

Sunday December 4, 2022 The 2nd Sunday of Advent

IMAGES OF HOPE "A SHOOT FROM THE STUMP"

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

Before Advent is a word, it is a sigh. A voice crying. A mood. And never more deeply felt than in these troubled months. Advent marks both the exhaustion and the hope of God's people, when the meaning of our lives is expressed in a weary exhalation of ordinary breath and then a sharp intake of something greater.

-Richard Lischer

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 Rauch family

Reading: Romans 15:4-13

⁴For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope.

⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, ⁹and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; ¹⁰and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people"; ¹¹and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; ¹²and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

This is the Word of the Lord.

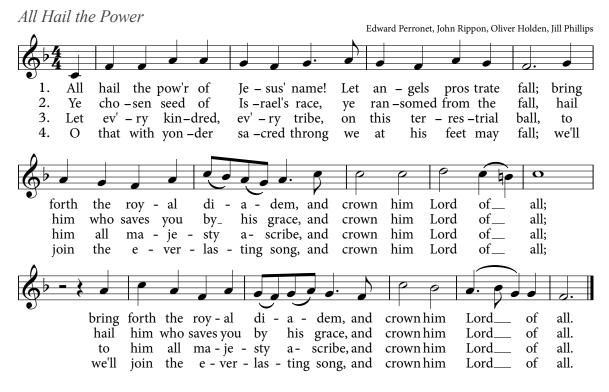
All Thanks be to God.

A period of silence is kept.

People of God: be glad! Your God delights in you, giving you joy for sadness and turning the dark to light. Be strong in hope therefore; for your God comes to save. You are God's children.

All Lord, make us one in the love of Christ today and forever.Amen.

Opening Song



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

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,

All whose hope is in the Lord their God,

who executes justice for the oppressed;

who gives food to the hungry.

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

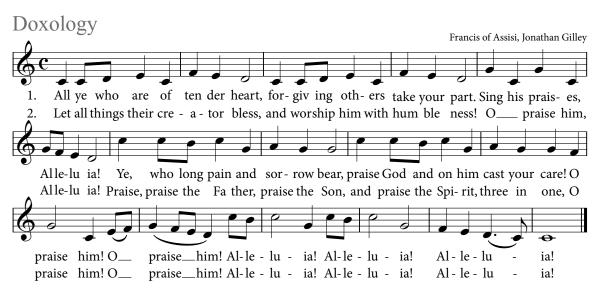
the Lord loves the righteous.

The Lord will reign forever.

Praise the Lord!

from Psalm 146

Prayer of Adoration and Thanksgiving



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Confession of Sin

All Heavenly Father,

you call us to repent of our sins: soften our proud and stubborn hearts.

Lord Jesus,

you declared the forgiveness of God:

teach us to forgive one another.

Holy Spirit,

you search our hearts and show us the truth:

direct us in your way of righteousness.

Silence is kept.

Words of Comfort and Assurance of Pardon

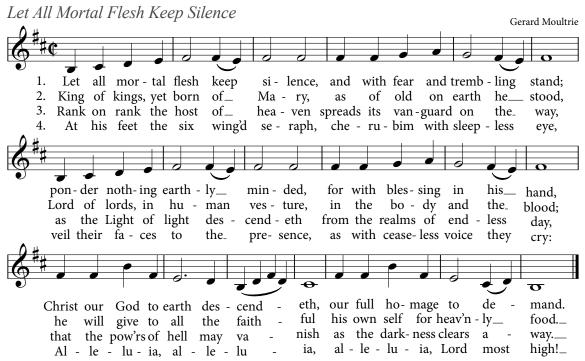
May almighty God, forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth, strengthen you to do God's will, and give you the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 11:1-10

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. ²The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. ³His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; 4but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. ⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins, ⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. ⁷The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. 8The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. ⁹They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

¹⁰On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

This is the Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

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.

Gospel reading: Matthew 3:1-12

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

¹In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, ²"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." ³This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'" ⁴Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. ⁵Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, ⁵and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruit worthy of repentance. ⁹Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ¹⁰Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ¹¹"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹²His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Reflection

"A Shoot from the Stump" - Dr. Cyndi Parker

Song of Response

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming



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.

O Root of Jesse, standing as a sign among the peoples; before you kings will shut their mouths, to you the nations will make their prayer:

Come and deliver us, and delay no longer.

For this, O Lord, we pray:

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Come to your Church as Lord and judge. Help us to live in the light of your coming, and give us a longing for your kingdom. 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.

Come to the suffering as Savior and comforter. Break into our lives, where we struggle with sickness and distress, and set us free to serve you forever. 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.

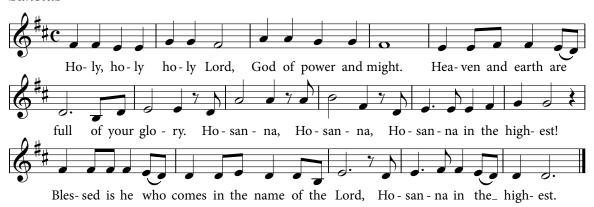
GOD STRENGTHENS US AT HIS TABLE

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:

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.

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



that his word is

ne – ver bro – ken.

see the to-ken

Prayer after Communion

Father in heaven.

flesh shall

and all

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.

All

Blessing and Sending



CCLI #7186094 © 2021 Integrity Worship Music/PG Songs And Hymns/ASCAP

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 God the Father, who loved the world so much that he sent his only Son, give you grace to prepare for life eternal; 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

Katie Everett: voice Mike Jones: trumpet Matt Engle: bass

Evan Chapman: drums

Liturgist

Rachel Allison

Scripture Reading

Christine Soh

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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



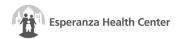






REDEMPTION HOUSING









ANNOUNCEMENTS

Common Table Tonight, 5-7 pm Common Table is an initiative that we launched this fall 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.

Save-the-date! 2-session Common Table on Faith + Work

Does our work have meaning and significance? How do we locate our work in the story that God is telling about his plan to redeem all things? If these questions resonate with you, plan to come to a 2-session Common Table on Faith & Work on January 26 and Feburary 5 from 5 to 7 pm at the Center City building. Childcare will be available. The Forum will be led by Deacon Chris Miciek, who serves as the Director of Career Services at Jefferson University Center City. Friends and family welcome! Registration coming soon.

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

Worship ServiceWCHS, 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 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.



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