



2nd Sunday of Advent
Sunday December 7th, 2025
Redemption Lutheran Church
8001 Bustleton Ave.
Philadelphia PA 19152
www.redemptionphiladelphia.org

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH/GATHERING

(The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God)

SONG/Lighting of Advent Wreath - *O Come O Come Emmanuel* - Stanza 1
See next page

LITANY

P: At every beginning there is a yearning for the one who is coming.

O Emmanuel,

C: Open us up for your coming

P: We gather together to allow our deeply held hopes to be reshaped by God's promises. O Emmanuel,

C: Open us up for your coming

P: We wait for the day when God will make for us a future that is no longer predicated on our fear. O Emmanuel,

C: Open us up for your coming

P: We find a new receptivity within us that desires God's will over our own will and relies on God's justice and mercy to accomplish it. O Emmanuel,

C: Open us up to your coming

P: Jesus, we welcome your presence now
with the lighting of these candles,
whose flames bring warmth to winter
and fill this place with the glow of hope.

C: Amen.

SONG/Lighting of Advent Wreath - *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* - Stanza 4

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



- 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
- 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
- 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
- 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

The assembly stands.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.

C: Amen.

P: God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance. Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin. Everlasting God:

C: You love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world. Amen.

P: Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of ☩ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN – Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus ELW - 254

GREETING

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

C: And also with you

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

(God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

A: A reading from Isaiah

- ¹ A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.
² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.
³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see
or decide by what his ears hear,
⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor
and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist

and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

- ⁶ The wolf shall live with the lamb;
the leopard shall lie down with the kid;
the calf and the lion will feed together,
and a little child shall lead them.
- ⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
- ⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.
- ⁹ They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰ On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 72:1-7,18-19

The Psalm is read responsively.

- ¹ Give the king your jus- | tice, O God,
and your righteousness to | the king's son;
² **that he may rule your | people righteously**
and the | poor with justice;
³ that the mountains may bring prosperity | to the people,
and the | hills, in righteousness.
- ⁴ **Let him defend the needy a- | mong the people,**
rescue the poor, and crush | the oppressor. R
- ⁵ May he live as long as the sun and | moon endure,

from one generation | to another.
⁶ **Let him come down like rain upon | the mown field,
like showers that wa- | ter the earth.**
⁷ In his time may the | righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall | be no more.
¹⁸ **Blessed are you, LORD God, the | God of Israel;
you alone do | wondrous deeds!**
¹⁹ And blessed be your glorious | name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. A- | men. Amen. **R**

SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13

A: A reading from Romans

⁴ Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors ⁹ and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles
and sing praises to your name”;
¹⁰ and again he says,
“Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”;
¹¹ and again,
“Praise the Lord, all you gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him”;
¹² and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the gentiles;
in him the gentiles shall hope.”

¹³ May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

A: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

Sung Twice

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

The first line of musical notation is for the first phrase. It consists of a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp). The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody starts on a whole note G4, followed by a half note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a half note D5, and a whole note E5. The bass staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The bass line starts on a whole note G3, followed by a half note A3, a quarter note B3, a quarter note C4, a half note D4, and a whole note E4. The lyrics "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." are written below the staves.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

The second line of musical notation is for the second phrase. It consists of a treble and bass staff in G major (one sharp). The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody starts on a whole note G4, followed by a half note A4, a quarter note B4, a quarter note C5, a half note D5, and a whole note E5. The bass staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The bass line starts on a whole note G3, followed by a half note A3, a quarter note B3, a quarter note C4, a half note D4, and a whole note E4. The lyrics "Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!" are written below the staves.

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ² “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” ³ This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.’ ”

⁴ Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵ Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, ⁶ and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? ⁸ Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, ⁹ and do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹² His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

The assembly remains seated.

Rev. Gwendolyn King

Hymn of the Day – On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry ELW - 249

The assembly stands.

THE APOSTLES CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 OF INTERCESSION

Each prayer ends with the words, "God of Grace" and the congregation responds, "Hear our prayer."

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, Peace be with you," or similar words.

MEAL

(God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.)

The assembly stands.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

P: God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

DIALOGUE

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you

P: Lift up your hearts

C: We lift them up to the Lord

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise

PREFACE

The presiding minister continues:

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,' with a triplet of eighth notes on 'pow-er'. The second staff continues with 'heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -' and includes two triplet markings over eighth notes. The third staff contains 'san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the' and the fourth staff concludes with 'name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The piece ends with a double bar line.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

C: Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together. Come, take your place at the table.

The assembly may be seated. The bread is broken for communion

COMMUNION

You may come to the rail to receive communion. The bread is gluten free, and you may dip it in the wine or grape juice. If you can't come to the rail communion will be brought to you.

COMMUNION SONG - *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* - ELW 490



- 1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and trem - bling stand;
- 2 King of kings, yet born of Mar - y, as of old on earth he stood,
- 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard on the way;
- 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim with sleep - less eye,



pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture, in the bod - y and the blood,
as the Light of light, de - scend - ing from the realms of end - less day,
veil their fac - es to the pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry:



Christ our God to earth de - scend - ing comes full hom - age to de - mand.
he will give to all the faith - ful his own self for heav'n - ly food.
comes, the pow'rs of hell to van - quish, as the dark - ness clears a - way.
"Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!"

P: The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

P: Let us pray. Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior. **C: Amen**

SENDING

(God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.)

BLESSING

P: The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the anointing of the Spirit ✠ remain upon you now and forever.

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN – *Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding! ELW - 246*

DISMISSAL

P: Go in Peace, Be Surprised!

C: Thanks be to God.

Worship Permissions

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Our Prayer List

Our Community: Bob Conn, Mabel Turner, Ethel Metz.

Our Friends: Terry Gara, Lea and Paul Ressler, Ruth Mann, Melissa Kuchler, Linda Moore, Robert Donnelly and Family, Patricia Weiser, Eileen Krygier, Kathy Schultz, Shannon Puitro, Josh, Sue & Dave Goldstein, Jack Horvath, friend of Diane & John Graham, Joe Wolf, Mason Family, Nina Liptak, Barbara Laudenbacker, Jim Kellmer, Jill Edwards, Dorrie Schenkel, Mark Strenger, Freddie Schrat.

Announcements

During this time of pastoral transition, we want to share our financial status with the congregation by reporting the amount budgeted for monthly offering income, versus actual monthly offering income. Budgeted monthly offering income for November was \$4,200, and we received \$3,547.

Feast of Justice Collection – Personal Care items are needed. Full-sized bottles of shampoo, conditioner and body wash. Soap, toothpaste, deodorant and especially feminine products would be greatly appreciated. You can place the items in the box in the Narthex.

Feast of Justice Food Pantry – We will be collecting a different shelf sustainable food item every Sunday for the Feast of Justice Food Pantry. We will collect for a total of 8 weeks (through January 25) to help restock their shelves. You can place the items in the box in the Sanctuary. **On Sunday, December 14th please bring Pasta.**

Wednesday, December 24th – Our Christmas Eve Service is at 3:00p.m. Pastor Davidson will be leading us in worship. A Trumpeter will be performing during the service.

Save the Date

Saturday, January 10th – Join us for the 1:00p.m. performance of the annual Boar's Head & Yule Log Festival at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Lafayette

Hill. Tickets are \$22 for an adult and \$6.00 for children (5 and under). We will carpool from Redemption. Please complete the sign-up sheet at the back of the church by December 21st.

Sunday, January 11th – Join us after worship for a “Meet and Greet” with our new Vice Pastor, Ron Wesemann. Light refreshments will be served.

Sunday, January 18th – We will be completing an MLK Day service project after worship.

Sunday, January 25th – There will be a Congregational Meeting after worship. We will approve the second half of our fiscal year 2025/2026 Budget (January-June 2026).