

Order of Worship

10:50 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.

(Please turn off all cell phones & pagers for the worship service)

Prelude "Carillon" *Leo Sowerby*
Taylor Ruhl, *organ*

Call to Worship: Lighting of the Christ Advent Candle

During the last four weeks of Advent as we have anticipated Christmas we have lit candles for hope, love, joy, and peace. Today we will light the final candle: the Christ candle.

"For unto us a child is given, unto us a Savior is born and the order of the world will be upon his shoulders." Because of the birth of Jesus, our lives are forever changed. We are transformed by his model and message. We light the Christ candle to represent that Christ is truly the center of our lives.

Hymn of Praise "Brightest and Best" *See Bulletin text*

Prayers of the Congregation Leif Lind
(Please remain standing for prayer)

Prayer Response (No. 140)

Thou didst leave Thy throne and Thy kingly crown
When Thou camest to earth for me;
But in Bethlehem's home was there found no room
For Thy holy nativity.
O come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
There is room in my heart for thee.

Vocal Solo "I Wonder As I Wander" *John Jacob Niles*
Clarissa Shan, *soprano*

Children's Sermon Victoria Lucero
(Opportunity for members to greet each other while children make their way up front.)

Vocal Solo "Rejoice, O Daughter of Zion" from *Messiah* *Handel*
Clarissa Shan, *soprano*

Scripture **John 1:1-14** Michael Bandy

Sermon "Jesus: The Deconstruction of God" Todd Leonard

Offertory "The Manger Child" *Joe Utterback*
Taylor Ruhl, *organ*
(Unless otherwise marked, loose offering goes to local church expense)

Hymn of Response "Joy to the World" No. 125

Benediction Todd Leonard

Musical Response

Postlude Fantasia on "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" *Dan Miller*

Whether you're a regular member or a visitor,

we encourage you to continue to fellowship with our Church family after the worship service!

Please also feel free to contact any of our pastoral staff if you have a question or need help.

Sabbath School Options (9:30-10:30 a.m.)

Class	Age	Location	Symbols/Leaders
Children's Meet & Great	All	Multipurpose Room	Sanctuary Basement
Beginners	0-3 yrs	Room 3	Elephant
Kinder/Primary/ & Junior	4 yrs to 6th grade	Room 1	Lion
Earliteen	7th & 8th grade	Room 4	Eagle
Teen	14-17 yrs	Youth Room, 10	Chapel Basement
Armenian	General	Room 11	
Romanian	General	Room 13	
Grace Center	General	Fellowship Hall (N.)	Leif Lind
SS Quarterly	General	Chapel	Anthony Salinas
Living Project	General	Fellowship Hall (S.)	

Worship Options

Option	Location	Sequence
Sanctuary Service	Main Sanctuary	Every Sabbath
Romanian Service	Chapel	1st and 3rd Sabbaths
Armenian Service	Chapel	Every Sabbaths

Activities

Event	Location	Sequence
Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room	Sabbath at 9:15 a.m.
Midweek Bible Study	Council Room	Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.
Marathon Clinic	Verdugo Park	Sunday at 7:00 a.m.

Youth Activities

Event	Location	Sequence
Youth Game Night	Youth Room	2nd Sabbath, 6:00 p.m.
Godly Play	Room 2 (Giraffe)	1st & 3rd Sabbath, 11:30 p.m.
Pathfinders	Youth Room	1st & 3rd Sabbath, 1-3:30 p.m.
Children's Choir	Room 10b	Sabbath at Noon

Church Directory

Pastoral Staff

Todd Leonard, *Senior Pastor* (818-441-3364) • Cherise Gardner, *Family & Children's Ministries* (818-244-7241) • Leif Lind, *Church Administrator* (909-557-5230) • Arlene Chow, *Young Adult Director* (818-472-5287) • Rudy Torres, *Pastor Emeritus* (714-318-1975) • Hovik Sarafian, *Armenian Senior Pastor* (909-796-9536) • Vartkes Azadian, *Armenian Associate Pastor* (626-335-6507) • Dorin Latacanu, *Romanian Pastor* (909-528-2545) • Ryan Bell, *Executive Director, Communitas Congregations* (323-313-4035)

Officers

Head Elder	John Nielsen (818-605-0057)
Head Deacon	Ronald Matusea (805-581-7021)
Head Deaconess	Eleanor Posner (818-281-5822)
Church Board Chair	Rudy Torres (714-318-1975)
Sanctuary Choir Director	Sébastien Vallée (831-420-7584)
Children's Choir Director	Lissie Quishenberry (lissie@crazyladymusic.com)
Organist	Kemp Smeal (714-658-4885)
Secretary	Assistant: Taylor Ruhl (909-557-5229)
Treasurer	Victoria Lucero (818-244-7241 office)
Church Clerk	Dean Vendouris (818-244-7241 office)
Pathfinder Director	Mindi Rüb (mindilus@mac.com)
Children's Ministry Asst./PR Coordinator	Hugh Gardner (626-698-8044)
Audio Visual	Anji Arm (818-632-7374)
	Michael Bandy (702-577-8005)
	Assistant: Charome Kaocharoen (818-749-5423)
A+ School Board Chair	Glen Christensen (plbboss@aol.com)
A+ School Director	Malisa Smith (818-241-9353 school)
Facilities Administrator	Wayne Libby (760-409-6719)

Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Friday 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
610 E. California • Glendale, CA 91206 • 818-244-7241 • Fax: 818-240-9485
Email: secretary@glendalecitysda.org • Website: www.glendalecitychurch.org



[facebook.com/glendalecitysda](https://www.facebook.com/glendalecitysda)

Glendale City Seventh-day Adventist Church

"Revealing Christ, affirming all."



December 28, 2013

Responsive Reading

John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. **Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.



Today's Sermon

“Jesus: The Deconstruction of God.” One of the most important things that Jesus did when he lived here was to expose and undermine a number of myths about God. Why do we keep wanting to believe in them?

ADULT SABBATH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY OPTIONS (9:30-10:30 A.M.):

- CHAPEL — SABBATH SCHOOL QUARTERLY (TRADITIONAL): Current study theme: “Major Lessons from Minor Prophets” by Zdravko Stefanovic. Subtitled “Seek the Lord and Live,” these lessons examine how God worked through the last prophets of the Old Testament to reveal God’s grace for fallen humanity.
- GRACE CENTER (FELLOWSHIP HALL, north end) — New book study: “The Rise and Fall of the Bible: The Unexpected History of an Accidental Book” by Timothy Beal. Early Christianity thrived for centuries without any Bible (or even agreement on which books to include in scripture). The author reveals how the idea of the Bible as an inerrant rulebook is a relatively modern concept, dating from the 19th century. *Note: today this class will combine with the traditional Sabbath School Quarterly class.*
- THE LIVING PROJECT (FELLOWSHIP HALL, south end) — Social and interactive sharing of personal, cultural, religious, scientific, and scriptural stories. As we connect with our stories we seek to discover our common story in God.

Opening Hymn: “Brightest and Best” (Tune: Rodman)

1. Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
Dawn on our midnight and lend us your aid.
Star of the East the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

2. Cold on the cradle the dewdrops are shining,
God’s holy Child with the beasts of the stall;
Angels adore while this baby lies sleeping,
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.

3. Shall we not offer our costly devotion,
Fragrance of Edom and offerings divine.
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest or gold from the mine?

4. Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
Vainly with gifts would we favor secure;
Richer by far is the heart’s adoration;
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.



Let Us Know When You Want a Visit. Our pastoral staff and elders are anxious to meet with you, pray with you, and support you. Help us help you! Contact the church office to set up a visit if you are being admitted to a hospital, or if you know of another member being admitted, get their permission and let us know as well. Hospitals will not contact us due to their patient privacy guidelines. As spiritual leaders, special time with you is one of our pastors’ and elders’ highest privileges.

Church Financial Snapshot

YEAR TO DATE 2013 (FOR 50 WEEKS, THROUGH NOVEMBER 23)

BUDGETED LOCAL FUNDS INCOME \$405,929
ACTUAL LOCAL FUNDS RECEIVED \$395,957
SHORTFALL \$9,972

Upcoming Sermons & Events

Elder of the Day

January 4

January 11

January 18

January 25

Anoosh Keshishzade

Todd Leonard

Communion

Todd Leonard

Leif Lind

Sunset tonight – 4:51 p.m. • Sunset next Friday – 4:56 p.m.

City Church Announcements

*All are welcome — whoever you are, whatever your journey or background.
God excludes no one, and neither do we.*

Year-End Tithing & Contributions. Please be sure for tax purposes to have your year-end contributions in **no later than noon on Tuesday, December 31.** If making donations **online, it must be by 9:00 p.m.** the evening of December 31. The office will be open until noon on December 31; after-hours contributions may be deposited in the church office mail slot. Call for special arrangements. Thank you for your blessings — and Happy New Year!

Today’s flowers are given by **Judson Ravi** in appreciation for **Todd Leonard’s ministry** to our congregation.

Rose Parade with the Pathfinders, 2013! Buy your tickets now, \$90. This includes your transportation to the event, breakfast, and seating. See Hugh Gardner for details.

Connect with our community through service: Glendale City Church is beginning to build relationships with our city! **Communitas Congregations**, the non-profit we launched last month under **Ryan Bell, director**, is providing us a couple opportunities to serve during the holiday season. If you are interested in participating in one of these projects, text Ryan at 323-313-4035 with your name and email.

Coming Soon: Online Church Campus—City Church Goes Global! The Sabbath morning worship will be rebroadcast three times a week for all who are unable—due to distance, health challenges etc.—to be physically present at church. There will be opportunity for viewers to discuss and interact with comments or questions through the chat feature, and to receive counseling or Bible study. *We are currently looking for additional chat hosts for the weekly rebroadcasts.* Spread the word to those you know: City Church will soon be globally available!

Please make a note of **Pastor Todd’s new email address**, and add it to your list of contacts: <Todd.J.Leonard@gmail.com>.

Attention e-Newsletter Subscribers! The *GCC News* was sent out recently to 151 subscribers; however, **all** the AOL addresses bounced back, and many of the *earthlink.net* addresses were rejected. If you have an AOL or Earthlink email address, please contact your email provider and request that they allow email from our Church’s **new email address, glendalecitychurch.org**. Make sure our email address the e-Newsletter comes from, **webmaster@glendalecitychurch.org**, is in your address book, contacts list, or approved sender list, and have our email address white-listed with your company if you have subscribed from a business email address.

You are invited to **become a member** of the **Friends of Music** at Glendale City Church. For decades, Friends of Music has provided support for concerts at the church. As we approach the end of the year, please consider contributing. For more information, call the church office at 818-244-7241.

The Los Angeles Northeast chapter of the **National Depression Bipolar Support Alliance** meets **every Tuesday** at Vallejo Drive, 6–8 p.m. For more information, contact Wanda Sellers: 818-352-4346 or dbsalosangelesne@org.

The American Institute of Fine Arts invites you to the 2013 Scholarship Award Concert, Saturday, December 28, 2:30 p.m. at **Hollywood Adventist Church**, featuring **Miclen LaiPang, violinist, with Abraham Fabella, pianist.** Admission is free.