



RESURRECTION
PHILADELPHIA

Sunday December 26, 2021
The First Sunday of Christmas

“THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS”

Welcome.

Thanks for joining us today for worship! We hope you find Resurrection Philadelphia to be a warm, welcoming community--regardless of your background, beliefs, or life situation. To that end, we recognize that certain parts of the service may feel unfamiliar, so we've provided brief explanations throughout the bulletin.

Our worship is "liturgical." The Greek word "leitourgia" means a public work, the work of the people. Liturgical worship begins with God's call upon us, his meeting with us, speaking among us, and ministering to us. The flow of our liturgy aims at drawing us further into the life of the Trinity and then moving us outward into our world.

Please visit our website resurrectionphl.org for more information about worship and ways to connect further to this church community. We are glad you are joining us and look forward to meeting you.

— The Pastoral Staff
Chris Currie, Scott Jennings

Reflection

The Christmas story is set not in a palace surrounded by dignitaries but among the poor and humble whose lives are always subject to forfeit. It's a reminder that the church is not most truly herself when she courts power. The church finds her voice when she remembers that God "has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble," as the Gospel of Luke puts it. The very telling of the Christmas story is an act of resistance.

-Esau McCaulley, "The Bloody Fourth Day of Christmas," New York Times, December 27, 2019

Church Calendar

ADVENT

CHRISTMAS

EPIPHANY

LENT

EASTER

PENTECOST

ORDINARY TIME

Christmas celebrates God's incarnation, which means "in the flesh." Christmas is all about the amazing truth that God took on our flesh, our bones, and our human life. The task of the Christmas liturgy is to recall us, amid all the joyful customs and celebrations of Christmas, to this central truth of the Word made flesh for our salvation.

Welcome

Opening Song

O Come, All Ye Faithful

John Francis Wade, Frederick Oakeley



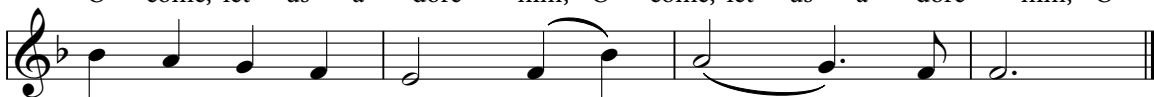
1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O come ye to
2. God of__ God,__ Light of__ light,__ lo, he ab - hors not the
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, sing, all ye ci - ti zens of
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py mor - ning; Je - sus, to thee be all



Beth - le - hem. Come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels;
vir - gin's womb. Ve - ry__ God, be - got - ten, not cre - a - ted
heav'n. a - bove; glo - ry to God__ in__ the__ high - est
glo - ry giv'n; Word of the Fa - ther, late in flesh ap - pear - ing



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, O



come, let us a - dore him,__ Christ__ the Lord.

Opening of Worship

Grace, mercy, and peace
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All And also with you.

The Lord is king!

All Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!

Clouds and thick darkness are all around him;

righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

His lightnings light up the world;

the earth sees and trembles.

The Lord loves those who hate evil;

he guards the lives of his faithful;

he rescues them from the hand of the wicked.

Light dawns for the righteous,

and joy for the upright in heart.

from Psalm 97

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Doxology

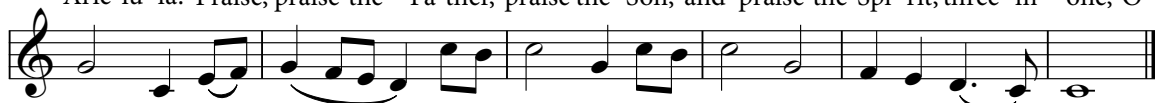
Francis of Assisi, Jonathan Gilley



1. All ye who are of ten der heart, for- giv ing oth- ers take your part. Sing his prais- es,
2. Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and worship him with hum ble ness! O__ praise him,



Alle-lu ia! Ye, who long pain and sor- row bear, praise God and on him cast your care! O
Alle-lu ia! Praise, praise the Fa ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spi- rit, three in one, O



praise him! O__ praise__him! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
praise him! O__ praise__him! Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

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GOD SANCTIFIES US
TO HIMSELF

Throughout Scripture, when people find themselves in God's presence, they sense how far short they fall and become aware of their own shame and brokenness. In the same way, we make a confession of sin, both as a community and also silently as individuals. In this, we remember that God is always ready, by his mercy and grace, to forgive us.

Confession of Sin

All Holy God, Lord of love, forgive us
for not sharing with the world the good that you do;
for not trusting the love that surrounds us;
for not enacting the justice you call us to;
for not believing the Good News is meant for all.
Encourage us, and change us,
that we, like Mary, will magnify you,
and rejoice in God our Savior.

Silence is kept.

Words of Comfort and Assurance of Pardon

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw you to himself
and cleanse you from all your sins,
that you may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Song of Praise and Adoration

Come See a Child of Low Estate

W.D. Springett, Karl Digerness



1. Come, see a child of low estate, in man - ger bed re - clin
2. For man he comes to rend the veil which hides death's gloom y por
3. Come, see a child of low estate, in man - ger bed re - clin



- ing; yet on his hum - ble dwel - ling place bright stars.
- tal, and make a home where man with him in peace
- ing; yet on his hum - ble dwel - ling place the Fa -



in heav'n are shin - ing. This lit - tle babe is Christ
may dwell, im - mor - tal. He comes to tri - umph o'er
- ther's love is shin - ing. So may we all the pat -



- the Lord, whom saints have long ex - pec - ted, for man he comes to live -
- the grave and rise on Eas - ter mor - ning, and reign in heav'n at God's
- tern take from Je - sus, meek and low - ly: may we his faith - ful ser -



- and die, des - pised, be - trayed, re - jec - ted.
- right hand un - til the last day's daw - ning.
- vants be kept by his Spi - rit ho - ly!

©City Hymns

Passing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

In the public reading of the word of God and its exposition in the sermon, God shares the story of his saving mission in Jesus, encouraging us to join in that mission and orienting us again to his priorities.

The Word of God

New Testament reading: Hebrews 1:1-9

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. ⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you"? Or again, "I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"? ⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." ⁷Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire." ⁸But of the Son he says, "Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom. ⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading: Luke 2:15-20

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁵When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Reflection

"The Joy of Christmas" – Rev. Chris Currie

Creed

All I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe 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, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living 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.

Prayers

Members of the congregation lead us in prayer.

Christ, born in a stable,
give courage to all who are homeless.
Christ, for whom the angels sang,
give the song of the kingdom to all who weep.
For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Christ, worshiped by the shepherds,
give peace on earth to all who are oppressed.
Christ, before whom the wise men knelt,
give humility and wisdom to all who govern.
For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Christ, whose radiance filled a lowly manger,
give the glory of your resurrection to all who rest in you.
Jesus, Savior, child of Mary,
you know us and love us.
Glory be to you forever.
For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

And for what else should we pray?

Members of the congregation may add their own intercessions at this time, ending with,

For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

*Having offered
ourselves up in faith
through the creed,
affirming the power
of God's redemption,
we lift up the
church, our world,
and other needs to
God in prayer for
his provision and
healing.*

Now gathering our prayers into one, let us pray boldly as our Savior has taught us:

All 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 and ever.
Amen.

Communion

The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

The Eucharistic Prayer

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.
For in your son Jesus
we see our God made visible
and so are caught up in the love of the God we cannot see.
And so we gladly thank you,
with saints and angels praising you and singing:

Sanctus

Ho-ly, ho-ly ho-ly Lord, God of power and might. Hea-ven and earth are
full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na, Ho-san-na in the high-est!
Bles-sed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Ho-san-na in the high-est.

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The minister concludes the Eucharistic Prayer.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honor and glory are yours, O loving Father,
forever and ever.

All Amen.

The minister speaks the Words of Institution.

Memorial Acclamation

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us.

All Therefore, let us keep the feast.

Communion Song

What Child Is This

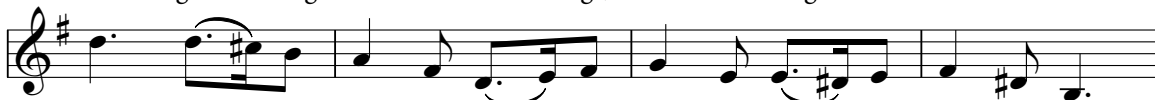
William C. Dix



1. What child is this_ who, laid to rest_ on Ma - ry's lap_ is sleep - ing?
2. Why lies he in_ such mean es - tate,_ where ox and ass_ are feed - ing?
3. So bring him in - cense, gold and myrrh, come pea - sant, king_ to own him;



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris - tians, fear,_ for sin - ners here_ the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
the King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let lo - ving hearts en - throne him.



This, this_ is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you.
Raise, raise_ a song on high,_ the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.



haste, haste, to bring him laud, the babe, the son_ of Ma - ry.
Hail, hail_ the Word made flesh, the babe, the son_ of Ma - ry.
Joy, joy_ for Christ is born, the babe, the son_ of Ma - ry.

Prayer after Communion

All God our Father,
whose Word has come among us
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
may the light of faith illumine our hearts
and shine in our words and deeds.
Amen.

Blessing and Sending

Joy to the World

Isaac Watts, George Frideric Handel



1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come; let earth re -
2. Joy to the earth! the Sav - iour reigns; let men their
3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the



ceive her King; _____ let ev' - ry _____ heart _____ pre - pare him
songs em - ploy; _____ while fields and floods, _____ rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; _____ he comes to _____ make _____ his bles - sings
na - tions prove _____ the glo - ries _____ of _____ his right - eous -



room, _____ and heav'n and na - ture sing, and _____ heav'n and na - ture
plains _____ re - peat the soun - ding joy, re - peat the soun - ding
flow _____ far as the curse is _____ found, far _____ as the curse is _____
-ness, _____ and won - ders of his _____ love, and _____ won - ders of his _____



sing, and _____ heav'n, and heav'n, _____ and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat _____ the soun - ding joy.
found, far _____ as, _____ far as, _____ the curse is found.
love, and _____ won - ders, won - ders, of his love.

Benediction

May Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,
fill you with his grace to trust his promises
and obey his will;
and the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be among you, and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Dismissal

Let us go forth to serve the world as those who love our Lord
and Savior Jesus Christ.

All Thanks be to God.

*If you'd like to contribute to the work of our church, you can do so
at the address below or text any amount to the number 84321.
resurrectionphl.org/give*

*Resurrection Philadelphia office & mailing location:
123 S 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103*

Announcements

Join us for worship on January 2 at 9:30 am in Center City There will be no W Philly 11 am service on this date. We will have Children's Church at the service in Center City.

Officer Nominations Now Open! Our Officer Nomination committee is looking for nominations for elder and deacon. Nominations will close Sunday, January 16 at 5 pm. For details on what we're looking for and how to nominate someone, visit resurrectionphl.org/nominations.

Art of Hard Conversations: How Do You Feel About Race? Saturday, January 15 at 10 am. Join us as we talk with a diverse panel about how it feels to walk through spaces like the church, academy, and social media with different colors of skin. How do historical events influence the current experience in place? Do we "think" about race differently than we "feel" about race? Panelists are Ruth Naomi Floyd, Rasool Berry, and Michael Chen. Register at resurrectionphl.org/conversations.

Winter Coat Collection for Emmanuel We're gathering men's and women's gently used winter coats, hats and gloves to distribute to the community members who take part in the Emmanuel meals (served from our Center City building). Please drop items in the box in the entry lobby in Center City. Coats will be distributed on a rolling basis.

Bartholomew Mailing Address 'Tis the season for Christmas cards! If you'd like to send one to Tuck and Stacy Bartholomew, you can send it to their VA address: 1602 Hardwood Ave, Charlottesville, VA 22903



Please provide us your feedback
as we together seek to refine our
gathered worship each week.

Musicians

Christopher McDonald: piano, voice

Sarah Long: voice

Matt Engle: bass

Anwar Marshall: drums

Liturgist & Scripture Reading

Kory Stamper

Celebrant

Rev. Scott Jennings

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Prayer of Confession adapted from Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, "Hold Fast to What Is Good". Used with permission.

Help us welcome you.

Name(s): _____

Children & their ages: _____

If undergrad or grad student, school & year: _____

Address: _____

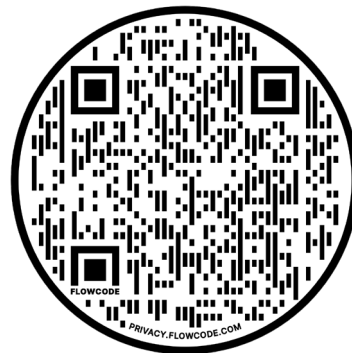
Phone number(s): _____

Email(s): _____

Please send me: Weekly Newsletter Morning & Evening Prayer

Please contact me about:

- Community Groups
- Neighborhood Service Opportunities
- Volunteering on Sundays
- Children's & Youth Ministries
- Meeting with a Pastor
- Other: _____



Prayer Requests

Our staff prays weekly on Tuesdays, and our deacons pray monthly on 4th Sundays.

Fill out your name above if you'd like to be prayed for by name.

Please tear off this back page and place in the box by the welcome table.



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