

Christ Church (Episcopal)

Reading, Pennsylvania

IN the city. WITH our neighbors. FOR everyone.



The First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024

8am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (spoken)

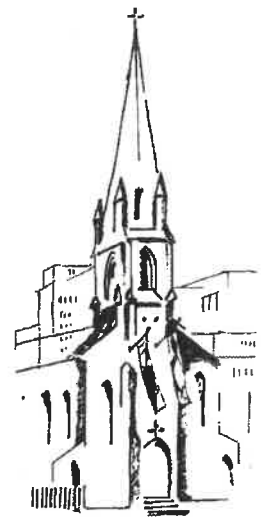
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10am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two (sung)

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Children's Activities

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Today's Readings—The First Sunday of Advent

The Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The New Testament Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The Holy Gospel: Luke 21:25-36

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away." Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant: Almighty God, as we rejoice in your Son's first coming, so we await with eager expectation the fulfilment of his promise that he will come amongst us again, as we say, Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Intercessor: Come to your Church as Lord and judge. We pray for Fr Bryce, our rector, Kevin, our bishop, Sean, our presiding bishop, Justin and the Worldwide Anglican Communion during this time of transition, Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan and Church of the Redeemer, Sayre. Help us to live in the light of your coming and give us a longing for your kingdom. Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to your world as King of the nations. We pray for those who live in fear and danger, especially the people of Ukraine and the Middle East. Before you rulers will stand in silence. Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to the suffering as Saviour and comforter. Please pray for those on our parish prayer list, and those we name now either silently or aloud.... We also pray for all of those who have suffered abuse; may they find healing and wholeness. Break into our lives, where we struggle with sickness and distress, and set us free to serve you for ever. Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls. We remember Cynthia and Louis Thun. Give us with all the faithful departed a share in your victory over evil and death. Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Come from heaven, Lord Jesus, with power and great glory. Lift us up to meet you, that with Blessed Mary and all your saints and angels we may live and reign with you in your new creation. We pray for those celebrating this week: Nicole Lundy. Maranatha: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Celebrant: Come, Lord Jesus, do not delay; give new courage to your people, who trust in your love. By your coming, raise us to share in the joy of your kingdom on earth as in heaven, where you live and reign with the Father and the Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

[Maranatha is an Aramaic word meaning "O Lord, come"]

Cover image: "The Triumph of Christianity..." (detail) by Gustave Dore (1899)

**Christ Church (Episcopal)
Reading, PA
8am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two**

The Liturgy of the Word

Please stand

Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Leader Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

People **Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**

The Collect for Purity (said together)

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Kyrie

Celebrant: Lord have mercy.

People: **Christ have mercy.**

Celebrant: Lord have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you:

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16 (full text on page 2 of this bulletin)

At the end of the reading

Reader: The Word of the Lord:

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25: 1-9 (The psalm is read responsively by whole verse)

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;

my God, I put my trust in you;

let me not be humiliated,

nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame;

let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

Show me your ways, O Lord,

and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation;

in you have I trusted all the day long.

Remember, O Lord, your compassion and love,

for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;

remember me according to your love

and for the sake of your goodness, O Lord.

Gracious and upright is the Lord;

therefore he teaches sinners in his way.

He guides the humble in doing right

and teaches his way to the lowly.

All the paths of the Lord are love and faithfulness

to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

The New Testament Reading: Revelation 1:4b-8 (full text on page 2 of this bulletin)

At the end of the reading

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

The Holy Gospel: Luke 21:25-36 (full text on page 2 of this bulletin)

Before the reading

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke:

People: **Glory be to you, Lord Christ.**

After the reading

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord:

People: **Praise be to you, Lord Christ.**

Please be seated

The Homily

Please stand

The Nicene Creed (page 8 of this bulletin)

The Prayers of the People (page 4 of this bulletin)

Intercessor: Marantha,

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Confession of Sin (page 8 of this bulletin)

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer A, page 9 of this bulletin)

The Sanctus (page 10 of this bulletin)

The Celebrant concludes the Great Thanksgiving on page 10 of this bulletin

The Lord's Prayer and Breaking of the Bread (page 11 of this bulletin)

The Invitation to Communion and Communion

Everyone is invited to receive. If you would prefer to receive a blessing please indicate this by crossing your arms while at the communion rail. There will be two chalices for receiving: the first to drink from and the second chalice is for intinction (dipping the host instead of drinking).

The Post-Communion Prayers

Celebrant: O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Then all pray together:

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father,**
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessing

The Dismissal

Celebrant: As we await our coming Saviour, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

8:00 AM Service Participants

Celebrant and Homilist

The Reverend Bryce Wandrey

Lector and Intercessor

Terry Rowles

Usher

Ellen Sunderman

Communion Assistant

Chris Spohn

Altar Guild

Victoria Wilson (Captain), Doris
Schilpp, Helen Peemoeller,
Sally Wilcox and Pat Kelley

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Confession of Sin

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All **Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins
 through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all
 goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in
 eternal life.

All **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving (Eucharistic Prayer A)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you:

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts:

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

(8AM spoken, sung on page 18 at 10AM)

All **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 Hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All **Christ has died.
 Christ is risen.
 Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

People And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,
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 trespasses,
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power, and the glory,
 for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

People Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Invitation to Communion

The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.



2024 Christmas Memorial Flower Order and Mary's Shelter Benefit Form



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 \$10.00 ea. for a total of \$_____

_____ 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" writing either "Poinsettias" or "Mary's Shelter" in the Memo line. *Place your check with this form in the offering plate or mail to Christ Church, P.O. Box 1094, Reading, PA 19603-1094 so that it arrives no later than Wednesday December 15th*

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 December 29

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

Please make checks payable to "Christ Church" and

NAME: _____ e-mail _____

PHONE: _____

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
 2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
 3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
 4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
 dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
 daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
 thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
 nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
 ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
 power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
 ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
 own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
 deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
 with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Helmsley*, melody Thomas Augustine Arne (1710-1778); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt.

Christ Church (Episcopal)
Reading, PA
10am Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

Prelude *Romanze* Clara Wieck Schumann

Processional Hymn 57 *Lo! he comes, with clouds descending (see page 13)*

The Liturgy of the Word

Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:
People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Leader Restore us, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

People **Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**

Leader As we begin this season of Advent, we remember and give thanks for all of those who have heard God's word of promise throughout the ages and we rejoice that they had the faith and trust to believe those promises and to walk in the ways of righteousness. May we continue to hear God's promises today and may we be granted the same faith and trust to listen and follow in the paths that God has destined for us. We light this first candle as a symbol of our desire to hear and trust God's great promises to this world.

The first candle is lit on the Advent Wreath

Leader Let us pray: Almighty God, as we rejoice in your Son's first advent, so we await with eager expectation the fulfillment of his promise that he will come among us again. Strengthen us in our faith, that we may know his presence with us now, as we wait, and fashion our souls to be places where his coming grace and mercy will find a home, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you:

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

The Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16 (full text on page 2 of this bulletin)

At the end of the reading

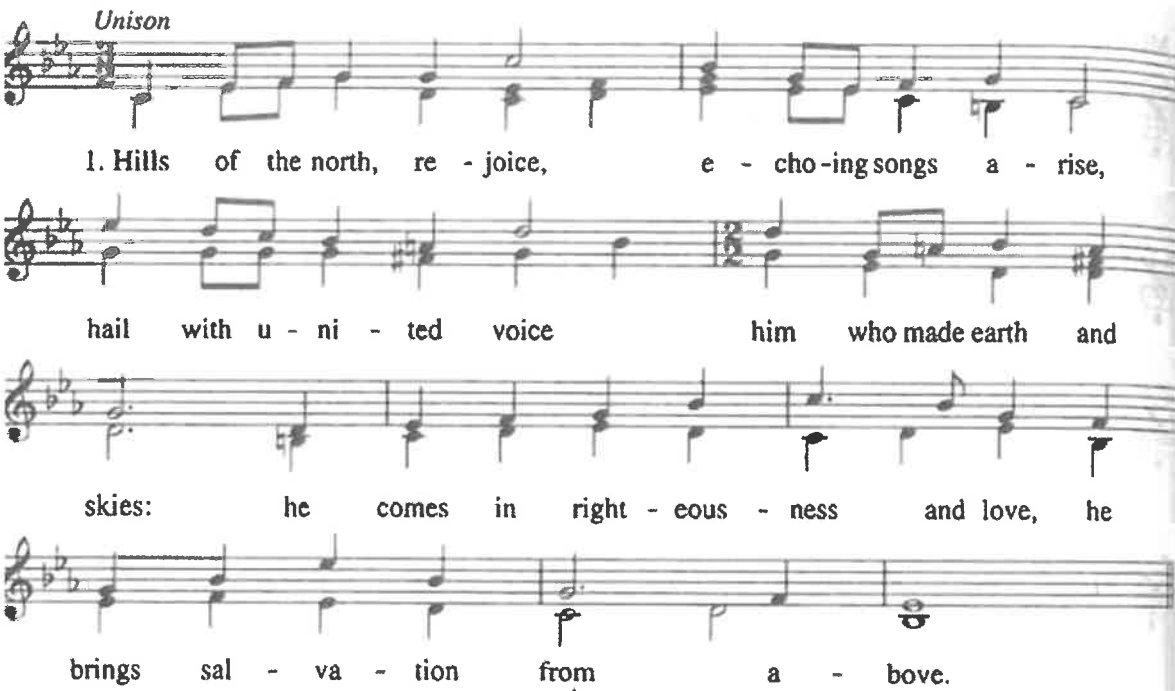
Reader: The Word of the Lord:

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Gospel Hymn *Hills of the North Rejoice*

Unison



The musical score is written for a unison voice part. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a common time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The second staff continues the melody and lyrics. The third staff continues the melody and lyrics. The fourth staff concludes the melody and lyrics with a final chord.

1. Hills of the north, re - joice, e - cho - ing songs a - rise,
hail with u - ni - ted voice him who made earth and
skies: he comes in right - eous - ness and love, he
brings sal - va - tion from a - bove.

Music © Copyright J. Curwen & Sons, 8/9 Frith Street, London W1V 5TZ. Used by permission.

2. Isles of the southern seas
sing to the list'ning earth,
carry on ev'ry breeze
hope of a world's new birth:
in Christ shall all be made anew,
his word is sure, his promise true.

3. Lands of the east, arise,
he is your brightest morn,
greet him with joyous eyes,
praise shall his path adorn:
the God whom you have longed to know
in Christ draws near, and calls you now.

4. Shores of the utmost west,
lands of the setting sun,
welcome the heav'nly guest
in whom the dawn has come:
he brings a never-ending light
who triumphed o'er our darkest night.

5. Shout, as you journey on,
songs be in ev'ry mouth,
lo, from the north they come,
from east and west and south:
in Jesus all shall find their rest,
in him the longing earth be blest.

The Holy Gospel: Luke 21:25-36 (full text on page 2 of this bulletin)

Before the reading:

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke:

People: **Glory be to you, Lord Christ.**

After the reading:

Gospeller: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

Please be seated

The Homily

Please stand

The Nicene Creed (page 8 of this bulletin)

The Prayers of the People (page 3 of this bulletin)

Intercessor: Marantha,

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Confession of Sin (page 8 of this bulletin)

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Announcements and Children's Message

The Offertory Anthem *Wachet auf*

Hans Sachs/J.S. Bach

1. "Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us
the shout of rampart guards surrounds us:
"Awake, Jerusalem, arise!"
Midnight's peace their cry has broken,
their urgent summons clearly spoken:
"The time has come, O maidens wise!
Rise up, and give us light;
the Bridegroom is in sight.
Alleluia!
Your lamps prepare
and hasten there,
that you the wedding feast may share."

2. Zion hears the watchmen singing;
her heart with joyful hope is springing,
she wakes and hurries through the night.
Forth he comes, her Bridegroom glorious
in strength of grace, in truth victorious:
her star is risen, her light grows bright.
Now come, most worthy Lord,
God's Son, Incarnate Word,
Alleluia!
We follow all
and heed your call
to come into the banquet hall.

3. Lamb of God, the heavens adore
you;
let saints and angels sing before
you,
as harps and cymbals swell the
sound.
Twelve great pearls, the city's por-
tals:
through them we stream to join the
immortals
as we with joy your throne sur-
round.
No eye has known the sight,
no ear heard such delight:
Alleluia!
Therefore we sing
to greet our King;
for ever let our praises ring.

Presentation Hymn *54 Savior of the nations come (vs 1)*

Savior of the nations, come!
Virgin's Son, make here your home.
Marvel now, both heaven and earth,
that the Lord chose such a birth.

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving (Prayer A page 9 of this bulletin)

Celebrant: The Lord be with you:

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts:

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:

People: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

The celebrant continues with the Great Thanksgiving on page 9 of this bulletin

The Sanctus

Franz Peter Schubert

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are
full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828), arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

The Celebrant concludes the Great Thanksgiving on page 10 of this bulletin

The Lord's Prayer (page 11 of this bulletin)

The Fraction Anthem

James E. Moore, Jr.

Taste and see. Taste and see the good - ness
of the Lord. O taste and see. Taste and
see the good - ness of the Lord. of the Lord. **Fine**

The Invitation to Communion (page 11 of this bulletin)

The Agnus Dei

Healey Wilan

O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the
7 world, have mercy upon us.
13 O Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the
18 world, grant us your peace.

Everyone is invited to receive. If you would prefer to receive a blessing please indicate this by crossing your arms while at the communion rail. There will be two chalices for receiving: the first to drink from and the second chalice is for intinction (dipping the host instead of drinking).

The Communion Hymn 66 *Come, thou long expected Jesus*



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;



from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmosodia Sacra, oder Andachtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

If Eucharistic visitors are being sent forth today to take the sacrament to people at home, the following prayer is said after Communion:

Celebrant: In the name of God, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

All: **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. Amen.**

Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant: O Lord our God, make us watchful and keep us faithful as we await the coming of your Son our Lord; that, when he shall appear, he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service and joyful in his praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Then all pray together:

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father,**
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Blessing

The Closing Hymn 72 *Hark! the glad sound* (see page 22)

The Dismissal

Celebrant: As we await our coming Saviour, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Welcome to Christ Church

We are happy to welcome you to our church and worship services. Here are some things that you may find helpful. If you would like to **know more about us** there are cards that you can fill out hanging in each pew. Please hand your completed card to an usher as you leave today. Please join us after the service in our **Fellowship Hall** (down the stairs near the front of the church and on your right at the bottom of the stairs) to get to know us better. The most readily accessible **restroom** is through the door near the front of the sanctuary. Once you go through that door turn right; the restroom is across from the elevator. **Parking** is available for free on the street on Sundays and in the M&T parking lot behind the church on the corner of Washington Street and Madison Ave.

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Sa - vior comes, the Sa - vior
 2 He comes, the pris - oners to re - lease in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes, the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, thy wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - ery heart pre -
 bond - age held; the gates of brass be -
 soul to cure; and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim; and heaven's e - ter - nal

pare a throne, and ev - ery voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with thy be - lov - ed Name.

Words: Philip Doddridge (1702-1751)

Music: *Richmond*, melody Thomas Haweis (1734-1820); adapt. Samuel Webbe (1740-1816);
 harm. *Hymns Ancient and Modern, Revised*, 1950; desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971)

♩-76
 CM



Did you forget your checkbook this morning? Have you been wanting to set up a pledge but keep forgetting? Life just got a whole lot easier: scan the QR code on your phone and it will take you directly to our giving homepage.

10AM Service Participants

Celebrant and Homilist
The Reverend Bryce Wandrey

Organist and Choir Director
John Painter

Verger
Linda Jones

Gospel Book Bearer
Milah Smith

Lector
Anita Powell

Intercessor
Diane Morris

Ushers
Susan Doll, Christine Keeler,
Larry Whalen

Communion Assistants
Kate Fanning and Milah Smith

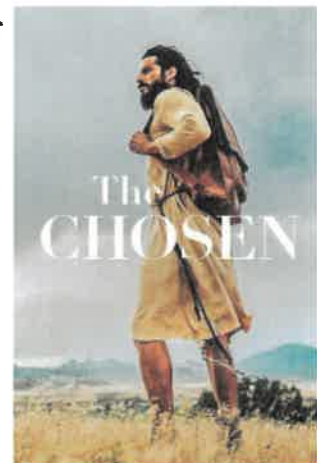
Crucifer
Andrea Griffith

Acolytes
Derek Morris and Josh West

Altar Guild
Victoria Wilson (Captain), Doris
Schilpp, Helen Peemoeller,
Sally Wilcox and Pat Kelley

Starting today our Adult Forum will shift to using portions of "The Chosen" episodes. This TV show focuses on those around Jesus throughout his life and how they received his message and ministry. It has been a very popular show over the last few years. We will take this time during the Sundays in Advent to wonder what it might have been like to follow in Jesus' footsteps 2,000 years ago. Please join us at 9:05am in the Parlor.

On Monday November 18th the scaffolding was erected in our nave. Full details of this work are available on the handout "What's Happening @ CCR?" and in our enews. We will be worshipping in the chapel at 8am and in the Fellowship Hall at 10am for at least Sundays November 24th, December 1st and 8th.



For those in need of our prayers....

Runette	Beverly	Kristin	Bethany
Connie	Randall	Wyatt	Alli
Beverly	Brian and Fianna	Karren and Ken	Donna
Peggy	Lor	Duane	Jeri
Bob	Gigi	Penny	Joe
Thun Family	Lola and Family	Sandi and Tom	Ray
Barbara	Jim	Ted	Brian
The Kraras Family	Margy	Jakob	Joshua
Lucas	Angelica	JoJo	Bryce
Brenda	Jonathan	Joseph	Fernando
Jesus	Terra	Penny	Matt and Britt
Alli	Kate	Jason	Max
Wendy and Ken	Elise and Family	Brother Jeff	M.J.
Bruce	Zach	Wyatt	

Kindly submit any names you would to be added to the prayer list by emailing Kim @officemgr@rdgchristchurch.org or writing the name on the paper on the table inside the church.

Regular Christ Church Office hours:

Monday: 8:00 am - 2:00 PM; Tuesday 8:00AM-12:30PM

Wednesday 8:00 am - 2:00 PM

Please visit us at www.rdgchristchurch.org. The 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-news and newsletters.

IN the city. WITH our neighbors. FOR everyone.

We are grounded in the values of love, service and faithful stewardship. Firmly rooted in compassionate collaboration, we welcome partnerships that nurture our neighbors and address pressing issues in our community. We endeavor to be a cornerstone for the city of Reading, enabling all that come through our doors to experience the dignity, purpose and opportunities that God desires for everyone.

Vestry	Education for Ministry
Wayne Fanning (Senior Warden)	Bible Study
Diane Morris (Junior Warden)	EYC
Terry Rowles (Pastoral Care)	<u>Pastoral Care</u>
Pam Wheat (Grants)	Cards and notes
Carolyn Handy (Stewardship)	Prayer Lists
Michael West (Finance)	Eucharistic Visitors
Connie Fegley (Worship)	Flower Delivery
Anita Powell (Hospitality)	Pastoral Visits
Kim Alarcon (Outreach)	<u>Fellowship</u>
Mary Arguelles (Children/Youth)	Sunday Fellowship Hour
Chuck Brantman (Security/Property)	50+ Club
	Hospitality Committee
	<u>Business</u>
Our Ministries	Property
<u>Worship</u>	Churchyard Cleanup Team
Acolytes	Stewardship Team
Altar Guild	Planned Giving
Eucharistic Ministers	Communications
Lectors and Intercessors	Capital Campaign
Vergers	Security Taskforce
Guitar and Taizé Services	<u>Outreach</u>
Healing Team	Opportunity House
Centering Prayer	Rummage
Morning Prayer	Mary's Shelter
Ushers	Narcotics Anonymous
Kristallnacht Service	Literacy Council of Reading-Berks
<u>Music</u>	ESL Dinners
Parish Choir	Daughters of the King
Bell Ringers	Episcopal Church Women
Children's Choir	Helping Harvest
Fall Festival of Arts	Veterans Coalition of PA
<u>Education</u>	Angel Tree
Adult Forum	Berks Youth Chorus
Library	Sunday Service
Children's Ministries	Livestream

Our Thursday morning **Bible Study** continues at 9am in the Library. Prior attendance is not required; please join us.



What does an orange, a red ribbon, a candle, some toothpicks and candy have to do with Christmas? Be with us on December 8th for our special Christingle Children's message at the 10am service. Every child in attendance will get a bag of Christingle ingredients to take home and construct their own special Christmas symbol.

Christmas Lessons and Carols is one of the most beautiful services of our year. Please join us on Sunday December 22nd at 5pm for this wonderful service of carols, readings and prayers.

On December 18th at 6pm we will be having our Blue Christmas service once again with musician David Cullen. This is a chance for all of us to live into the reality that the Christmas season brings not only a time to celebrate but also, for many of us, a time to recognize the losses in our lives. Please join us.

Altar Candle Memorials for December are given for **Blessings Received** by Susan Frankowski; **Paul and Alice Swain and Arthur and Mary Hoare** by Stephen and Charlotte Hoare; **Sherry Feick Chandler** by David and Judy Feick.

Altar Flowers for today are given to the **Greater glory of God and in Loving Memory of Cynthia and Louis Thun** from Chip Karasin.

Christ Is Coming Again

At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Luke 21:27 (NIV)

Words are taken from Luke 21:25-36 (NIV).

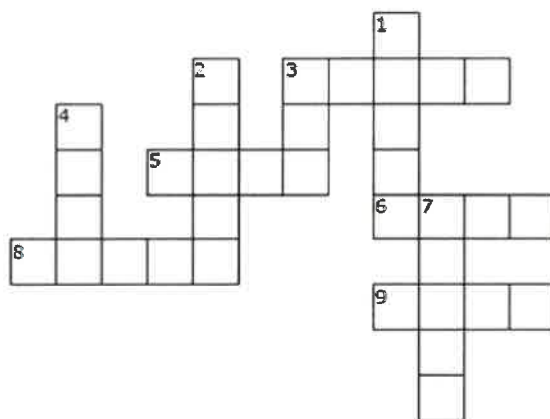


T N A I D N H G C M W N S R Y
H D A T O E E E C Y J P T F T
F J F T K W V S A A H L A N W
I I I F I B A L C V R D N M S
L F B D W O A T Y A E E D V E
I R S S H Y N Q C S P N F K A
F E G U A L T S Z H D E J U E
E D B G N X F U T G L O R Y L
V E C H B O D R B A W O R L D
D M L S E I L R U Y R H L D H
Q P O S I G N S M F U S S T N
G T U I P D R G Q Z P F R O S
B I D P O W E R S Z D A O T X
W O Q G R H E A D S E M W N V
G N L P R A Y G Q J A Z J U E

careful	glory	moon	redemption	stars
cloud	heads	nations	sea	sun
earth	heaven	power	signs	watch
escape	lift	pray	stand	world

Christ Is Coming Again

At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Luke 21:27 (NIV)



ACROSS

3. Twinkling points of light in the sky at night
5. The large heavenly body visible in the night sky
6. The part of the body containing the brain, eyes, ears, nose, mouth
8. To rise to an upright position on your feet
9. To make a request to God

DOWN

1. To observe very carefully
2. Large, white, fluffy things floating in the sky
3. The earth's source of heat and light
4. To raise from a lower to a higher position
7. The planet on which we live

earth	moon	cloud	pray	head
sun	stars	watch	lift	stand

This Week at Christ Church

Sunday, December 1—The First Sunday of Advent

8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken)

9AM Sunday School

9:05AM Adult Forum

10AM Holy Eucharist (sung)

11AM Fellowship Hour

11:15 Children's Choir Practice

3-5:30PM Berks Youth Chorus

4-5PM NA meeting

Monday, December 2

12PM—1PM NA meeting

5:30-7PM NA meeting

Tuesday, December 3

9AM Citizenship Class

12:30AM Centering Prayer in the Chapel

12PM—1PM NA meeting

Wednesday, December 4

830AM Staff Meeting

12PM Holy Eucharist

12PM—1PM NA Meeting

3:15-4:15PM Children's Choir rehearsal

5:30-7PM NA Meeting

7:15PM-Choir rehearsal

Thursday, December 5

830AM—12PM Citizenship Class

930AM Zoom Centering Prayer

11AM Morning Prayer in the Chapel

12PM—1PM NA Meeting

Friday, December 6

12PM—1PM NA Meeting

Saturday, December 7

12PM-2PM NA meeting

Sunday, December 8—The Second Sunday of Advent

8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken)

9AM Sunday School

9:05AM Adult Forum

10AM Holy Eucharist (sung)

11AM Fellowship Hour

11:15 Children's Choir Practice

3-5:30PM Berks Youth Chorus

4-5PM NA meeting

Upcoming Events

December 8 Christingle Children's Message at 10AM

December 18 Blue Christmas at 6PM

December 22 Christmas Lessons and Carols at 5PM

December 24 Christmas Eve

Christmas Pageant with Eucharist at 4PM

Festal Eucharist at 11PM (Pre-service music begins at 10:30PM)

December 25 Christmas Day

Eucharist at 10AM



Christ Episcopal Church
Christ is all and in all