

Welcome

Welcome to Redeemer Presbyterian Church! We are glad that you have joined with us to worship God. Please stay after the service and get to know others in our community who are calling Redeemer Presbyterian Church "home." If you have any questions about our church, feel free to contact us using the information on the back of the bulletin.

When you arrive for worship, please observe silence as you prepare to enter into God's Divine Service. Silence your cell phone, listen to the prelude, read the Words of Preparation and the Scripture lessons in the back of the bulletin, and join others in prayer and meditation.

Our Worship

Our service is intentionally structured to reflect our belief that worship is God's service to us, his people. By design, there are three parts to our worship: the Service of Entrance, the Service of the Word, and the Service of the Table.

The **Service of Entrance** begins when the choir sings the Introit, followed by our Hymn of Invocation, Call to Worship, and Prayer of Adoration. We will then join in a Corporate Confession of Sin, hear God's Declaration of Absolution, and respond with the Gloria and Hymn of Gratitude or Psalm.

The Service of the Word will include readings from the Lectionary (a calendar-based system for reading through the Bible) along with corporate responses of song and prayer. The sermon is God's Word to us and we ask that you listen attentively, asking the Holy Spirit to apply his Word to you in a particular way.

The Service of the Table begins with a Corporate Confession of Faith, followed by the Passing of the Peace, and the Collection of Tithes and Offerings. Our service concludes with the Lord's Supper and Benediction. Our church partakes of the Lord's Supper every week. We welcome to the table all baptized Christians who are trusting in Christ alone for their salvation, have made public profession of their faith, and are part of a local church. We offer both wine and grape juice (located in the center rings) in the communion tray. If you have any questions, please speak with a pastor.

Your Children

We love kids! And we try to make them feel welcome during our worship service. You can help your children profit from the service by working through the bulletin with them. If your child needs a break from the service, please feel free to sit in the Narthex where you can still hear the service. You can also take young children to the Nursery. A private space is provided in the Nursery for nursing mothers.

Between Services

Please join us in the courtyard for a time of fellowship with coffee and breakfast snacks. Our School of Discipleship classes have suspended for the winter break, and will resume on January 14 with classes for all ages.

Liturgical Color: Purple – the color of penitence and fasting as well as the color of royalty to welcome the advent of the King

Hearing enhancement devices available – please ask an usher.

WiFi: RedeemerPrivate | Password: wireless@office

THE DIVINE SERVICE

December 24, 2023

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

In Preparation

Please observe silence as you read, pray, and meditate.

PRELUDE Michael Phillips

Desseins Éternels (from 'La Nativité) – Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

The Holy Boy – John Ireland (1879-1962)

WORDS OF PREPARATION

Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come among us with great might; and because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Service of Entrance

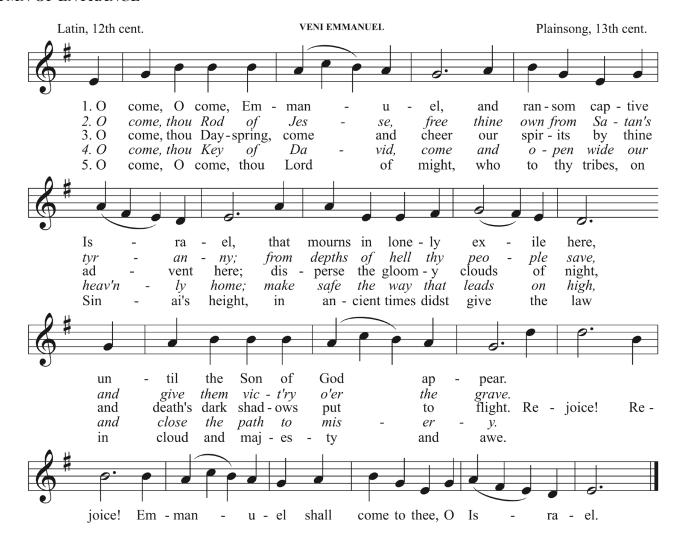


LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

From the manger newborn light sends a glory through the night. Night cannot this light subdue. Faith keeps springing ever new.

Glory to the Father sing, glory to the Son, our king, Glory to the Spirit be, now and through eternity.

HYMN OF ENTRANCE



Minister: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

People: Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

Minister: Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.

People: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD.

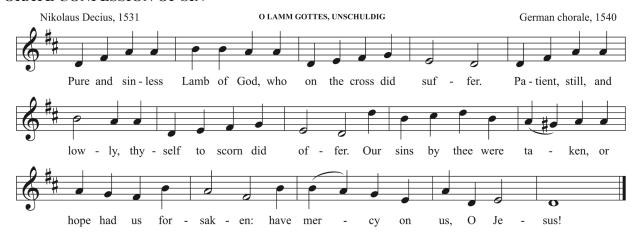
Minister: In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. Minister: Let us pray.

PRAYER OF ADORATION

... world without end. Amen.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN



Minister: Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets;

I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven."

Minister: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

People: Almighty and most merciful Father; we have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We

have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and there is no health in us. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent; according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake; that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober

life, to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

DECLARATION OF ABSOLUTION

Minister: Hear the Word of the Gospel: "Christ has died for our sins and been raised for our justification." All you

who repent of your sin and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ for your salvation, rejoice and be glad and give glory to the Lord who has taken away all of your sins in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy

Spirit.

People: Amen.

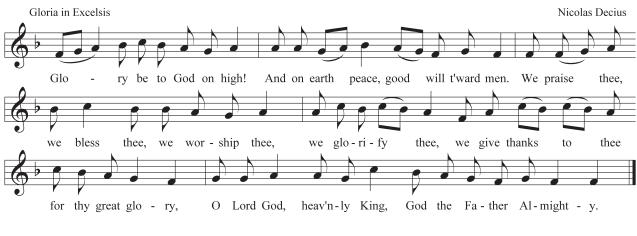
Minister: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

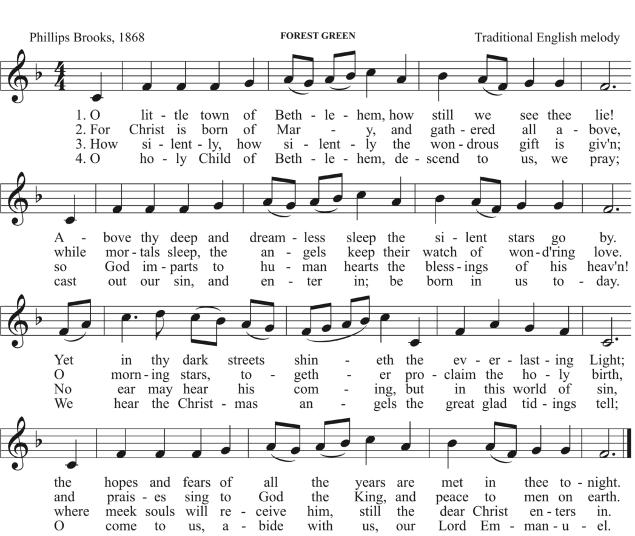
People: the Maker of heaven and earth.

Minister: O Lord, open our lips,

People: and our mouth will declare your praise.

❖ THE GLORIA AND HYMN OF GRATITUDE





CHORAL ANTHEM Youth Choir

The Lord at First Did Adam Make – arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

The Lord at first did Adam make Out of the dust and clay, And in his nostrils breathèd life, E'en as the scriptures say. And then in Eden's paradise He placèd him to dwell, That he within it should remain, To dress and keep it well:

Now let good Christians all begin An holy life to live, And to rejoice and merry be, For this is Christmas Eve.

And thus within the garden
He was set therein to stay;
And in commandment unto him
These words the Lord did say:
"The fruit which in the garden grows
To thee shall be for meat,
Except the tree in the midst thereof,
Of which thou shalt not eat."

"For in the day thou shalt it touch Or dost to it come nigh, If so thou do but eat thereof, Then thou shalt surely die." But Adam he did take no heed Unto that only thing, But did transgress God's holy law, And so was wrapt in sin.

Now mark the goodness of the Lord, Which he for mankind bore; His mercy soon he did extend, Lost man for to restore; And then, for to redeem our souls From death and hellish thrall, He said his own dear Son should be The Savior of us all.

(Traditional English carol)

The Service of the Word

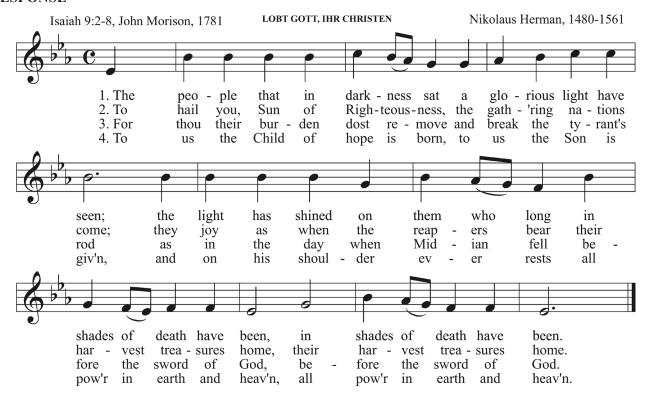


THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

OUR RESPONSE



- His name shall be the Prince of Peace, The Everlasting Lord, The Wonderful, the Counselor, The God by all adored, The God by all adored.
- 6. His righteous government and pow'r Shall over all extend;
 On judgment and on justice based,
 His reign shall have no end,
 His reign shall have no end.
- 7. Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray, And make us yours alone, Who with the Father ever are And Holy Spirit, one, And Holy Spirit, one.

THE EPISTLE LESSON

Titus 2:11-14

Isaiah 9:2-7

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

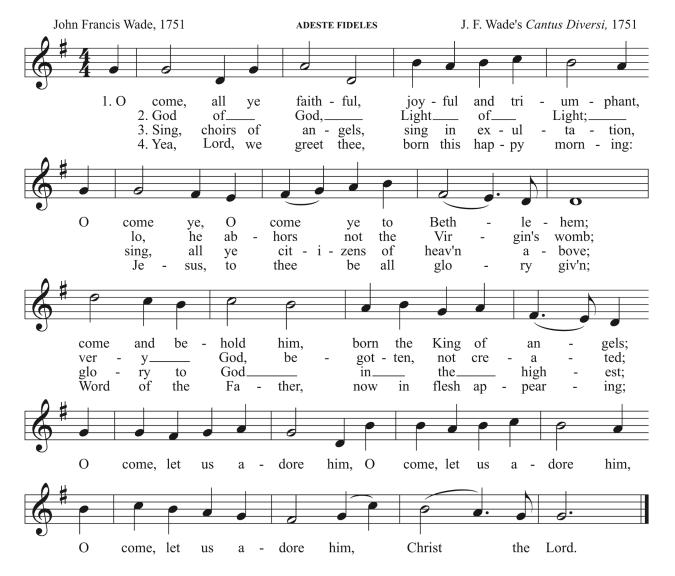
CHORAL SENTENCE Youth Choir

This Is the Truth Sent from Above – Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

This is the truth sent from above, The truth of God, the God of love; Therefore don't turn me from your door, But hearken all, both rich and poor. THE GOSPEL LESSON Luke 2:1-7

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **People: Praise be to you, O Christ!**

OUR RESPONSE



WELCOME

At this time, please sign and pass the attendance pads down the row.

INTERLUDE

PRAYER OF SUPPLICATION AND THANKSGIVING

Ruling Elder Scott Brister

Unison: 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. Amen.

THE PSALTER LESSON

Psalm 96

Minister: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

MORNING SERMON Rev. Eric Landry

The Good News of Judgment
Psalm 96

The Service of the Table

***** CORPORATE CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

Unison: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead;

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

People: And also with you!

Minister: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

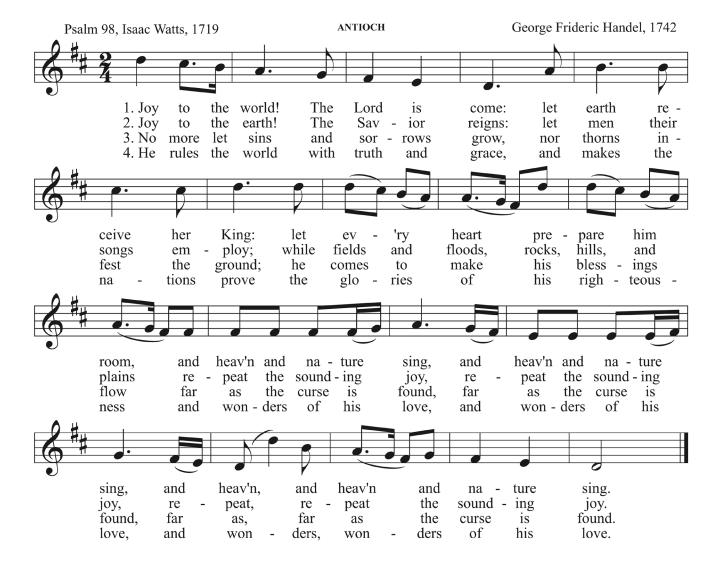
Members of the congregation greet one another with a sign of friendship such as the ancient words that the church has used over the centuries, "The peace of Christ be with you," and the response, "And also with you."

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

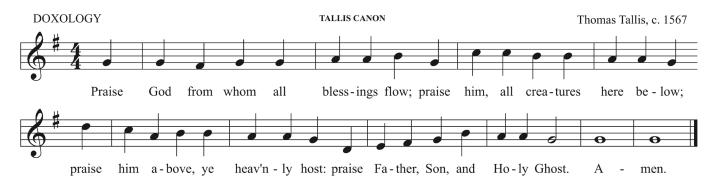
Minister: The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof;

People: the world, and they that dwell therein.

HYMN OF GRATITUDE TO GOD



❖ Minister: Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendor, and the majesty; for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.



❖ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Minister: We love you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. We present you with these gifts, which came first from

your hand, as part of our sacrifice of praise. Use them, O God, for your glory and our good. In the name

of Jesus, we pray.

People: Amen.

❖ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Minister: The Lord be with you! **People:** And also with you!

Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

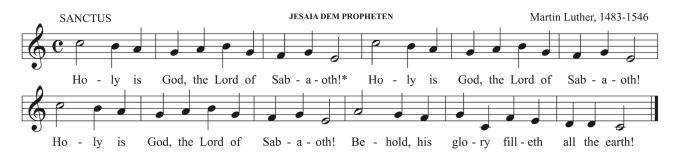
Minister: Let us give thanks to our Lord God!

People: It is good and right to do so!

Minister: It is very good and right that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O Holy Lord,

Father Almighty, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming him the Messiah, the very Lamb of God, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when he comes again in glory. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praise and magnify your glorious name, evermore

praising you and singing:



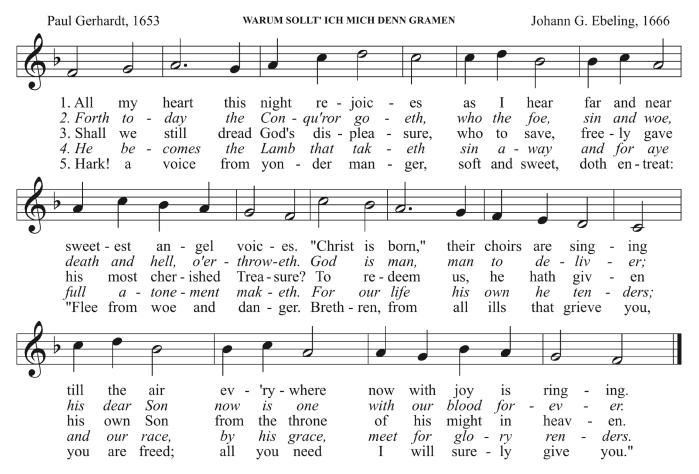
^{*} One of the many biblical names for God; in this case the Lord God of hosts or angelic armies. Pronounced "Sah-bah-oat"

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

The Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." (1 Cor. 11:23-24)

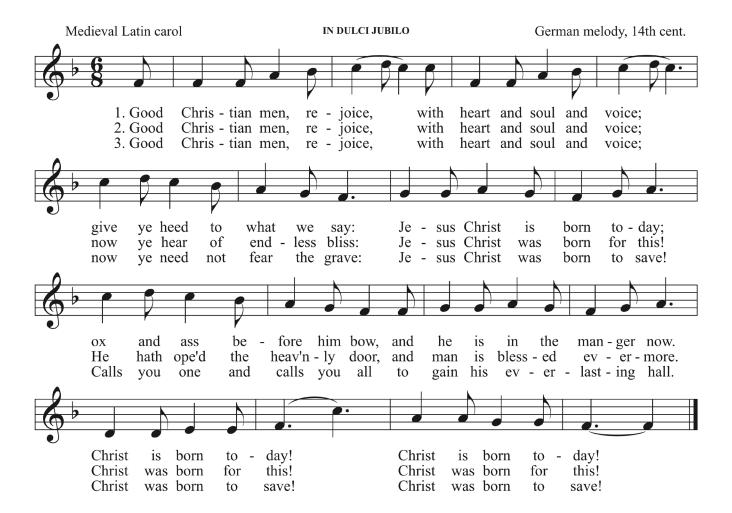


- 6. Come, then, banish all your sadness, One and all, great and small; Come with songs of gladness.

 Love him who with love is glowing; Hail the star, near and far Light and joy bestowing.
- 7. Dearest Lord, thee will I cherish. Though my breath fail in death, Yet I shall not perish, But with thee abide forever There on high, in that joy Which can vanish never.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." (1 Cor. 11:25)



❖ DEPARTING HYMN Magnificat



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LESSONS

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light: those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, vou have broken as on the day of Midian. For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born. to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder. and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end. on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

Titus 2:11-14

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Sermon Lesson—Psalm 96

¹Oh sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth! ²Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. ³Declare his glory among the nations. his marvelous works among all the peoples! ⁴For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods. ⁵For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens. ⁶Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. ⁷Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength! ⁸Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts! ⁹Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth! ¹⁰Say among the nations, "The Lord reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity." ¹¹Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; ¹²let the field exult, and everything in it! Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy ¹³before the LORD, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sun, Dec 24	8:45 & 11:15 a.m.	The Divine Service, Rev. Eric Landry preaching

4:00 & 6:00 p.m. **Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols,** nursery care provided

Dec 27, Jan 3 — No Choir Rehearsal

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Sun. Dec 31	8:45 & 11:15 a.m.	The Divine Service,	Rev. Eric I	Landry preaching
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Focus on Mercy Ministries, fifth Sunday Deacon Fund offering

Sat, Jan 6 — Epiphany season begins, potluck feasts in host homes, use code below to RSVP

Sun, Jan 7 — Redeemer Connect, brief reception in Room 100 for newcomers

Wed, Jan 10 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsals resume, Covenant Hall

Fri, Jan 12 7:00 p.m. Ladies Night, home of Jane Cox

Sun, Jan 14 — School of Discipleship classes and Evening at Redeemer resume

Tue, Jan 16 6:00 p.m. Session Meeting, Library

Thu, Jan 18 9:30 a.m. **Theology Study Group,** Room 208, contact Marcus Serven

Fri, Jan 19 7:30 p.m. Holbrook Organ Series, Donald Meineke, organist Sun, Jan 21 12:30 p.m. Intro to Redeemer class, contact Danny Morgan

Sat, Jan 27 — Texas Rally for Life, see texasrally for life.org for details

Feb 2 & 3 — Faith and Work conference, save the dates!

Christmas Eve at Redeemer Sunday, Dec. 24

Morning Lord's Day Worship

We will begin the day by gathering for worship at our two usual times: 8:45 and 11:15 a.m. Pastor Eric Landry will be preaching on Psalm 96.

Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

Come back to Redeemer at 4:00 or 6:00 p.m. for our traditional Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols, patterned after the service of readings and music begun in 1918 at King's College Chapel, Cambridge. The lessons will include prophetic Old Testament texts and the unfolding of the Christmas narrative. The service features music from the Redeemer Choir and congregational carol singing. Bring the family and join us for this beautiful celebration of our Savior's incarnation!

Special Exhibit: *God with Us*

Be sure to take some time to visit our exhibit in the narthex: "God with Us," a display of engravings, etchings, and woodcuts from the 1500s to the 1700s, which tells the story of our Savior's incarnation. The display includes scenes that convey the Annunciation, Visitation, and the birth of Christ, with angels, shepherds, and magi represented as well. We are grateful to Dewayne and Faith Perry for sharing these prints from their collection.

RSVP Now for Epiphany Feasts

It's time to plan for our January Epiphany Feasts, which take place in host homes across the Austin area. Epiphany Day is Saturday, January 6, when we celebrate the revealing of Jesus Christ, the Light, into this dark world. Our hosts are welcoming guests on several dates surrounding Epiphany. Whether or not you are part of a small group, you are welcome to attend one of these joyous gatherings! Scan this code for the list of feast locations, and RSVP for a feast near you.



Missions Spotlight: Hill House

In December, we are featuring the ministry of Hill House, a ministry located on the campus of the University of Texas. Scan the code to learn more about Hill House:



PASTORS

Rev. Eric Landry, Senior Pastor: elandry@redeemerpres.org
Rev. Jon Herr, Associate Pastor: jherr@redeemerpres.org
Rev. Danny Morgan, Associate Pastor: dmorgan@redeemerpres.org
Rev. Dr. George Dupere, Chief Musician: gdupere@redeemerpres.org
Rev. Dr. Marcus Serven, Pastor of Christian Discipleship: mserven@redeemerpres.org

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ELDERS DEACONS

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