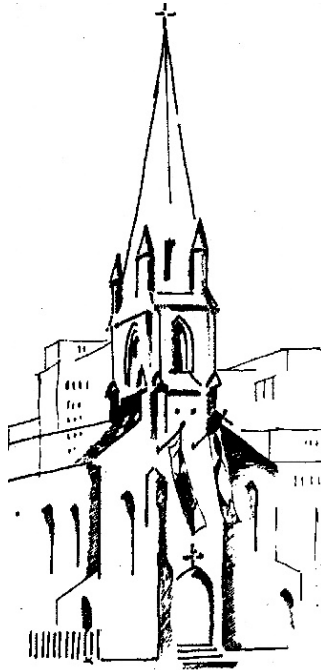


Christ Church Episcopal
Reading, Pennsylvania

Christ Is All and In All

**The 2nd Sunday
In Advent**

December 4, 2022



The Holy Eucharist

Services at 8:00 (spoken) and **10:00 AM** (with music) following
The Book of Common Prayer (BCP) - the black book in the pew racks
Service music (preceded by "S") is located at the FRONT of The (blue)
Hymnal 1982

VESTRY

Senior Warden: Rick Wolf, **Junior Warden:** Wayne Fanning, **Secretary:** Carolyn Handy. Connie Fegley, Ashleigh Hoelscher, Diane Morris, Anita Powell, Terry Rowles, Chris Spohn, June Tull, Michael West, and Pam Wheat

The Second Sunday of Advent

Leader: Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight

Response: Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be brought low;

Leader: And the crooked shall be made straight; and the rough places shall be made smooth;

Response: And all flesh shall see the salvation of our God

The Lighting of the Second Candle

Leader: I light the second candle on the second Sunday of Advent as a reminder that John the Baptist, the cousin of Jesus, announced the coming of Christ.

Response: May the light of God's Forgiveness shine in our hearts!

Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn: 65

Bereden väg för Herren

Opening Acclamation

BCP p. 355

Collect for Purity

BCP p. 355

Holy God: S101

Trisagion

Collect of the Day

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to

heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The 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.
His 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;
but 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.
Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The 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.

The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw
like the
ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They 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.

On 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.

The Psalm spoken responsively by half verse Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

Deus, judicium

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord GOD, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!

19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory.
Amen. Amen.

The Epistle

Romans 15:4-13

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

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For 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, and 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";
and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";
and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,
and let all the peoples praise him";
and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come,
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall
hope."

May 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.

Gospel

Matthew 3:1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This 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.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But 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? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do 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. Even 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.

"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. His 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."

Homily

The Nicene Creed

BCP p. 358

Prayers of the People - Advent 2 Year A

Leader: As the day of the Lord draws near, let us be awake, alert, and watchful in prayer saying, Lord in your mercy,

RESPONSE: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For the Church that in the face of distress and anxiety, it may steadfastly proclaim the sure and certain hope of God's promised redemption. Lord, in your mercy,

RESPONSE: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For the Diocese of Kajo Keji, the Diocese of Bethlehem and for this parish family, that in our worship and work we may live together in joyful hope. Lord, in your mercy,

Response: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For those who live and work in places of danger, especially those in the military, and for the leaders of the nations, that with their swords made into plows, they may no more study war. Lord, in your mercy,

RESPONSE: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For all who are burdened by the cares of life, that they may always be ready to welcome Christ wherever he reveals himself. Lord, in your mercy,

RESPONSE: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For those having birthdays this week that they may grow in wisdom and grace and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their lives. Lord, in your mercy,

RESPONSE: Hear our prayer.

Leader: For all those in any anguish of body, mind and spirit, remembering especially, and those we would remember in our hearts or by name (pause)...., that they may be made strong in the new day of salvation. Lord, in your mercy,

RESPONSE: Hear our prayer.

LEADER: For all those who have died, remembering especially **Cynthia and Louis Thun**; that they may find rest in God's holy place. Lord, in your mercy,

RESPONSE: Hear our prayer.

Leader: In the communion of blessed Mary, the God-bearer, and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, to Christ our God.

RESPONSE: To you, O Lord our God.

***Celebrant:** O Rising Son, brightness of light eternal, sun of justice, hear our prayers, and shine on those who sit in darkness and the shadow of death. Glory to you forever and ever. AMEN.*

Confession and Absolution

BCP p. 360

Peace

Announcements

Offertory Anthem: Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

David H. Williams

Hymn at the Presentation: 54 (vv. 1 & 4)

Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP p. 367

Holy, Holy, Holy S 124

Sanctus

Lord's Prayer

BCP p. 364

Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us; *Therefore let us keep the feast.*

BCP p. 364

Distribution of Holy Communion

All baptized Christians are invited to receive.

Communion Hymns

Hymnal 64, 75

Post-communion Prayer

BCP p. 366

Blessing

Closing Hymn: 67

Psalm 42

Dismissal

Postlude

Prelude on *Helmsley*

Robert J. Powell

Liturgical Ministers

Celebrant: The Rev. James Rinehart

Organist/Choirmaster: James K. Wilson

Lectors/Prayers of the People: Chris Spohn (8:00AM)

Charlotte Hoare/Victoria Wilson (10:00AM)

Ushers: Ellen Sunderman/Chris Spohn (8:00AM)

Linda Jones/Christine Keeler/Jack Lacey(10:00AM)

Altar Guild Team: June Tull and Sophia (*Captain*) Pricilla Hirschenhofer,
Andrea Griffith, Kim Alarcon

Altar Candle Memorials for December are given to the **Glory of God and in Loving Memory of: Paul and Alice Swain and Arthur and Mary Hoare** by Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Hoare; **Lois Feick** by David & Judy Feick; and In **For Blessings Received** by Susan Frankowski.

Altar Flowers for today are given to the **Glory of God and in Loving Memory of: Cynthis and Louis Thun** from Chip Karasin

Anyone interested in sponsoring Altar Flowers, Columbarium Flowers, Lectern Flowers, or Altar Candle dedications should please contact Nancy Shelly @ **610-375-7925**. Thank you!

Upcoming Events:

Adult Forum will be held on **December 4 at 9:00** in the parlor. This Sunday, adult forum will feature Valerie Eaglechaser McCleaf,

presenting "Native American Spirituality." Coffee and cookies will be served.

ECW Rummage Sale will be Wednesdays December 7th and 14th and Saturday, December 10th from 10:00AM to 1:00PM.

Weekday Worship Services

Zoom Bible Study, Wednesday @ 8 am; **Zoom Centering Prayer sessions**, Tuesday and Thursday at 9:00 A.M.; **Morning Prayer**, Thursday @ **11:00 am** at Red Bridge Park (led by David Emes)

Christ Church Office:

(610) 374-8269

435 Court Street

Reading, PA 19601

Write to us at: **P.O. Box 1094, Reading, PA 19603-1094**

It's easy to join our mailing list! Just send your email address by text message: Text **BELLS** to 42828 to get started. (*Message and data rates may apply.*)

Regular Christ Church Office hours:

Monday: 8:00 am - 2:00 PM; Wednesday 8:00 am - 2:00 PM;
Closed Friday

The Christ Church Mission:

Sharing God's Love with All

Please visit us at www.rdgchristchurch.org. The Diocesan and church staff members are listed, as well as a calendar of events. You may use this

website to send in prayer requests. You may also request to be added to the list for e-blasts and newsletters.

Christ Church is a wondrous sight at Christmas. Would you please consider joining in to help beautify the church for Christmas services? Greening of the church will take place immediately following the 10am service on Sunday December 18. Coffee hour will include sandwich fixings. The Worship Committee and Altar Guild would truly appreciate any and all help. Many hands make light work, and the end result is glorious. No need to sign up; simply show up and lend your hands and joyous support. Thank you so much!



2022 Christmas Memorial Flower Order

Please use this form to place your order for poinsettias and or greens AND/OR contribute to Mary's Shelter.
Please mark with an (X) to complete the following:

_____ I wish to donate #___ poinsettia(s) at \$9.00 ea. \$ _____

_____ I wish to donate for the greening of the church \$ _____

_____ I wish to donate to Mary's Shelter \$ _____

TOTAL DONATION

(Make checks payable to "Christ Church") \$ _____

Please **print names** in the spaces below for listing in the Christmas Bulletins. My gift is given:

In Memory of (if deceased)

In Honor of (if living)

In Thanksgiving for

_____ I wish to pick up my poinsettia(s) after the 10:00am service
on Sunday January 1st.

_____ I will deliver my poinsettia(s) to a homebound member.

***Please make checks payable to "Christ Church" and mail to the post office box no later than Sun.
Dec. 11, 2022 (or place in the collection
plate.)***

NAME: _____ e-mail _____

PHONE: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Christ Church, P.O. Box 1094, Reading, PA 19603-1094