



RESURRECTION
PHILADELPHIA

Sunday December 5, 2021
The 2nd Sunday of Advent

“WATCHING AND WAITING”

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

In a very real sense, the Christian community lives in Advent all the time. It can well be called the Time Between, because the people of God live in *the time between* the first coming of Christ, incognito in the stable in Bethlehem, and his second coming, in glory, to judge the living and the dead.... Advent contains within itself the crucial balance of the now and the not-yet that our faith requires.

-Fleming Rutledge, *Advent: The Once and Future Coming of Jesus Christ*

Church Calendar

ADVENT

CHRISTMAS

EPIPHANY

LENT

EASTER

PENTECOST

ORDINARY TIME

Advent is a season of hopeful expectation and preparation, as the Church anticipates the coming of Christ – both at his birth in Bethlehem many years ago, and at his future, final coming to judge the world at the end of time. During Advent, we prepare our hearts for the Lord, so that when he comes, he may find us watching and waiting.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Reading

Isaiah 9:6-7

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

A period of silence is kept.

The light shines in the darkness,

All and the darkness has not overcome it.

Opening Song

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

12th C. Latin, John Mason Neale, Thomas Helmore

1. O come, O come, Em - ma - nu - el, and ran - som cap tive Is - ra - el,
2. O come, thou Rod of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny;
3. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen wide our heav'n - ly home;
4. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the hearts of all man kind;

that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
from depths of hell thy peo - ple save, and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to mi - se - ry.
bid thou our sad di - vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

Re joi - ce! Re joi - ce! Em - ma - nu - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

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 night is far spent, the day is now at hand:

All let us cast off works of darkness and put on armor of light!

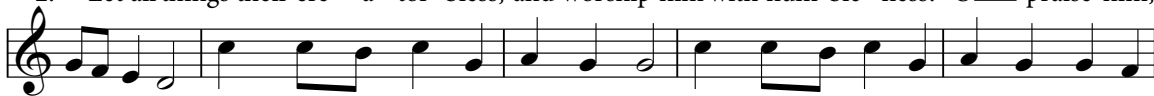
Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Doxology

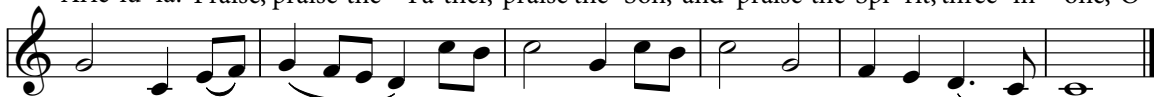
Francis of Assisi, Jonathan Gilley



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 Merciful God, we offer you our lives,
full as they are of shadow and light,
of kindness and apathy,
of hope and despair.
Take what is broken and mend it;
take what is wrong and right it;
take what is destructive and disable it;
take what is useless and make it useful.
Heal our sin, we pray.

Silence is kept.

Words of Comfort and Assurance of Pardon

May God, who loved the world so much
that he sent his Son to be our Savior,
forgive you your sins
and make you holy to serve him in the world.

All Amen.

Song of Praise and Adoration

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Johannes Olearius, Catherine Winkworth, Johann Schop



1. Com-fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
2. For the he - rald's voice is cry - ing in the de - sert far and near,
3. Yea, her sins our God will par - don, blot ting out each dark mis deed;
4. Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er pla - ces plain:



com-fort those who sit in dark ness, mour ning 'neath their sor row's load.
bid-ding all men to re - pen tance, since the king - dom now is here.
all that well de - served his an - ger he will no more see nor heed.
let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits his ho - ly reign,



Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
O that war - ning cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way!
She has suf - fered many a day, now her griefs have passed a - way,
for the glo - ry of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad,



tell her that her sins I co - ver, and her war - fare now is o - ver.
Let the val - leys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him.
God will change her pin - ing sad - ness in - to e - ver spring - ing glad ness.
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that his word is ne - ver bro - ken.

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

Old Testament reading: Habakkuk 1:12-2:3

¹²Are you not from of old, O Lord my God, my Holy One? You shall not die. O Lord, you have marked them for judgment; and you, O Rock, have established them for punishment. ¹³Your eyes are too pure to behold evil, and you cannot look on wrongdoing; why do you look on the treacherous, and are silent when the wicked swallow those more righteous than they? ¹⁴You have made people like the fish of the sea, like crawling things that have no ruler. ¹⁵The enemy brings all of them up with a hook; he drags them out with his net, he gathers them in his seine; so he rejoices and exults. ¹⁶Therefore he sacrifices to his net and makes offerings to his seine; for by them his portion is lavish, and his food is rich. ¹⁷Is he then to keep on emptying his net, and destroying nations without mercy?

¹I will stand at my watchpost, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. ²Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. ³For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading: Luke 3:1a, 2b-6

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

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

¹For fifteen years, Emperor Tiberius had ruled that part of the world...²During this time, John, the son of Zechariah, was living in the desert, and he received a message from God. ³So John went along the Jordan Valley and told the people God's message. He told them, "Turn back to God and be baptized! Then your sins will be forgiven."
⁴This is like the words written in the book of Isaiah the prophet:

"In the desert someone is shouting,

'Get the road ready for the Lord! Make a straight path for him.

⁵Every valley will be filled, and every mountain and hill will be made flat.

Crooked roads will be made straight, and rough roads will be made smooth.

⁶Then everyone will see how God will save his people!"

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Reflection

"Watching and Waiting" – 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.

Our Maker and Redeemer,
keep us watchful at all times,
and give us the strength to stand with confidence
as we wait for you to come again.

For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Bring in your kingdom with justice and mercy.
Establish among the nations
your sceptre of righteousness.

For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Bind up the brokenhearted,
restore the sick,
and raise up all who have fallen.
May the light of your coming dawn
on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death.

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 indeed right and good to give you thanks and praise,
almighty God and everlasting Father,
through Jesus Christ your Son.

For in his coming the day of our deliverance has dawned,
and through him you will make all things new,
as he comes in power and triumph to judge the world.

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.
Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!

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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.

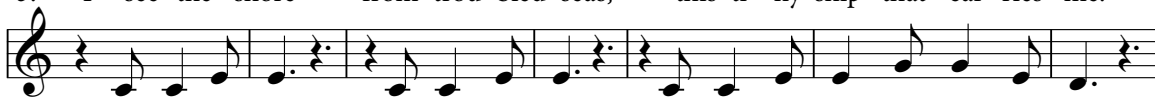
Communion Song

God's Highway

Sandra McCracken



1. My feet are strong, my eyes are clear, I can-not see the way from here.
2. The sha-dows flee, the valley is deep, but e - vil can - not con - quer me.
3. I see the shore from trou - bled seas, this ti - ny ship that car - ries me.



But on we go, he knows the way, and in his arms he keeps me safe.
Your rod and staff, they pro- tect me; you give me rest, you give me peace.
It is not yet but it will be, so heav - en, come, it's you we need.



Fear not, keep on, watch and pray; walk in the light of God's high - way.



I'm hol - ding on - to you, Lord, you're hol - ding on - to me.

©2015 Drink Your Tea Music

Prayer after Communion

All O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord;
that, when he shall appear,
he may find us active in his service
and joyful in his praise.
Amen.

Blessing and Sending

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Psalm 24, Weissel, Winkworth, Psalmodia Evangelica



1. Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates, be - hold the King of__
2. The Lord is just, a help - er tried, mer - cy is ev - er__
3. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart, make it a tem - ple__
4. Re - deem - er, come! I op - en wide my heart to thee, here,



glo - ry waits, the King of kings is draw - ing__
at his side, his king - ly crown is hol - i -
set a - part from earth - ly use for heav'n's em -
Lord, a - bidel! Let me thy in - ner pre - sence_



near, the sav - ior of__ the__ world is here.
ness, his scep - ter, pi - ty__ in dis - tress.
ploy, a - dorned with pray'r_ and__ love and joy.
feel, thy grace and love__ in__ me re - veal!

Benediction

May God the Son,
who comes to us as redeemer and judge,
reveal to you the path from darkness to light;
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*

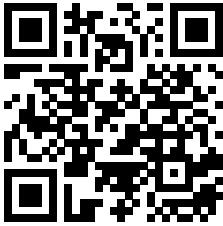
Announcements

Youth Bake Sale after Both Services TODAY! Plan to get something delicious and support the summer youth mission trip

Ethical Considerations in Scientific Research Saturday, December 11, 10 am - 12 noon. For the next event in our “The Art of Hard Conversations” series, our guest is Jeff Hardin. Jeff Hardin pursued a Masters of Divinity before pursuing his doctoral degree in biology. As such, he is intimately aware of the tensions that exist between science and theology. He is now the chair of the Department of Integrative Biology at the University of Wisconsin. In addition to numerous scientific research articles relating to embryonic development, Hardin is senior author of *World of the Cell*. Sign up at resurrectionphl.org/conversations.

Lessons & Carols Service, December 12 at 5 pm Pick up postcards (see image below) in the back to help you invite friends to this annual event, which we will hold in Center City this year. (Note: in light of Lessons and Carols, there will not be morning worship services on December 12.)





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

Musicians

Center City

Rachel Allison: voice
Evan Chapman: drums
Christopher McDonald: piano, voice
Jeremy McDonald: keyboards
Charlie Muench: bass

West Philly

Matt Engle: bass
Sarah Long: guitar, voice
Mike Szekely: drums

Liturgist

Center City

Arlene Navarro

West Philly

Jonathan Bassett

Scripture Reading

Center City

Lindsay Kimball

West Philly

Jonathan Bassett

Celebrant

Rev. Scott Jennings

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Prayer of Confession written by 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: _____

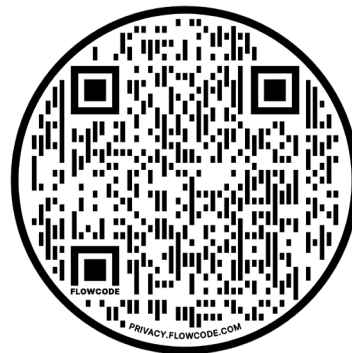
Phone number(s): _____

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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resurrectionphl.org