

Sunday January 7, 2024 Epiphany

"Epiphany"

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.

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 <u>resurrectionphl.org</u> 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

Sunday Information

- Nursery + Children's Ministry: Check-in available at both 17th and Sansom Street entrances.
 - Nursery for children 6-30 months: Available for the duration of the service.
 - Sunday School for ages 30 months through 5th grade: Children are dismissed to class just before the sermon; K-5th graders return in time for communion.
 - For nursing mothers seeking privacy, there's a room behind the SE exit from the Sanctuary where the service can be watched.
- Accessibility: A street level entrance is available on Sansom Street, and an elevator providing
 access to all other levels can be accessed there. Assistive listening devices are available; to
 request one, please see one of the greeters.
- **Restrooms**: Men's and Women's restrooms are on the lower level; two single-user restrooms open to anyone are available on the 2nd floor.
- Coffee Hour: After the service, located in the Community room, behind the front of the Sanctuary. All are welcome!
- Parking/Transportation: Free parking for worship is available at the Liberty Place Garage. Get a timed ticket when you enter the garage, and a chaser ticket (validation ticket) at church. Limited bike and stroller parking at the Sansom lobby, as well as single journey SEPTA passes.

Reflection

Today the Magi gaze in deep wonder at what they see: heaven on earth, earth in heaven, man in God, God in man, one whom the whole universe cannot contain now enclosed in a tiny body.

-St. Peter Chrysologus, Sermon 160 (5th Century)

Church Calendar

ADVENT CHRISTMAS

EPIPHANY LENT

EASTER

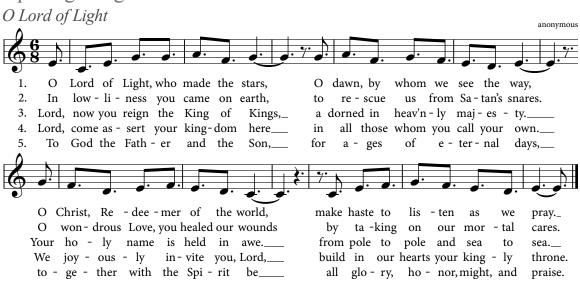
PENTECOST

ORDINARY TIME

Epiphany follows Christ's birth and points us out from that moment to the world. The Magi traveled from afar to worship Jesus, and their eyes were opened to who God is and what he is doing. The Light is dawning in the darkness, drawing in all peoples. May we, with eyes wide open, see and celebrate the fact that Jesus is the light of the world—and of our lives too.

Welcome

Opening Song



Opening of Worship

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

All And also with you.

Responsive Reading

Arise, shine; for your light has come,

All and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

For darkness shall cover the earth,

and thick darkness the peoples;

but the LORD will arise upon you,

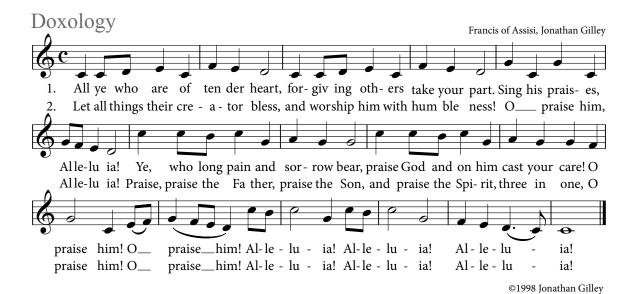
and his glory will appear over you.

Nations shall come to your light,

and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

from Isaiah 60

Prayer of Adoration and Thanksgiving



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

Lord Jesus, illuminate the darkness in our hearts: Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, open our eyes to your saving love: Christ, have mercy.

All Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, unstop our ears to hear your living word: Lord, have mercy.

All Lord, have mercy.

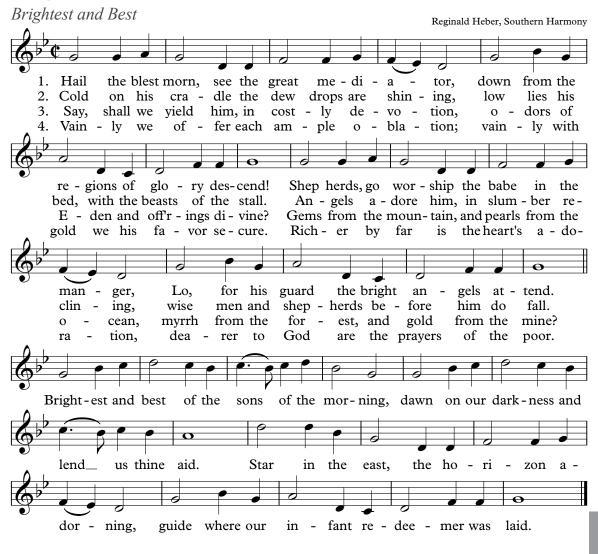
Silence is kept.

Words of Comfort and Assurance of Pardon

May Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Song of Praise and Adoration



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: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

- ¹ Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.
- ² May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.
- ³ May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.
- ⁴ May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.
- May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.
- ⁶ May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.
- ⁷ In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
- ¹⁰ May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute, may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.
- ¹¹ May all kings fall down before him, all nations give him service.
- ¹² For he delivers the needy when they call, the poor and those who have no helper.
- ¹³ He has pity on the weak and the needy, and saves the lives of the needy.
- ¹⁴ From oppression and violence he redeems their life; and precious is their blood in his sight.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading: Matthew 2:1-12

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." '

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

"Epiphany" - Rev. Chris Currie

Offertory

Morning Star

Don Peris

Morning Star, so radiant and holy, shine on me in my great hour of need. Jesus Christ, so beautiful and lovely, shine over me.

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.



resurrectionphl.org/give

When encouraging the early church toward generosity, the Apostle Paul pointed to Jesus' giving of himself:

"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 by scanning the QR code at the left or text any amount to the number 84321.

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.

Father, the wise men presented to your Son gold, incense, and myrrh: accept the gifts we bring and the offering of our hearts at the beginning of this new year. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Father, your Son is the King of kings and Lord of lords: grant an abundance of peace to your world. Have mercy on the people of every nation on earth. 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.

The Holy Family lived in exile and in the shadow of death: Father, look with kindness on all who are poor and powerless and all who suffer from sickness, grief, discouragement, want, and at the hands of others.

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,

Jesus, Savior,

All 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.

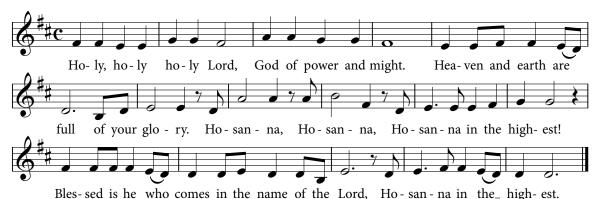
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give thanks and praise.

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 by the leading of a star, you have revealed your only Son to the world, that in following him we are led from darkness into his marvelous light. And so we gladly thank you, with saints and angels praising you, and singing:

Sanctus



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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.

Prayers for Reflection

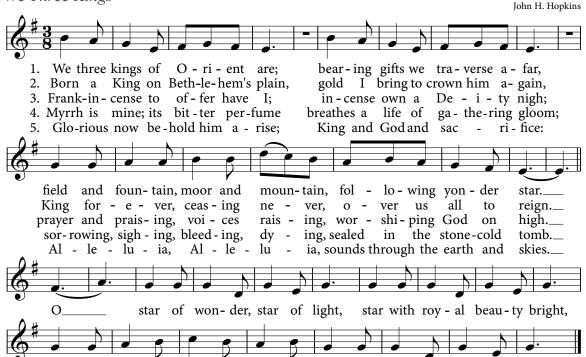
Prayer for those searching | Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and lead me to the reality of who you are. Grant that I might be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding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

Communion Song

We Three Kings



to

thy per - fect light.

west-ward lead-ing, still pro-ceed-ing, guide us

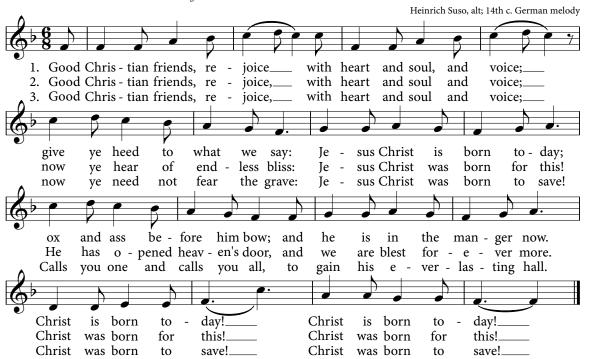
Prayer after Communion

All Lord God,

the bright splendor whom the nations seek:
may we who with the wise men
have been drawn by your light
discern the glory of your presence in your Son,
the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Blessing and Sending

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



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Benediction

May Christ our Lord, to whom kings bowed down in worship and offered gifts, reveal to you his glory and pour upon you the riches of his grace; 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.

"Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord." (James 5:14)

After the service, ministers and elders of the church will be stationed at the front of the sanctuary to offer healing prayer and anointing with oil for those seeking God's healing in any aspect of life: physical, relational, emotional, psychological, or spiritual. If you come for healing prayer, you will not be asked any personal questions about your situation, only for your consent to be anointed with oil on your forehead. Receiving healing prayer and anointing with oil only takes a few seconds, but the practice can be a powerful way to experience God's help in our weakness.

Musicians

Christopher McDonald: piano, voice

Abigail Sparrow: voice Rachel Allison: voice Koof Ibi: trumpet Jaron Olevsky: bass

Michael Cormier-O'Leary: drums

Liturgist

Paul Burkhart

Scripture Reading

Christine Yue

Celebrant

Rev. Scott Jennings

CONNECT

COMMUNITY GROUPS gather across the city and region on varying frequencies (weekly/bi-weekly), with the intent of taking up basic practices of fellowship, prayer, and study of the Scriptures. Groups range in size from 10-15 people.



CONNECTION GROUPS provide connection to the life of the church and to one another via shared interests or other affinity (such as mens or womens groups, study groups, prayer groups, service groups, etc.).

To see current groups, visit **resurrectionphl.org/groups** or scan the QR code at right.

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. Contact Terri Taylor, terri@resurrectionphl.org
- Resurrection Youth. Students Grades 6-12 and Volunteer Leaders gather regularly to hang out, play games, and explore questions of faith and belonging to Christ. Youth Group meets most Sundays from 4-6 pm at the Center City building. For more info, contact Paul Burkhart at paul@ resurrectionphl.org.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS During the academic year, our university ministry hosts speaker series and dinner discussion groups on campus. Both undergraduate and graduate students are invited to participate. We also host regular Sunday brunches for graduate students. 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





REDEMPTION HOUSING















Announcements

Do You Get Resurrection News?

If not, sign up using the form at the bottom of resurrectionphl. org, or by filling out the welcome form at the end of this bulletin.

Centering Discipleship Seminar on Saturday, Jan 13

How can we renew the intentional practice of being disciples who live into Jesus' Great Commission and make disciples of others? Join us for an interactive seminar with Dr. Eun Strawser, who will share insights from her book *Centering Discipleship* and help us think through how we can not only become more attentive to our own journey towards closeness to God, but also feel equipped to invite others along the journey. Register at resurrectionphl.org/upcoming-events.

Sherpa Training on Saturday, February 3

The digital world you encountered as a child differs vastly from the one your child must navigate. How will you help them through it? What safety skills will you teach them? How will you help them learn to make wise choices? As a parent, how do you match developmental maturity with appropriate internet access? What can you do to preserve trust? Join us for a morning with Julie Lowe, licensed professional counselor and author of *Safeguards and Childproof: Parenting by Faith, Not Formula*. The morning will include a Q & A with Julie as well as lunch with parents-of-peers groupings to discuss developing shared frameworks and practices. Sign up at resurrectionphl. org/ upcoming-events.

West Philly Gathering - Sunday, January 28

All are welcome for a time of fellowship, singing, and communion, followed by a potluck dinner, at Woodland's Kirk Hall (42nd/Pine) on Sunday, January 28 at 4:30 pm. We'll also gather on 4th Sundays in Feb (Feb 25) and March (Mar 24). Dates for April and beyond are TBD.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January

- 13: Centering Discipleship
- 28: West Philly Gathering

February

3: Parenting & Technology

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 Praye	er r""'ılılı
Please contact me about:	
☐ Community Groups	
☐ Neighborhood Service Opportunities	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\
□ Volunteering on Sundays□ Children's & Youth Ministries	
☐ Meeting with a Pastor	PRIVACY, FLOWCODE, COM
☐ Other:	
Prayer Requests	
Our staff prays weekly on Tuesdays, and our deacons pray monthly Fill out your name above if you'd like to be prayed for by name.	y on 4th Sundays.

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



resurrectionphl.org