

Christ Church (Episcopal)

Reading, Pennsylvania

IN the city. WITH our neighbors. FOR everyone.



The Second Sunday of Advent

December 8, 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 Second Sunday of Advent

The Old Testament Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem, and put on forever the beauty of the glory from God. Put on the robe of the righteousness that comes from God; put on your head the diadem of the glory of the Everlasting; for God will show your splendor everywhere under heaven. For God will give you evermore the name, "Righteous Peace, Godly Glory." Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height; look toward the east, and see your children gathered from west and east at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that God has remembered them. For they went out from you on foot, led away by their enemies; but God will bring them back to you, carried in glory, as on a royal throne. For God has ordered that every high mountain and the everlasting hills be made low and the valleys filled up, to make level ground, so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God. The woods and every fragrant tree have shaded Israel at God's command. For God will lead Israel with joy, in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

The New Testament Reading: Philippians 1:3-11

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

The Holy Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

The Prayers of the People

Celebrant: Lord, we pray for your Church, that we would open our eyes to your light in our world and open our hearts to be eager for your coming kingdom, as we say, Lord Jesus, come soon!

Intercessor: Come to your Church as Lord and judge. We pray for all in our society who strive for justice and peace and 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 Sudan, and Calvary, Tamaqua. Help us to live in the light of your coming and give us a longing for your kingdom. We pray: **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Come to your world as King of the nations. We pray for our President and all of those in positions of power and authority. 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. We pray: **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Come to the suffering as Saviour and comforter. We pray for all of those whom we know to be in need; the sick, the suffering, the lonely and the destitute, for those on our parish prayer list printed in the bulletin, 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. We pray: **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls. We remember all of those who have departed this life, especially Henry, Almeta and Lois Feick, Janet Moyer and Gerald Budzik. Give us with all the faithful departed a share in your victory over evil and death. We pray: **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

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: Joan Worthington, Cathryn Clinton, Fianna Holt, Rachel Lawes and Mary Grimm. We pray: **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

Celebrant: Lord our God, through your prophetic voices you comfort us in our pain and call us to new ways of life; heal us and give us the confidence to go where you are leading, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**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: A voice cries out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord.'

People: **So let us listen, and turn to the Lord in penitence and faith.**

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:

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.**

The Old Testament Reading: Baruch 5:1-9 (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.**

Canticle: Luke 1: 68-79

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel;
he has come to his people and set them free.

**He has raised up for us a mighty savior,
born of the house of his servant David.**

Through his holy prophets he promised of old,
that he would save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all who hate us.

**He promised to show mercy to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant.**

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham,
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

**Free to worship him without fear,
holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.**

You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

**To give his people knowledge of salvation
by the forgiveness of their sins.**

In the tender compassion of our God
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The New Testament Reading: Philippians 1:3-11 (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 3: 1-6 (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 3 of this bulletin)

Intercessor: We pray:

People: **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

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: 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; 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 hear the prophetic call, 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

Communion Assistant
Rick Wolf

Lector and Intercessor
Chris Spohn

Altar Guild
Charlotte Hoare (Captain), Christine
Keeler, Josephine Lawson and
Mary Jane Androne

Usher
Chris Spohn

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:

(SAM 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

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **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 18th

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 29th

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

Please make checks payable to "Christ Church" and

NAME: _____ e-mail _____

PHONE: _____

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

Prelude

Romanze

Robert Schumann

Processional Hymn

On Jordan's bank

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
 2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
 3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt. Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalisches Hand-Buch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

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: A voice cries out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord.'

People: **So let us listen, and turn to the Lord in penitence and faith.**

Leader: As we hear the voice of the Baptist in the wilderness, we are reminded of the prophets from ages past who called people to turn and see what God was doing. We give thanks for their courage to proclaim God's message, especially when it was one that was difficult to hear and accept. We also give thanks for the prophetic voices that still speak in our world today. We need those brave voices to ring out, we need their brave messages and we need to hear that God is calling us to turn and see what new things God is accomplishing in our lives. We light this second candle of Advent as we welcome the light of the prophets into our lives.

The second candle is lit on the Advent Wreath

Leader: Let us pray: Lord God, through your prophets you comforted us in our weakness and called us to use our strengths for the good of others. As we pray in this season for Christ's coming, we ask that we would have the confidence to renew our own lives, that, through compassion and service, we may be made agents of your kingdom in our world, through 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:

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.**

Please be seated

The Old Testament Reading: Baruch 5:1-9 (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

The desert shall rejoice

The des-ert shall re-joice and blos-som as a rose:

1. It shall
2. For the
3. For the
4. For the

blos - som a - bun - dant - ly and re - joice with praise and sing - ing.
ears of the deaf shall hear And the blind, their eyes be o - pened.
tongue of the mute shall sing and the lame will dance with glad - ness.
ground will be - come a pool and the dry land springs of wa - ter.

5. The desert shall rejoice
and blossom as a rose:
as the ransomed return to God
and come singing back to Zion.

6. The desert shall rejoice
and blossom as a rose:
unto Zion we come with joy,
for our God has come to save us.

Words: Gracia Grindal (b. 1943). Music: *Sterling*, Joy F Patterson (b. 1931).

The Holy Gospel: Luke 3:1-6 (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: We pray:

People: **Lord Jesus, come soon!**

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, DOK Admission Service and Children's Message

The Offertory Anthem *Never weather-beaten sail* Charles Wood

Never weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore
Never tired pilgrim's limbs affected slumber more
Than my wearied sprite now longs to fly out of my troubled breast:
O come quickly, sweetest Lord, and take my soul to rest

Ever blooming are the joys of Heaven's high Paradise
Cold age deafs not there our ears nor vapour dims our eyes:
Glory there the sun outshines whose beams the blessed only see:
O come quickly, glorious Lord, and raise my sprite to thee!

Presentation Hymn

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 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.

Musical score for 'The Fraction Anthem' in 3/8 time, featuring a treble and bass clef. The lyrics are: '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)

Agnus Dei

Healey Wilan

Musical score for 'Agnus Dei' in 3/4 time, featuring a treble clef. The lyrics are: 'O Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the 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 *The King shall come* (see page 20)

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: 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; 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 *O come, O come, Emmanuel* (see page 21)

The Dismissal

Celebrant: As we hear the prophetic call, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

1 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
 2 Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, to
 3 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
 4 and let the end - less bliss be - gin, by
 5 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and

1 light tri - um - phant breaks; when beau - ty gilds the
 2 bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glo - ry
 3 earth's dark night is past; O haste the ris - ing
 4 wear - y saints fore - told, when right shall tri - umph
 5 light and beau - ty brings: Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy

1 east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes,
 2 like the sun that lights the morn - ing sky.
 3 of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;
 4 o - ver wrong, and truth shall be ex - tolled.
 5 peo - ple pray, come quick - ly, King of kings.

Words: Greek; tr. John Brownlie (1859-1925), alt. Music: *St. Stephen*, William Jones (1726-1800), alt.



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from
 8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
 3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to
 8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
 3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
 4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund, Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

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.

SERVICE OF ADMISSION for Milah Smith and Brittany Underkofler

Present: It is my privilege to present Milah Smith and Brittany Underkofler as candidates for membership in The Order of the Daughters of the Kinge.

Celebrant: Dearly beloved, we are gathered here in the sight of God to admit these His servants into The Order of the Daughters of the King. Let us pray: O God, our Father and our King, grant to these your servant such a measure of your heavenly grace that they may be mindful always whose children they are and daily increase in your Holy Spirit that by your wisdom and strength they may, with those whom she they bring to you, come to your everlasting Kingdom, for the sake of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

(To the candidates:) Do you promise faithfully to obey the two Rules of the Order, the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service? To offer at all times your loyal aid to the clergy and to the parish to advance the cause of Christ? To wear habitually the cross of the Order? And to work for its purposes, as God may give you the opportunity?

CANDIDATES: I do, with God's help.

CLERGY: (To the congregation) Will you support these women in their ministry of prayer and service?

CONGREGATION: **We will.**

CLERGY: (The clergy shall bless the cross.) Bless, O Lord, these crosses and grant to your servants now to be admitted to this Order such abundance of your grace that they may wear this sacred symbol in the spirit of humility and with devotion to the service of the King of kings. **Amen.**

(Taking each by the right hand, the clergy receives the candidates, and the cross of the Order is given to each candidate by the clergy or Diocesan President or her representative)

CLERGY: I receive and admit you into membership of the Order in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Accept and wear faithfully this mark of your membership, remembering the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Take up your cross and follow me."

ALL DAUGHTERS OF THE KING: Almighty God, help us to pray so faithfully that we draw near to you and learn your will. Help us to serve so joyfully that others may be drawn to you. May your Holy Spirit guide us each day, that all we think, do, or say may be acceptable in your sight. We ask it all for the sake of Him whose cross we wear, our Savior, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

CLERGY: Almighty and merciful God, bless these your servants who have signified their purpose to continue in your holy service as members and officers of The Order of the Daughters of the King. Guide them to lead a godly life in your church, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

10AM Service Participants

Celebrant and Homilist
The Reverend Bryce Wandrey

Organist and Choir Director
John Painter

Verger
Kat Harris

Gospel Book Bearer
Andrea Griffith

Lector
Victoria Wilson

Intercessor
Diane Morris

Ushers
Walt Frankowski, Doris Schilpp and
Linda Jones

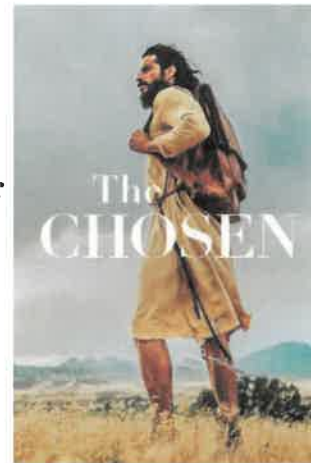
Communion Assistants
Andrea Griffith and Milah Smith

Crucifer
Ian Hoelscher

Acolytes
Lillian Arguelles and Luke Weyandt

Altar Guild
Charlotte Hoare (Captain), Christine
Keeler, Josephine Lawson and
Mary Jane Androne

Adult Forum is 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.



Cover image: "John the Baptist Preaching in the Wilderness" by Gustave Dore

For those in need of our prayers....

Runette	Kristin	Wyatt	Marcia
Connie	Randall	Beverly	Brian
Fianna	Peggy	Tim	Mel
Duane	Bob	Penny	Joe

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

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.



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.

<p style="text-align: center;">Vestry</p> <p>Wayne Fanning (Senior Warden)</p> <p>Diane Morris (Junior Warden)</p> <p>Terry Rowles (Pastoral Care)</p> <p>Pam Wheat (Grants)</p> <p>Carolyn Handy (Stewardship)</p> <p>Michael West (Finances)</p> <p>Connie Fegley (Worship)</p> <p>Anita Powell (Hospitality)</p> <p>Kim Alarcon (Outreach)</p> <p>Mary Arguelles (Children/Youth)</p> <p>Chuck Brantman (Security/Property)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Our Ministries</p> <p>Worship</p> <p>Acolytes</p> <p>Altar Guild</p> <p>Eucharistic Ministers</p> <p>Lectors and Intercessors</p> <p>Vergers</p> <p>Guitar and Taizé Services</p> <p>Healing Team</p> <p>Centering Prayer</p> <p>Morning Prayer</p> <p>Ushers</p> <p>Kristallnacht Service</p> <p>Music</p> <p>Parish Choir</p> <p>Bell Ringers</p> <p>Children's Choir</p> <p>Fall Festival of Arts</p> <p>Education</p> <p>Adult Forum</p> <p>Library</p> <p>Children's Ministries</p>	<p>Education for Ministry</p> <p>Bible Study</p> <p>EYC</p> <p>Pastoral Care</p> <p>Cards and notes</p> <p>Prayer Lists</p> <p>Eucharistic Visitors</p> <p>Flower Delivery</p> <p>Pastoral Visits</p> <p>Fellowship</p> <p>Sunday Fellowship Hour</p> <p>50+ Club</p> <p>Hospitality Committee</p> <p>Business</p> <p>Property</p> <p>Churchyard Cleanup</p> <p>Team</p> <p>Stewardship Team</p> <p>Planned Giving</p> <p>Communications</p> <p>Capital Campaign</p> <p>Security Taskforce</p> <p>Outreach</p> <p>Opportunity House</p> <p>Rummage</p> <p>Mary's Shelter</p> <p>Narcotics Anonymous</p> <p>Literacy Council of Reading-Berks</p> <p>ESL Dinners</p> <p>Daughters of the King</p> <p>Episcopal Church Women</p> <p>Helping Harvest</p> <p>Veterans Coalition of PA</p> <p>Angel Tree</p> <p>Berks Youth Chorus</p> <p>Sunday Service</p> <p>Livestream</p>
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Our Thursday morning **Bible Study** continues at 9am in the Library. Prior attendance is not required; please join us.

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.



What does an orange, a red ribbon, a candle, some toothpicks and candy have to do with Christmas? Be with us on

December 22nd 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.

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 Henry, Almata and Lois Feick and Janet Moyer** from David and Judy Feick.

Fanfare for a King

As is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:
 "A voice of one calling in the desert, 'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.'" Luke 3:4 (NIV)
 The puzzle is based on Luke 3:1-6



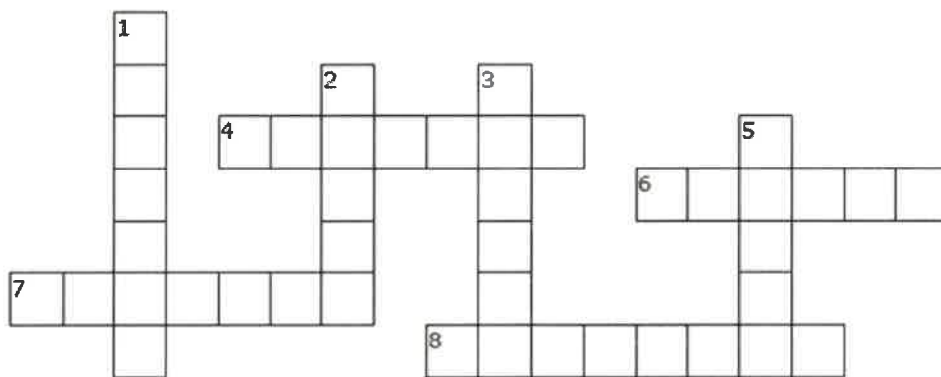
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VOICE	ROUGH	FORGIVE	PREACHING	STRAIGHT
JORDAN	VALLEY	DESERT	REPENT	SINS
PREPARE	CROOKED	SMOOTH	BAPTISM	CALLING

Fanfare for a King

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ACROSS

4. Having bends, curves, or angles.
6. Having a surface free from roughness
7. To grant a pardon for sin.
8. Having no bends or curves.

DOWN

1. To make things ore oneself ready.
2. What we use to speak.
3. To turn away from one's sins.
5. Having an irregular, course, or shaggy surface

STRAIGHT	VOICE	FORGIVE	PREPARE
REPENT	ROUGH	SMOOTH	CROOKED

This Week at Christ Church

Sunday, December 8—The Second Sunday of Advent

8AM Holy Eucharist (spoken)
9AM Sunday School
9:05AM Adult Forum
9AM/11AM ECW Cookie sale
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 9

12PM—1PM NA meeting
5:30-7PM NA meeting

Tuesday, December 10

9AM Citizenship Class
9:30AM Centering Prayer in the Chapel
12PM—1PM NA meeting

Wednesday, December 11

830AM Staff Meeting
10AM-1PM ECW Rummage Sale
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 12

830AM—12PM Citizenship Class
930AM Zoom Centering Prayer
11AM Morning Prayer in the Chapel
12PM—1PM NA Meeting

Friday, December 13

12PM—1PM NA Meeting

Saturday, December 14

12PM-2PM NA meeting

Sunday, December 15—The Third 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 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