

First Sunday of Advent



Haitians Karen Rider encountered during her various travels there.
Photos: Karen Rider

December 1, 2024

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...
an adventure for life!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

In Preparation for Worship

- Within the sanctuary please remember that some people use this time of silence to prepare for worship.
- Whenever the cross is carried in procession through the congregation, we turn to face the cross to signify our way of life as followers of Jesus.
- Large-print bulletins are available; ask an usher for assistance.
- Please silence your cell phone.

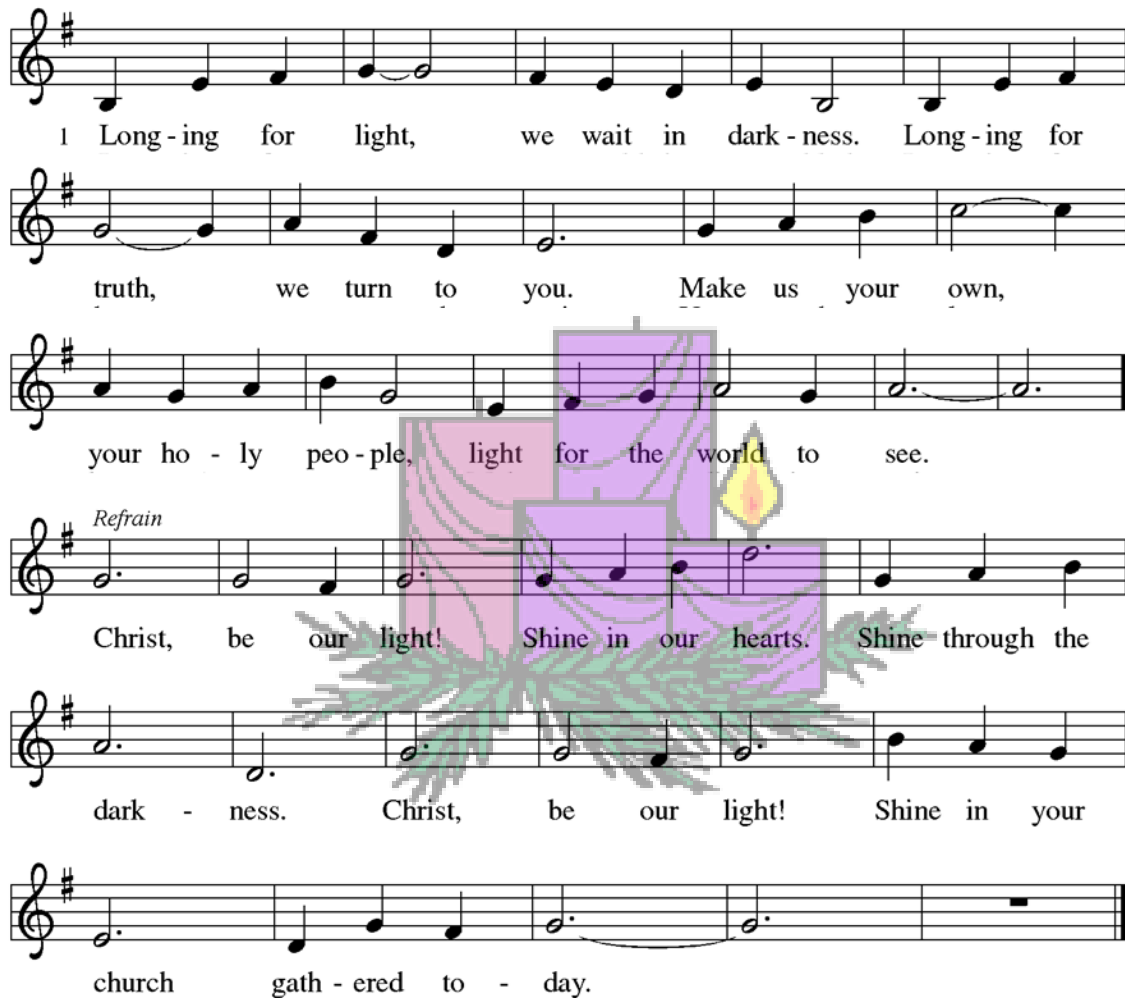
WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Please be respectful of people who use this time to prepare for worship.

Prelude **Comfort, Comfort Now My People** arr. Paul Manz

Advent Candle Lighting

Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.

Refrain
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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Welcome

Please stand in body or spirit

Hymn Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn



1 A - wake! A - wake, and greet the new morn, for
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though



an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall



soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.



Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less



geth - er, he o - pens wide the heav'n - ly door and
kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
sto - ry; may God fill ev - 'ry day we share and



lives now in - side us for - ev - er.
shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: REJOICE, REJOICE, Marty Haugen

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Greeting

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

And also with you.

Hymn of Praise

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the

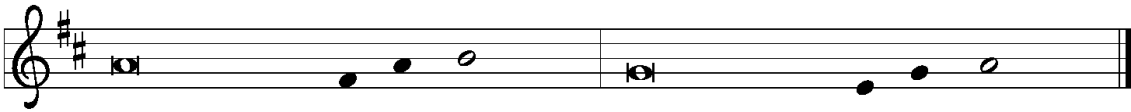


hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Psalm 25:1-10



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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To | you, O LORD,
I lift | up my soul.

**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph | over me.**

Let none who look to you be | put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

**Show me your | ways, O LORD,
and teach | me your paths.**

Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day
long.

**Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,
for they are from | everlasting.**

Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your
good- | ness, O LORD.

**You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

You lead the low- | ly in justice
and teach the low- | ly your way.

**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies.**



Please stand in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Gospel Luke 21:25-36 (Contemporary English Version, inclusivized)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the people, “Strange things will happen to the sun, moon, and stars. The nations on earth will be afraid of the roaring sea and tides, and they won’t know what to do. People will be so frightened that they will faint because of what is happening to the world. Every power in the sky will be shaken. Then the Human One will be seen, coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When all of this starts happening, stand up straight and be brave. You will soon be set free.”

Then Jesus told them a story: When you see a fig tree or any other tree putting out leaves, you know that summer will soon come. So, when you see these things happening, you know that God’s beloved community will soon be here. You can be sure that some of the people of this generation will still be alive when all of this takes place. The sky and the earth won’t last forever, but my words will.

“Don’t spend all of your time thinking about eating or drinking or worrying about life. If you do, the final day will suddenly catch you like a trap. This day will surprise everyone on earth. Watch out and keep praying that you can escape all that is going to happen and that the Human One will be pleased with you.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

Spoken Reflection Part Two

WHY NOT?

Dr. Johnbentz Joseph, Karen & Al Rider
Connie Criswell, and Dave Shull



Croix de Bouquet is a community in suburban Port-au-Prince, where a long-time project begun by Church World Service has created a successful local metal-art industry that continues to bring income to hard-working Haitian craftsmen. The hospital/public health center above was built there by a Turkish Red Cross/Red Crescent relief team following the great earthquake of 2010, for which Dr. John volunteered (while a medical student) as translator, guide, local contact and technician. The building was finished, but thanks to local bureaucracy and corruption, it could never be equipped or staffed. Dr. John, having finished his 5-year service commitment to the Turkish government to fulfill his scholarship terms, returned to Haiti as the designated Medical Director to equip and staff this facility in 2023. However local gangs threatened to kidnap him for ransom (which he would have been unable to pay), requiring him to flee the country early in 2024, bound for Columbus Ohio, where his cousin lives on James Road.

<https://www.embracerelief.org/haiti-medical-center/>

Musical Reflection

Children of the Light

Marty Haugen
Senior Choir

REFRAIN

The night is almost over now, it will be daylight soon;
Prepare yourself for morning and the coming of the light.
And you must wake up now, your salvation is at hand,
And be children of the light.

Arise, shine out for your light has come,
And the glory of Yahweh is rising on you,
Though the night still covers the earth. **REFRAIN**

Your Lord arises and glory appears,
And all nations are coming to welcome the dawn,
And your heart will sing out for joy. **REFRAIN**

No more will the sun and the moon give light,
For the Lord will be shining on all of your days,
And your days of mourning shall end. **REFRAIN**

Apostles' Creed

Let us confess our faith in the Triune God as expressed in these historic words:

**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.**

Community Prayers

Let us pray....

After each petition: "Receive our prayer,"

**Your mercy is great.
Amen.**

Included in our daily prayers are those with special needs or concerns:

Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Bonnie Hegreness, Heidi Carman, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Jeremy Davis, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Becky Trover's sister Maddie Sutphin, son-in-law Brandon James, and her niece Olivia Theissen, Skye Andree, Kris Kauffman, Ruth Murray's daughter Ellen Rose, Kathie Ehrich, John Huber, Barbara and David Hairston, Dottie and Larry Bird, Karen Kent, Terry Warren's sister Elaine, Ruth Boys, Al Debelak

For the people of Epiphany Lutheran Church in Pickerington

For Redeemer community members Susan, Joe, and Todd Darst

Time with the Young People

Sharing the peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Members are encouraged to move around the sanctuary to greet each with a hearty handshake or a hug.

For those who have special concerns or who do not wish close contact, please offer a sign of blessing to let others know you are more comfortable greeting them from a distance.

We will continue to take a moment to greet those who are worshiping via livestream before greeting those in the sanctuary.

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION

Jesus invited all who were hungry for food, healing, justice, and joy to share this communion meal.

Since this is his meal, and he is present to us in it, all are welcome.



In body or spirit, please stand

Offertory

You Are Holy

1*

You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

2

You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

* *May be sung in canon.*

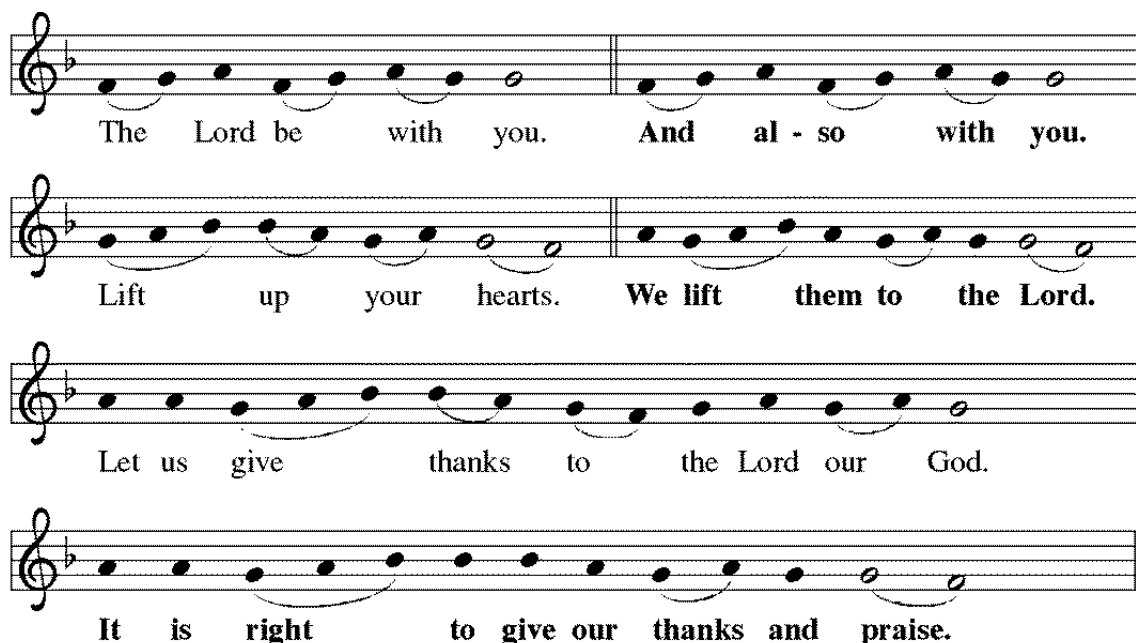
Text: Per Harling, b. 1945

Music: DU ÅR HELIG, Per Harling

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Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.'. The second staff also has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.'. The third staff has one long measure: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.'. The fourth staff has one long measure: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'. The notes are simple, using quarter and eighth notes with stems, and are connected by slurs.

This is the table of Emmanuel – God-with-us. This is the place where bread and wine remind us how to live and love as those who inhabit God’s time, and work to build God’s Beloved Community. This is the place where we recognize that the one for whom we wait is also the one who is already, and always, here with us.

So come! Whether you are watching for the dawn, or dreading first light, whether you are waiting with hope, or hiding your face, come with quiet confidence. Here Emmanuel watches for our coming, and waits with love and joy to welcome us in.

The story of Emmanuel is the story of God – waiting to inhabit time, who took on flesh and form, and lived among us, so that we might re-imagine life. It is the story of Jesus – waiting to be betrayed, who shared supper with his friends, where he took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take this and eat. This is my body, broken for you. Do this to remember me.” And after supper he took the cup and gave it to them, saying, “This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. It is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me.”

And so, taking this bread and wine, we remember and celebrate the waiting which began to change the world; and we join our voices with all who still wait and work for that change to come to completion:

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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

God of grace, as we follow the example of Jesus, send your Holy Spirit upon us, and on these gifts of bread and wine. May we find the imagination, the courage, and the strength to use our waiting times to build your Beloved Community of joy, justice, and peace, for which we now pray:

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
 Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.**

Sharing the Meal

The gifts of God, for the people of God. Jesus welcomed all to this meal.
 So do we.

Please be seated

You may come forward to receive the elements, remain seated and use the pre-filled communion cups available at the door, or let an usher know you'd like to be served in your seat. Wine is in the outer rings of the tray, grape-apple juice in the inner ring. Gluten-free wafers are available on request, ask Pastor.

Hymn

Now We Join in Celebration

1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion at our Sav - ior's in - vi - ta - tion,
2 Lord, as round this feast we gath - er, fill our hearts with ho - ly rap - ture!
3 Lord, we share in this com - mu - nion as one fam - 'ly of God's chil - dren,

dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;
For this bread and cup of bless - ing are for us the sure pos - sess - ing
rec - on - ciled through you, our broth - er, one in you with God our Fa - ther.

for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,
of your lov - ing deed on Cal - v'ry, of your liv - ing self, our vic - t'ry,
Give us grace to live for oth - ers, serv - ing all, both friends and strang - ers,

stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us.
pledge of your un - fail - ing pres - ence, fore - taste here of heav'n - ly glad - ness.
seek - ing jus - tice, love, and mer - cy till you come in fi - nal glo - ry.

Text: Joel W. Lundeen, 1918-1990
Music: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662
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Hymn

Bread of Life, Our Host and Meal

1 Bread of life, our host and meal, Je - sus, feed us.
2 Bread now break and wine now pour, Je - sus, feed us.
3 Grant for - give - ness in the feast— Je - sus, feed us—
4 Thank you for this gift we share. Je - sus, feed us.

Christ, by faith, to see and feel, feed us with your love.
Make us one, our hope re - store; feed us with your love.
for the great - est and the least; feed us with your love.
Save God's chil - dren ev - 'ry - where; feed us with your love.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943; Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Music: JESUS, FEED US, Ray Makeever; arr. Rusty Edwards

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Please stand in body or spirit

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy Mystery, the earth still waits for its healing. May we who are part of that waiting take and use the waiting times to re-imagine how we can be healers of creation. Open our hands and hearts to embrace and use the uncertain times to learn how to live and love. So may our watching and waiting join with that of Emmanuel to realize your beloved community here on earth.

Amen.

WE ARE SENT

Hymn

People, Look East

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is
3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the
4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,
plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,
bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,
life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965

Music: BESANÇON, French carol; arr. Barry Rose, b. 1934

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Announcements

Postlude **Partita on "People Look East"** arr. Joseph Bertolozzi

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The communion liturgy is adapted from "Enter with Joy," by Pat Bennett, published by Wild Goose Publications.
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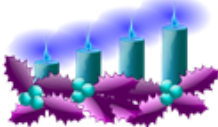
Adult Ed
Sundays - 11:15 a.m.

Getting to Know You

As a way to deepen our relationships with each other by getting to know each other better, Pastor Dave will interview a variety of folks about their lives. And you'll have a chance to ask questions as well.

December 1 - Julianne Johnson

In-Person and Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83475541581?pwd=PEyYLFqECnuQBzf9bSbagxGY44GXcU.1>
Meeting ID: 834 7554 1581 = Passcode: 752230
Phone only: 1-312-626-6799



Advent Wednesday evenings
December 4, 11, 18
6:30 Advent Desserts and Coffee
7:00 pm Holden Evening Prayer

With the season of Advent, Redeemer offers you a space to rest in the calmness, beauty, and joy of a darkened sanctuary filled with the sounds of Holden Evening Prayer. Wednesday evenings will be oases in the midst of everything else that is going on in your lives. Let yourself let go of all you might be carrying right now, and receive the gift of this time to be reminded of what life, love, and peace feel like.


Sign up on the bulletin board to provide dessert

Adult Ed
December 8 - 11:15 a.m.

2025 Budget

A chance to review and ask questions about the proposed draft of Redeemer's 2025 budget

In-Person and Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83475541581?pwd=PEyYLFqECnuQBzf9bSbagxGY44GXcU.1>
Meeting ID: 834 7554 1581 = Passcode: 752230
Phone only: 1-312-626-6799



Advent Devotional Booklet

The Advent Devotional is now available in regular or large print. You may pick up a copy in the narthex. Take as many as you like to share with friends and family. If you like, we would be happy to mail a copy to you. The devotionals are available on our website, or you may have each day's devotion delivered to your email. Just let the office know what you prefer.



Monthly Sunday School for all ages!
Sunday, December 8 == 11:15 am



Tuesday Bible Study
Exploring Advent and Christmas Stories

What do the Gospel stories about the coming of Jesus really say? What would a "manger" scene based on Matthew and Luke look like? A spoiler alert: one of them wouldn't even have a manger! So celebrate the coming seasons of Advent and Christmas by joining us for our weekly Bible study. You can participate in-person or on Zoom.

Tuesdays + 1:00pm

In-Person and Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86259497992?pwd=zbqyreRTMc2DXXPiJD5mQRc5UlxjdA.1>

Meeting ID: 862 5949 7992

Passcode: 830218

Phone only: 1-312-626-6799



LSS Food Pantry

**First Wednesdays
 12:30-4:00 pm**

**Contact Kathleen Zwanziger
 to volunteer**



**Sister Act
 ADVENT BRUNCH**

Saturday, Dec 7 – 10:00 am

*For more information see **Reflections** or
 contact Michele Disbro or
 Julianne Johnson.*

Please join us for fellowship and service



Sunday, December 8

Main Library, 96 S. Grant Ave, Columbus

Reading Room 2nd Floor

2:00 p.m. | Public Author Talk

Dr. Matthew Desmond

*author of **Poverty, by America***

This was the RLC summer book group book in 2024. People who read the book are going to this event together and then will return to Redeemer for refreshments and conversation.

We'd love to have you register for the talk and join us.



Birthdays this week:

- 2 – Eowyn Dana
- 2 – Ruby Jacobs
- 3 – Walton Wolfe
- 4 – Toshi Phillips
- 6 – Izzy Skoog
- 6 – Sophie Skoog

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding Minister	David Shull, Pastor
Assisting Minister	Joss Dana
Cantor	Heidi Sherer
Reader	Brad Dana
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Judith Bird
Vergers	Michelle Clemence / Wendy Stoica
Communion Prep	Misato In, Diane Brobeck, Karen Rider
Producers	Toshi Phillips, Sachio Phillips
Hospitality	Michelle Clemence

*Flowers are given by **the Reinoehl family** in memory of **Dave Reinoehl**.
Noisy Offering will go to B.R.E.A.D.*

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER DECEMBER 1 – 8

Today	8:45 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education
Monday	5:00 pm	ZOOM Executive Team
Tuesday	1:00 pm	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Bible Study
Wednesday	12:30 pm	RLC at LSS Food Pantry
	6:15 pm	Advent Desserts
	7:00 pm	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Holden Evening Prayer
Saturday	10:00 am	Chime Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	Sister Act Advent Brunch
Next Sunday	8:45 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	Sunday School for all ages
	11:15 am	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education

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Office hours –9am-1pm, Mon-Wed; 9am-noon Thu
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America