke at our church in November 2021. Our prayers are with Casey Bahr's family. His service will be held at the church at 3 p.m. on **January 27**.

**Glendale Noon Concert**, January 3: Jazz program with saxophonist Doug Webb and pianist Josh Nelson. All welcome to this free program; see <http://glendalnoonconcerts.blogspot.com>.

**Pathfinder Movie fundraiser**, Vallejo Drive Church, Jan. 6, starting promptly at 6 p.m.: "The Secret of the Fossil". Entrance tickets \$10 each. Funds raised will go towards assisting Pathfinders to attend next summer's camporee in Gillette, Wyoming. (The movie examines the question of archeology and Creation from a conservative Christian viewpoint.)

**"Praise Him With Everything"** Worship Concert, Saturday Jan 20, 5 p.m., Vallejo Drive Church Courtyard.

