



RESURRECTION
PHILADELPHIA

Sunday December 18, 2022
The 4th Sunday of Advent

IMAGES OF HOPE
“A CHILD NAMED EMMANUEL”

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 the dark, we see the stars.

-Anne Lamott

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: Romans 1:1-7

¹Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

A period of silence is kept.

People of God: prepare!
God, above all, maker of all,
is one with us in Christ.
Maranatha!

All Come, Lord Jesus!

God, the mighty God,
bends down in love to earth.
Maranatha!

All Come, Lord Jesus!

God with us, God beside us,
comes soon to the world he has made.
Maranatha!

All Come, Lord Jesus!

We are God's children,
we seek the coming Christ.
Maranatha!

All Come, Lord Jesus!

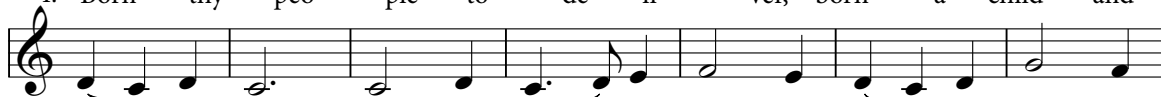
Opening Song

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Charles Wesley, Rowland Pritchard



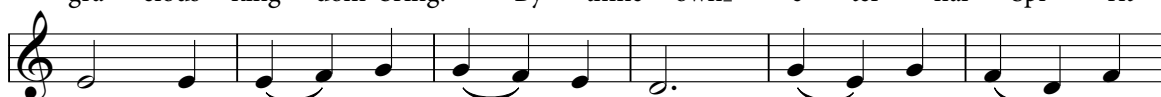
1. Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy
2. Joy to those_ who long to see_ thee, Day - spring from on
3. Come to earth_ to taste our sad - ness, he whose glo - ries
4. Born thy peo - ple to de - li - ver, born a child and



peo - ple free; from our fears_ and sins re - lease us; let us
high, ap - pear; come, thou pro - mised Rod of Jes - se, of thy
knew no end; by his life_ he brings us glad - ness, our Re -
yet_ a king, born to reign_ in us for - e - ver, now thy



find our rest_ in thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion,
birth we long to hear! O'er the hills_ the an - gels sing - ing
dee - mer, Shep - herd, Friend. Leav - ing rich - es with - out num - ber,
gra - cious king - dom bring. By thine own_ e - ter - nal Spi - rit



hope of all_ the earth thou art, dear_ De - sire_ of
news, glad ti - dings of_ a birth; "Go_ to him,_ your
born with - in_ a cat - tle stall; this_ the e - ver -
rule in all_ our hearts a - lone; by_ thine all - suf -



ev - ry na - tion, joy of ev - ry long - ing heart.
prai - ses bring - ing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."
las - ting won - der, Christ was born the Lord of all.
fi - cient me - rit, raise us to_ thy glo - rious throne.

Opening of Worship

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

All And also with you.

Responsive Psalm Reading

Restore us, O God;

All let your face shine, that we may be saved.

O Lord God of hosts,

how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

You have fed them with the bread of tears,

and given them tears to drink in full measure.

But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand,

the one whom you made strong for yourself.

Then we will never turn back from you;

give us life, and we will call on your name.

from Psalm 80

Prayer of Adoration and Thanksgiving

Doxology

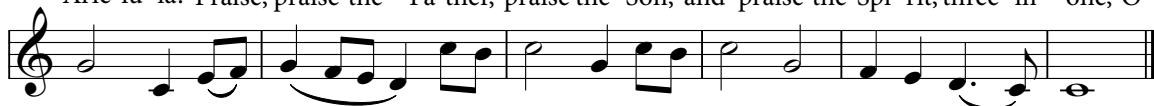
Francis of Assisi, Jonathan Gilley



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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Confession of Sin

All Heavenly Father,
you exalted the humble and meek:
give us humble and contrite hearts.
Lord Jesus,
you grew towards birth in the Virgin's womb:
be planted also in our hearts and lives.
Holy Spirit,
you overshadowed Mary,
that she might become the God-bearer:
fill us with your heavenly gifts.

Silence is kept.

Words of Comfort and Assurance of Pardon

May almighty God,
forgive you your sins,
open your eyes to God's truth,
strengthen you to do God's will,
and give you the joy of his kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

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.

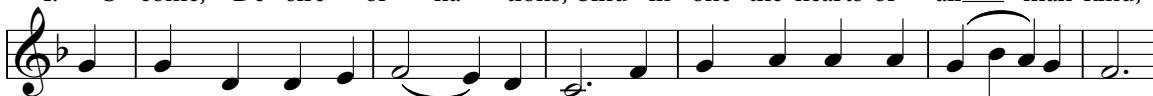
Song of Praise and Adoration

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

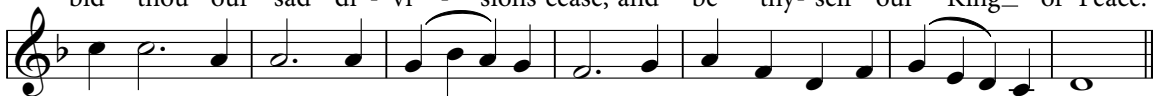
12th C. Latin, John Mason Neale, Thomas Helmore



1. O come, O come, Em - ma - nu - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el,
2. O come, thou Wis - dom from_ on high, and or - der all things far_ and nigh;
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.
to us the path of know - ledge show, and cause us in her ways_ to go.
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 joice! Re joice! Em - ma - nu - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Pre-school children are invited to go to their classes at this time. Elementary children through grade 5 are invited to Children's Church and will return during the Song of Response, following the Reflection.

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.

The Word of God

Old Testament reading: Isaiah 7:10-16

¹⁰Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading: Matthew 1:18-25

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

GOD SPEAKS TO US
IN HIS WORD

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.

Reflection

“A Child Named Emmanuel” – Dr. Cyndi Parker

Song of Response

Mary's Song

Wendell Kimbrough



1. My soul mag-ni - fies the Lord; my spi - rit re - joi - ces in_ God!
2. He scat-ters the proud and rich; he lifts up the hum-ble and weak.
3. From now to the end of time, the na-tions will know me as_ blest



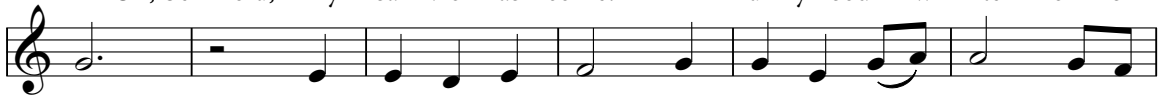
My sa - vior has_ seen his ser - vant in__
The kings of the_ earth, he casts from their
for God has made new his pro - mise of__



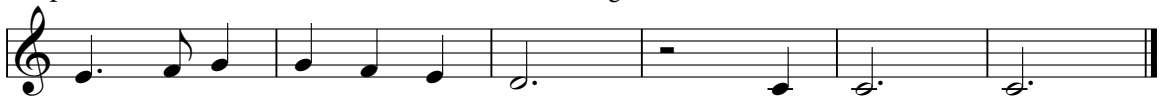
need, and be - hold the great things he has done:
thrones, and the hun - gry he wel-comes to feast.
love and_ mer - cy through A - bra - ham's seed.



Oh, be - hold, my sa - vior has come! And my soul will tell of his



praise for he who is strong has come to the weak and, at



last, he will reign as our king of peace.

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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.

*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.*

Prayers

Members of the congregation lead us in prayer.

O Emmanuel, our King and our lawgiver,
the hope of the nations and their Savior:
Come and save us, O Lord our God.

For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Though Mary was afraid
when she received the message of Gabriel,
she responded to your call with joy.
Help us, whom you call to serve you,
to share like her in your great work
of bringing to our world your love and healing.

For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Lord, speak peace to those who are far off;
renew the waste places of our world;
fill all who are broken with your life and your grace.

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.

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.

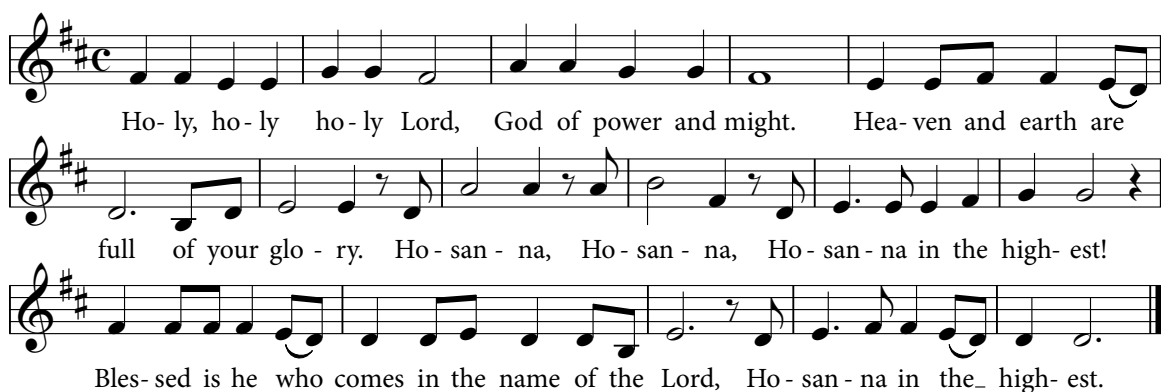
GOD STRENGTHENS US AT HIS TABLE

Communion, also called the Lord's Supper, is the family meal of Christians. We invite all baptized followers of Jesus Christ to participate. If you are not a follower of Jesus or are not prepared to share in the meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer. We hope this time is helpful to you as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ and with his people, the church.

The Eucharistic Prayer

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.
For in the coming of the Lord Jesus
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.

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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.

We use wine in Communion. Non-alcoholic white grape juice and a gluten-free option are also available if preferred. Please discard your Communion cup as you leave worship.

Prayers for Reflection

Prayer for those searching

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and lead me to the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise.

Prayer of belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weak and sinful, but through you, I am loved and accepted. I thank you for taking my place in death in order to offer me forgiveness and renewal. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and my Lord.

Prayer for those struggling

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and faithfully follow you in life.

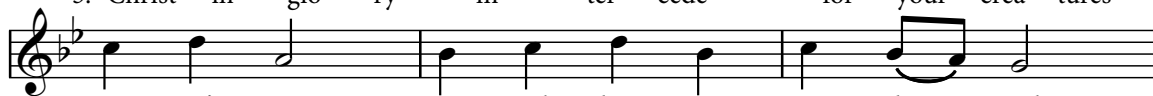
Blessing and Sending

Savior of the Nations, Come

St. Ambrose, Calvisius, Luther, Seerveld



1. Sa - vior of the na - tions, come; show your - self, the
2. Not by hu - man pow'r or seed did the wo - man's
3. Ma - ry then was found with child, still a vir - gin,
4. Christ laid down his ma - je - sty, passed through dark Geth -
5. Christ in glo - ry in - ter - cede for your crea - tures'



vir - gin's son. Mar - vel, hea - ven, won - der, — earth
womb con - ceive; on - ly by the Spi - rit's — breath
chaste and mild. God had fa - vored her with — grace
se - ma - ne. Though he left his Fa - ther's — home,
suf - f'ring need. Let your re - sur - rec - ting — pow'r



that our God chose such — a birth.
was the Word of God — made flesh.
to re - ceive the Prince of Peace.
Christ now sits on God's — own throne.
soon com - plete the vic - t'ry hour.

CCLI #1335649 ©1984 Calvin Seerveld

The offering is part of our worship together, an opportunity to participate in the ministry of Resurrection. If you are visiting, please don't feel obligated to give— we're grateful simply for your presence here today.

**GOD SENDS US
INTO THE WORLD**

We have responded to God's call, heard his word, offered ourselves to his service, and received strength at his table. Now, at the close of worship, God sends us out to carry forward the gospel story.

"I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, he became poor, so that through his poverty you might become rich" - 2 Corinthians 8:8-9

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

Benediction

May God the Holy Spirit,
by whose working the Virgin Mary conceived the Christ,
help you bear the fruits of holiness;
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.

Musicians

Christopher McDonald: piano, voice

Rachel Allison: voice

Liturgist

Rachel Allison

Scripture Reading

Elizabeth Bassett

Resurrection Philadelphia CCLI License #2772464. Scriptures quoted from the NRSV bible © 1989 NCCUSA.

CONNECT

COMMUNITY GROUPS Gathering missionally throughout the week for times of service, fellowship, prayer, and deeper study of the Scriptures. Groups range in size from 10-15 people, and most meet weekly. If you are looking for a way to connect with and care for the people around you, join the group nearest you! Go to www.resurrectionphl.org/communitygroups to see more details and to reach out to a group leader for one of the groups below.

West Philly

- 45th & Larchwood, Sundays 9am
- 48th & Larchwood, Thursdays 7:00pm
- 48th & Walton, every other Sunday 4pm
- 48th & Baltimore, every other Thursday 6:45pm
- Spruce Hill Area, Tuesdays 7pm

Western Burbs

- Western Burbs (Zoom), every other Thursday, 8pm

Center-City

- Old City, Wednesdays 6:45p

Fairmount

- Fairmount #1, weekly, Sundays 4pm
- Fairmount #2, 1st & 3rd Sundays 5pm at Common Table

South Philly

- Passyunk Square, various meeting times during the month
- Italian Market, Wednesdays, 7pm
- Point Breeze, Tuesdays, 7pm

FAMILY MINISTRIES come alongside families as they disciple their children, seeking to help them cultivate friendships, connect with the wider church community, and grow into maturity as people of faith.

- **Children's Ministry.** Our Sunday morning children's classes use a gospel-centered curriculum with scripture, stories, and activities to help children find their place in God's big story. Children leave the service at the Passing of the Peace. Elementary age children return during the hymn of response. The **"Ends of the Earth" Sunday evening program** runs on nights we have Common Table and invites kids to explore what it means to be a global disciple of Christ through music, games, and age-group classes. Contact Terri Taylor, terri@resurrectionphl.org
- **Resurrection Youth, Sundays 5-7 pm.** Students and Volunteer Leaders gather at the Center City building to hang out, play games, and explore questions of faith and belonging to Christ. Contact Elizabeth Bassett, youthleader@resurrectionphl.org

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Resurrection hosts a weekly group for undergrads that meets on Penn's campus at 7pm each Wednesday. Both undergraduate and graduate students are also invited to participate in a student fellowship that will meet during Resurrection's Common Table gathering that happens on 1st and 3rd Sunday evenings. Reach out to Ryan McCormick (ryan@resurrectionphl.org) for more information about these events.

GROW

Resurrection is a community committed to growing in our life of joy and peace through communion with God in Christ. God uses many means to form his children into his likeness. As a church family, Resurrection seeks to become more like Jesus by engaging spiritual practices that Christians historically have embraced for their growth. At right are a few links to help you get started.

- Join “Resurrection Rhythms” to foster spiritual growth through practices resurrectionphl.org/practices
- Sign up to receive Daily Prayer in your inbox resurrectionphl.org/daily-prayer to help you get started.

GIVE

The intentional financial participation of those who consider Resurrection Philadelphia their church home is vital. If you are not already tithing regularly, please prayerfully consider doing so. Our desire in giving is not only to meet our own needs but to be able to serve others in our city and neighborhoods. Here are a few ways that you can contribute financially to Resurrection Philadelphia:

- Give online | resurrectionphl.org/give
- Text any amount to 84321, follow the link, and select Resurrection Philadelphia
- Checks may be mailed or arranged through Electronic Bill Pay to be sent to: Resurrection Philadelphia, 123 S 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

SERVE

We seek to be a church that demonstrates the love of Christ to our city. This year, our deacons have cultivated partnerships with several local organizations. To view current opportunities to serve, please visit <https://www.resurrectionphl.org/serve-city>



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cocoa, Cookie & Carols Today at the Woodland Annex, 4 pm

All are welcome to Cocoa, Cookies & Carols at the Woodland Annex this Sunday, December 18, from 4-5 pm. The event will take place regardless of weather, moving inside to Kirk Hall if too cold or wet outside. Weather permitting, we'll have a fire pit going! There will be a train set up for kids to enjoy, and we'll provide cocoa and cookies--but you can bring some from home too if you'd like to round out the table!

Christmas Eve Service, Saturday, December 24 at 5 pm

Our Christmas Eve Service will be at 5 pm at the Center City Building. This is a family-friendly service--children are welcome to attend!

Jan Term Schedule Posted!

Our pattern has been to pause community groups during January and take time for study, reflection, and different kinds of connections. You can explore the offerings this January at resurrectionphl.org/jan-term.

Year-End Giving to Resurrection

We are behind budgeted giving for the 2022 calendar year. Please be in prayer for our consistory (our elders and deacons) as they pray and consider how to budget and plan for 2023 in a way that will be both sustainable and fruitful. If you would like to make a year-end gift, you may do so at resurrectionphl.org/give or by texting any amount to 84321, following the link, and selecting Resurrection Philadelphia.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

December

- 18** Cookies, Cocoa & Carols
@ Woodland, 4 pm
- 24** Christmas Eve Service
@ CC, 5 pm
- 25** Worship Service
@ CC, 10:30 am

January

- 1** Worship Service
@ WCHS, 10:30am

Help us welcome you.

Name(s): _____

Children & their ages: _____

If undergrad or grad student, school & year: _____

Address: _____

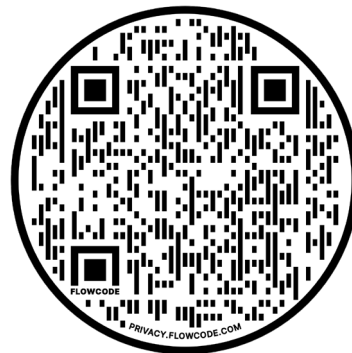
Phone number(s): _____

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