



RESURRECTION
PHILADELPHIA

Sunday December 25, 2022
The First Sunday of Christmas

“THE WORD MADE FLESH”

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

Who among us will celebrate Christmas correctly? Whoever finally lays down all power, all honor, all reputation, all vanity, all arrogance, all individualism beside the manger; whoever remains lowly and lets God alone be high; whoever looks at the child in the manger and sees the glory of God precisely in his lowliness.

-Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *God is in the Manger*

Church Calendar

ADVENT

CHRISTMAS

EPIPHANY

LENT

EASTER

PENTECOST

ORDINARY TIME

Christmas celebrates God's incarnation, which means "in the flesh." Christmas is all about the amazing truth that God took on our flesh, our bones, and our human life. The task of the Christmas liturgy is to recall us, amid all the joyful customs and celebrations of Christmas, to this central truth of the Word made flesh for our salvation.

Welcome

People of God: shout and sing!
Tell the good news of peace on earth.
Lord, bring us today into Christ's peace.
All God's people say:

All Amen!

Angels dance,
and the bright star shines.
All creation bows to the Lord of all.
Lord, bring us today into Christ's light.
All God's people say:

All Amen!

One with us,
yet born to save,
he will show us the way to God.
Lord, bring us today into Christ's love.
All God's people say:

All Amen!

People of God: shout and sing:

**All Alleluia! Alleluia!
Amen.**

Opening Song

O Come, All Ye Faithful

John Francis Wade, Frederick Oakeley



1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O come ye to
2. God of__ God,__ Light of__ light,__ lo, he ab - hors not the
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion, sing, all ye ci - ti zens of
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py mor - ning; Je - sus, to thee be all



Beth - le - hem. Come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels;
vir - gin's womb. Ve - ry__ God, be - got - ten, not cre - a - ted
heav'n a - bove; glo - ry to God__ in__ the__ high - est
glo - ry giv'n; Word of the Fa - ther, late in flesh ap - pear - ing



O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, O



come, let us a - dore him,__ Christ__ the Lord.

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

O sing to the Lord a new song,

All for he has done marvelous things.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

the world and those who live in it.

Let the floods clap their hands;

let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord,

for he is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

from Psalm 98

Prayer of Adoration and Thanksgiving

Doxology

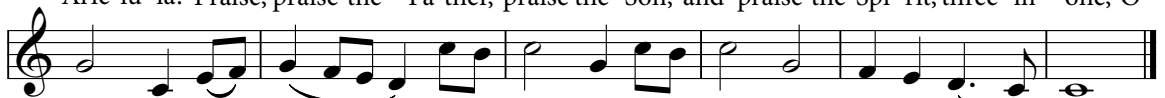
Francis of Assisi, Jonathan Gilley



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 God our Father,
you sent your Son full of grace and truth:
forgive our failure to receive him.
Jesus our Savior,
you were born in poverty and laid in a manger:
forgive our greed and rejection of your ways.
Spirit of Love,
your servant Mary responded joyfully to your call:
forgive the hardness of our hearts.

Silence is kept.

Words of Comfort and Assurance of Pardon

May the God of all healing and forgiveness
draw you to himself
and cleanse you from all your sins,
that you may behold the glory of his Son,
the Word made flesh,
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

Come See a Child of Low Estate

W.D. Springett, Karl Digerness



1. Come, see a child of low estate, in man - ger bed re - clin
2. For man he comes to rend the veil which hides death's gloom y por
3. Come, see a child of low estate, in man - ger bed re - clin



- ing; yet on his hum - ble dwel - ling place bright stars.
- tal, and make a home where man with him in peace
- ing; yet on his hum - ble dwel - ling place the Fa -



in heav'n are shin - ing. This lit - tle babe is Christ
may dwell, im - mor - tal. He comes to tri - umph o'er
- ther's love is shin - ing. So may we all the pat -



the Lord, whom saints have long ex - pec - ted, for man he comes to live
the grave and rise on Eas - ter mor - ning, and reign in heav'n at God's
- tern take from Je - sus, meek and low - ly: may we his faith - ful ser -



and die, des - pised, be - trayed, re - jec - ted.
right hand un - til the last day's daw - ning.
vants be kept by his Spi - rit ho - ly!

©City Hymns

Baptism and Membership Reception

Dylan Kelly Evilsizor, Charlotte Grace Evilsizor

Minister (to the candidates):

Do you renounce sin and the power of evil in your life and in the world?

Candidates: **I renounce them.**

Minister (to the candidates):

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Candidates: **Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.**

Minister (to the candidates):

Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, and through worship and service seek to advance God's purposes here and throughout the world?

Candidates: **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

Minister (to the congregation):

Do you promise to love, encourage, and support these brothers and sisters by teaching the gospel of God's love, by being an example of Christian faith and character, and by giving the strong support of God's family in fellowship, prayer, and service?

Congregation: **We do.**

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.

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.

The sacrament of baptism is administered, and pastoral prayer is offered.

The congregation shall stand.

All Joyfully we receive you into the body of Christ.
Join with us as we give witness in the world
to the good news,
for we are all one in Christ Jesus.
Alleluia.

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

New Testament reading: Hebrews 1:1-4

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading: John 1:1-14

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection

“The Word Made Flesh” – Rev. James Williams

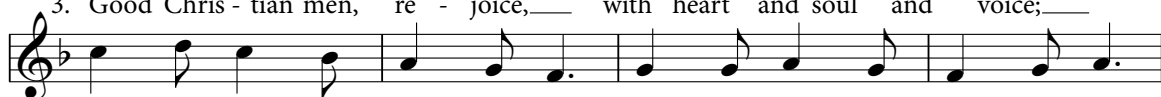
Song of Response

Good Christian Men, Rejoice

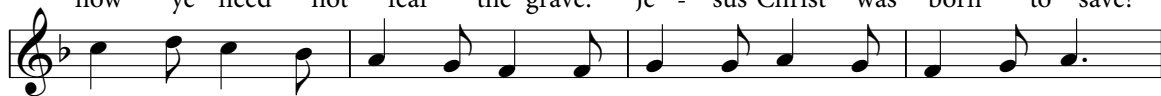
Heinrich Suso, 14th c. German melody



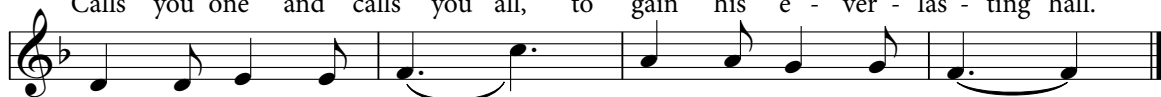
1. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice___ with heart and soul, and voice;___
2. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice,___ with heart and soul and voice;___
3. Good Chris - tian men, re - joice,___ with heart and soul and voice;___



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow; and he is in the man - ger now.
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and man is blest for - e - ver more.
Calls you one and calls you all, to gain his e - ver - las - ting hall.



Christ is born to - day!___ Christ is born to - day!___
Christ was born for this!___ Christ was born for this!___
Christ was born to save!___ Christ was born to save!___

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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.

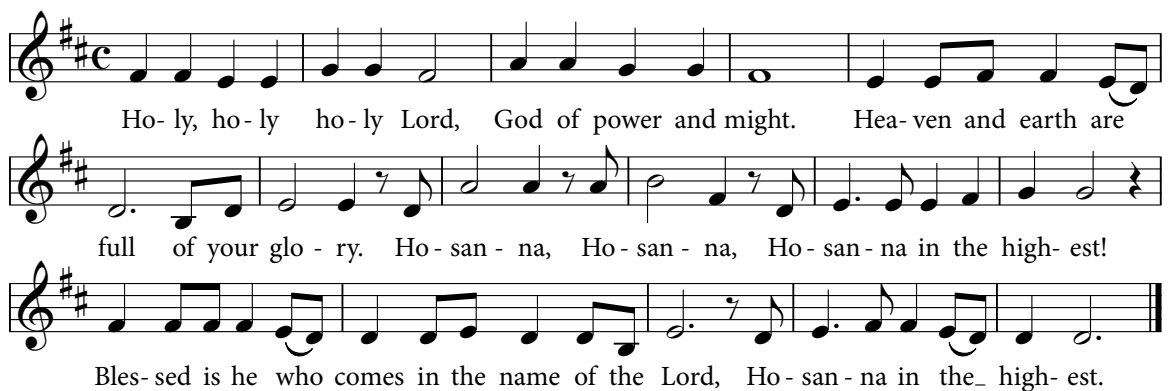
GOD STRENGTHENS US
AT HIS TABLE

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.

Communion Song

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

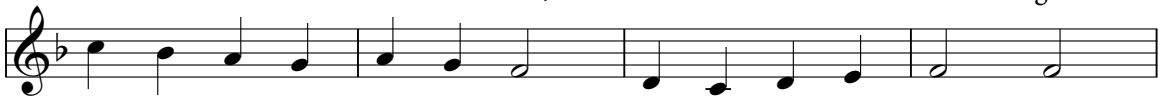
Joseph Simpson Cook, *Piae Cantiones*



1. Gen - tle Ma - ry laid her child low - ly in a man - ger;
2. An - gels sang a - bout his birth, wise men sought and found him;
3. Gen - tle Ma - ry laid her child low - ly in a man - ger;



there he lay, the Un - de - filed, to the world a stran - ger.
hea - ven's star shone bright - ly forth, glo - ry all a - round him.
he is still the Un - de - filed, but no more a stran - ger.



Such a babe in such a place, can he be the Sa - vior?
Shep - herds saw the won - drous sight, heard the an - gels sing - ing;
Son of God of hum - ble birth, beau - ti - ful the sto - ry;



Ask the saved of all the race who have found his fa - vor.
all the plains were lit that night, all the hills were ring - ing.
praise his name in all the earth, hail the King of glo - ry!

Prayer after Communion

All God our Father,
whose Word has come among us
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:
may the light of faith illumine our hearts
and shine in our words and deeds;
through him who is Christ the Lord.
Amen.

Blessing and Sending

Joy to the World

Isaac Watts, George Frideric Handel



1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come; let earth re -
2. Joy to the earth! the Sav - iour reigns; let men their
3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the



ceive her King; _____ let ev' - ry _____ heart _____ pre - pare him
songs em - ploy; _____ while fields and floods, _____ rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; _____ he comes to _____ make _____ his bles - sings
na - tions prove _____ the glo - ries _____ of _____ his right - eous -



room, _____ and heav'n and na - ture sing, and _____ heav'n and na - ture
plains _____ re - peat the soun - ding joy, re - peat the soun - ding
flow _____ far as the curse is _____ found, far _____ as the curse is _____
- ness, _____ and won - ders of his _____ love, and _____ won - ders of his _____



sing, and _____ heav'n, and heav'n, _____ and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat _____ the soun - ding joy.
found, far _____ as, _____ far as, _____ the curse is found.
love, and _____ won - ders, won - ders, of his love.

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 Christ, who by his incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly,
fill you with peace and goodwill
and make you partakers of the divine nature;
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

Sarah Long: voice

Liturgist

Rachel Allison

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 resurrection-phl.org/practices
- Sign up to receive Daily Prayer in your inbox resurrectionphl.org/daily-prayer to help you get started.

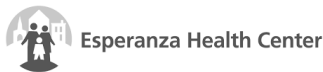
GIVE

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: _____

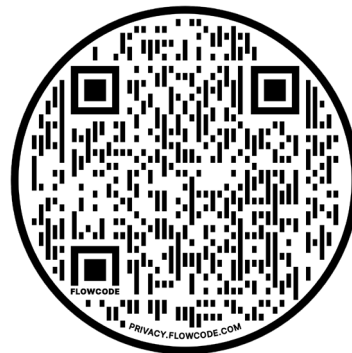
Phone number(s): _____

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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