



RESURRECTION
PHILADELPHIA

Saturday, December 24, 2022
Christmas Eve

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

Maybe Christmas, the Grinch thought, doesn't come from a store.

-Dr. Seuss

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.

Preparation

Lighting of the Christ Candle

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined... For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

from Isaiah 9

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

A period of silence is kept.

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us,

All and we have seen his glory.

Opening Song

Come Light Our Hearts

Sandra McCracken

The musical score is written in 6/8 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 6/8 time signature. The second staff ends with a double bar line and repeat dots. The third staff begins with a repeat sign. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

For you, O Lord, our souls in still-ness wait, for you, O Lord, our
souls in still-ness wait, tru-ly our hope is in you, tru-ly our hope is in you.
O Lord of life, our on - ly hope, your rad - iance shines on all who
O Joy a - bove all o - ther loves, in you we find more than e -
look to you in the dark; Em - ma - nu - el, come, come light our hearts.
nough. We come as we are, O heal and re - store, come light our hearts.

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Opening of Worship

The glory of the Lord has been revealed

All and all flesh shall see it together.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world:

a light no darkness can quench.

The shepherds kept watch by night,

and your glory shone round about them.

The darkness is not dark to you,

the night is as bright as the day.

Let your light scatter the darkness

and fill your Church with your glory.

Grace, mercy, and peace

from God our Father

and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All and also with you.

Opening Prayer

Song

Angels We Have Heard on High

Traditional French carol, arr. Edward Barnes



1. An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;



and the moun - tains in re - ply e cho back their joy - ous strains.
Say what may the ti - dings be which in spire your heav'n - ly song?
come, a - dore on ben - ded knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.



Glo - - - - - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o,



glo - - - - - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o.

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

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

Silence is kept.

Lord of grace and truth,
we confess our unworthiness
to stand in your presence as your children.
We have sinned:

All forgive and heal us.

The Virgin Mary accepted your call
to be the mother of Jesus.
Forgive our disobedience to your will.
We have sinned:

All forgive and heal us.

Your Son our Savior
was born in poverty in a manger.
Forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
We have sinned:

All forgive and heal us.

The shepherds left their flocks
to go to Bethlehem.
Forgive our selfishness and failure to believe.
We have sinned:

All forgive and heal us.

The wise men followed the star
to find Jesus the King.
Forgive our reluctance to seek you.
We have sinned:

All forgive and heal us.

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 us our sins
and make us holy to serve him in the world,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Songs

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Polish carol, paraphrased by Edith M. G. Reed



1. In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;
2. Flocks were sleep - ing: shep herds keep - ing vi - gil till the mor ning new



ox - en lo - wing, lit - tle kno - wing, Christ the babe is Lord of all.
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, ti - dings of a gos - pel true.



Swift are wing - ing an - gels sing - ing, no - els ring - ing, ti - dings bring - ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prai ses voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Christ the babe was born for you. Christ the babe was born for you.

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

Traditional English carol, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams



1. On Christ mas night all Chris tians sing, to hear the news the an - gels bring;
2. Then why should we on earth be sad, since our re - dee - mer made us glad:
3. When sin de - parts be - fore your grace, then life and health come in its place;
4. All out of dark - ness we_ have light which made the an - gels sing this night;



on Christ - mas night all Chris tians sing, to hear the news the an - gels bring:
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when sin de - parts be - fore your grace, then life and health come in its place;
all out of dark - ness we_ have light which made the an - gels sing this night:



news of great joy, news of great mirth,
when from our sin he set us free,
an - gels and men with joy may sing,
"Glo - ry to God and peace to men,



news of our mer - ci - ful king's birth.
all for to gain our li - ber - ty.
all for to see the new - born king.
now and for - e - ver - more. A - men."

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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: Isaiah 52:7-10

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” ⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. ⁹Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. ¹⁰The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading: Luke 2:1-14

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Reflection

“Christmas Eve” – Rev. Chris Currie

Response

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,

All he has come to his people and set them free.

Light has sprung up for the righteous

and joyful gladness for those who are true-hearted.

Glory to God in the highest

and peace to his people on earth.

Song

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Aurelius Prudentius, Henry Baker, J.M. Neale, arr. Sam Bush



1. Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten ere the world be - gan to be,
2. O, that birth for - e - ver bless - ed when the Vir - gin, full of grace,
3. This is he whom heav'n-taught sin - gers sang of old with one ac - cord;
4. O ye heights of heav'n, a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his prai - ses sing;
5. Christ, to Thee, with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost, to thee



he is Al - pha and O - me - ga, he the source, the en - ding he,
by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing, bore the sa - vior of our race,
whom the scrip - tures of the pro - phets pro - mised in their faith - ful word.
all do - mi - nions, bow be - fore him and ex - tol our God and King.
hymn and chant and high thanks - gi - ving and un - wea - ried prai - ses be,



of the things that are, that have — been, and that fu - ture years shall see
and the babe, the world's re - dee - mer, first re - vealed his sa - cred face
Now he shines, the long - ex - pect - ed; let cre - a - tion praise the Lord
Let no tongue on earth be si - lent, ev' - ry voice in con - cert ring
ho - nor, glo - ry, and do - mi - nion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry



e - ver - more and e - ver - more. —

Intercessions

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Members of the congregation lead us in prayer.

Father, in this holy night your Son our Savior
was born in human flesh.

Renew your Church as the Body of Christ.

Holy God,

All hear our prayer.

In this holy night there was no room for your Son in the inn.

Protect with your love those who have no home
and all who live in poverty.

Holy God,

All hear our prayer.

In this holy night Mary, in the pain of labor,
brought your Son to birth.

Hold in your hand all who are in pain or distress.

Holy God,

All hear our prayer.

In this holy night
your Christ came as a light shining in the darkness.

Bring comfort to all who suffer in the sadness of our world.

Holy God,

All hear our prayer.

In this holy night the angels sang,
“Peace to God’s people on earth.”

Strengthen those who work for peace and justice
here in Philadelphia, in our nation, and in all the world.

Holy God,

All hear our prayer.

In this holy night
shepherds in the field heard good tidings of joy.

Give us grace to preach the gospel of Christ’s redemption.

Holy God,

All 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.*

In this holy night strangers found the Holy Family
and saw the baby lying in the manger.
Bless our homes and all whom we love.
Holy God,

All hear our prayer.

In this holy night heaven is come down to earth,
and earth is raised to heaven.
Hold in your hand all those who lost loved ones to death
and comfort them in the hope of your coming kingdom.
Holy God,

All hear our prayer.

In this holy night Christians the world over
celebrate Christ's birth.
Open our hearts that he may be born in us today.
Holy God,

All hear our prayer.

The leader concludes:

Father, in this holy night
angels and shepherds worshipped
the newborn king enthroned within a manger.
Receive the worship we have offered this night
through him who is your Word made flesh,
our Savior Jesus Christ.

All Amen.

Closing Carol and Candle Lighting

Silent Night

Joseph Mohr, John F. Young, Franz Gruber



1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight,
3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light,

'round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child; ho - ly in - fant, so
glo - ries stream_ from hea - ven a - far, heaven - ly hosts sing
ra - diant beams_ from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re -

ten-der and mild, sleep in hea ven-ly peace,_ sleep_ in hea ven-ly peace.
al - le - lu - ia; Christ, the Sa vior, is born!_ Chris, the Sa vior, is born!
deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord,at thy birth,_ Je - sus, Lord,at thy birth.

While singing the carol, candles are lit, beginning from the Christ candle.

Blessing and Sending

Benediction

May Christ the Son of God, born of Mary,
fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will;
and the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be among you, and remain with you always.

All Amen.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Proclaim the Word made flesh.

All Glory, thanks, and praise to God.

“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.*

Musicians

Christopher McDonald: piano, voice

Sarah Long: voice

Veronica Jurkiewicz: violin

Tom Kraines: cello

Matt Engle: bass

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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

Officer Nominations Now Open

Our Officer Nomination committee is looking for nominations for elders and deacons. Nominations will close Sunday, January 16 at 5 pm. Visit resurrectionphl.org/nominate for details.

Explore Jan Term Options!

Every January, we pause our community group gatherings and take time for study, reflection, and different kinds of connections. Explore this year's offerings at resurrectionphl.org/jan-term.

Return to Two Services January 8th

Sunday, January 8 we will resume our normal service times and locations: 9:30 in Center City and 11:00 at West Catholic. Children's Sunday School will also resume.

Help us welcome you.

Name(s): _____

Children & their ages: _____

If undergrad or grad student, school & year: _____

Address: _____

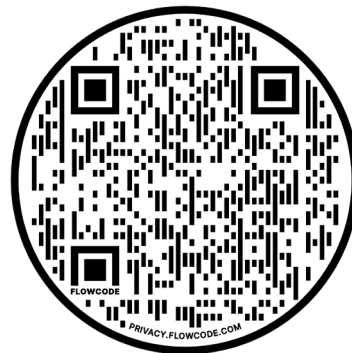
Phone number(s): _____

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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