

Sunday November 27, 2022 The 1st Sunday of Advent

IMAGES OF HOPE "SWORDS INTO PLOWSHARES"

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 <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

Reflection

We must be disarmed by God. That's the theme of Advent. God is on the move to disarm us all.

-Fleming Rutledge, "Advent at Ground Zero" (2001)

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.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

The Dougherty family

Reading: Romans 13:11-14

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

A period of silence is kept.

People of God: awake! The day is coming soon when you shall see God face to face. Remember the ways and the works of God. God calls you out of darkness to walk in the light of his coming. You are God's children.

All Lord, make us one as we walk with Christ today and forever. Amen.

Opening Song

Bring in the Year of Jubilee



²⁰²² Integrity Worship/PG Songs and Hymns/ASCAP

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.

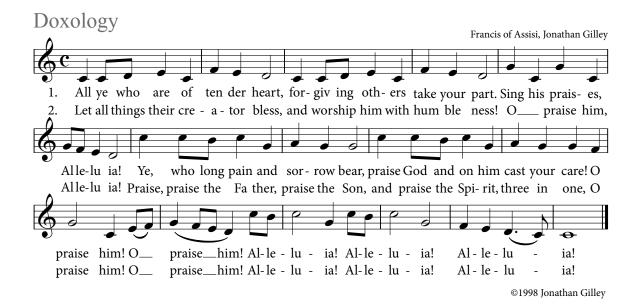
Responsive Psalm Reading

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

 All Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together.
 To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

from Psalm 122

Prayer of Adoration and Thanksgiving



Confession of Sin

All Heavenly Father,

you have created a universe of light: forgive us when we return to darkness. Lord Jesus, you are the light of the world: cleanse and heal our blinded sight. Holy Spirit, you give us light in our hearts: renew us in faith and love.

Silence is kept.

Words of Comfort and Assurance of Pardon

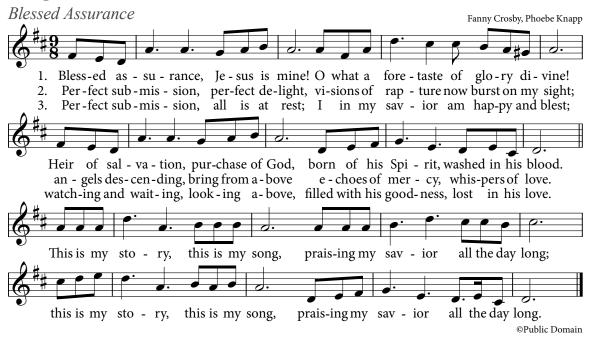
May almighty God, forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth, strengthen you to do God's will, and give you the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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



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: Isaiah 2:1-5

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ²In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gospel reading: Matthew 24:36-44

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁶"But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

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

"Swords into Plowshares" - Rev. Chris Currie



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. 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.

Prayers

Members of the congregation lead us in prayer.

O Morning Star, splendor of light eternal and sun of righteousness: Come and enlighten those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Bring in your kingdom of justice, truth, and mercy. Bring an end to war and violence in our world and our streets and our homes. For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Bind up the brokenhearted, restore the sick, and raise up all who have fallen. Come, Lord Jesus, with your healing power. 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,

For this, O Lord, we pray: *All* Lord, 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.

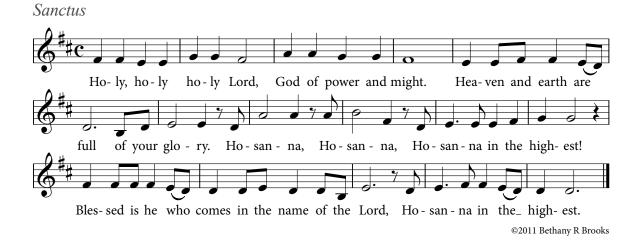
GOD STRENGTHENS US AT HIS TABLE

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 *Iesus 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:



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. Nonalcoholic white grape juice and a glutenfree 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.

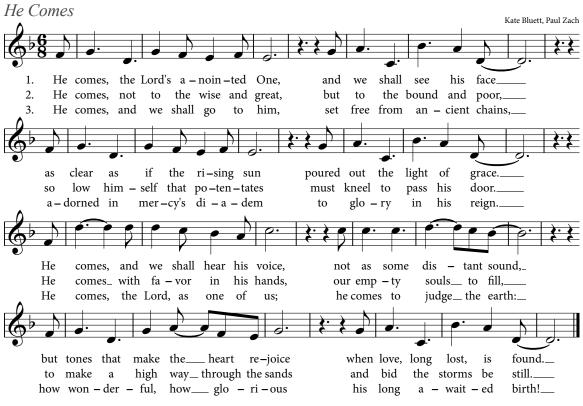
Prayer of belief

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



CCLI# 7186098 ©2021 Integrity Worship Music/PG Songs And Hymns

Prayer after Communion

All Father in heaven,

who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith. Amen.

Blessing and Sending

Wood and Nails Keith Watts, Isaac Wardell, Madison Cunningham 0 O hum ble car pen ter, down on your hands and_ knees, look on your handiwork 1. 2 O lov-ing la-bor-er with the sweat up on your face, oh build a tab-le that and build a house so you may dwell so you_ may dwell in in me, me. I too may join you in the Fath - er's oh in__ the Fath - er's place, place! with nothing but (1,2)The work was done____ wood and nails and built up- on_ The kingdom's come____ wood and_ nails The dead will rise_____ and give you praise:___ wood and_ nails The curse is done,___ the bat-tle won,__ swords bent_ down in your scar borne hands. show me how_ to work and praise_ О with - in your ways,___ gripped with joy ful - ness,____ send me out_____ so will not hold them down!____ These wood-en tombs,____ we'll break them soon____ plow in - to shares,____ your scarborne hands,___ we'll join with them,___ trust that_ I am your in- stru ment._ ing_ know ing_ that___ the task is fin ished.__ _ and fash ion_____them___ in - to flow-er___ beds. the tab -le you've pre serv ing_ at_____ pared._

CCLI #7097870 ©2017 Hymns from the Porter's Gate

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 the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory; 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 Sarah Long: guitar, voice **Celebrant** Rev. Chris Currie

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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

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

Center-City

Old City, Wednesdays 6:45p

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

Next Common Table on December 4, 5-7 pm Common Table is a new initiative that we're launching to foster relational connection, hospitality, and discipleship (for all ages) in the Resurrection community. Please register if you plan to join: resurrectionphl.org/ commontable.

Service of Lessons & Carols on Sunday, December 11 at 5

pm In lieu of our morning services on Sunday, December 11, we'll have one 5 pm service of Lessons & Carols in Center City. Lessons & Carols services are a Christmas tradition that traces its roots to England in 1880. Our service will feature traditional and lesser-known Christmas music arranged and performed by musicians from Philly's jazz, classical, and indie scenes, as well as readings that retell the story of Jesus's birth. A nursery will be available, and there will be a reception to follow.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

December

- 4 Common Table 5-7 pm@ CC
- 11 Service of Lessons & Carols @ CC, 5 pm (No AM services)
- **18** Cookies, Cocoa & Carols @ Woodland, 4 pm
- 24 Christmas Eve Service @ CC, 5 pm
- 25 Worship Service @ CC, 10:30 am

January

1 Worship Service @ WCHS, 10:30am

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	PT
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 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.



resurrectionphl.org