



# Redeemer

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 17, 2023

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

MATTHEW 11:28-30

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# PRELUDE

(\*Congregation please stand if able.)

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## INVOCATION AND PRAYER OF PRAISE

### \*OPENING CAROL

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

TRINITY HYMNAL #208 (VERSES 1,3,4)

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him born the King of angels.

Refrain

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
Glory to God, in the highest.  
(Refrain)

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning:  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing.  
(Refrain)



#### WELCOME TO REDEEMER!

We're glad to have you joining us in worship today. If you'd like to know more about Redeemer, including ways to get involved, please scan the QR code and let us know.

We have a hearing loop. Please switch your hearing aid to T-coil.



# THE FIRST LESSON

GENESIS 3:1-15

BERT DREIFUSS

*God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise and that his seed will bruise the serpent's head.*

## THE CAROL

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

TRINITY HYMNAL #196 (VERSES 1,3,4)

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
Dear Desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver,  
Born a child and yet a king,  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone,  
By Thine all-sufficient merit,  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Come to earth to taste our sadness,  
He whose glories knew no end,  
By His life He brings us gladness,  
Our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.  
Leaving riches without number,  
Born within a cattle stall,  
This, the everlasting wonder,  
Christ was born the Lord of all.



### PARENTS AND NURSING MOMS:

We have a "wiggle room" in the back of the Sanctuary. While not soundproof, it does offer you a little extra room to move around. If you are a nursing mom in need of a quiet place on Sunday mornings, the "wiggle room" and infant nursery are available options. We also have a nursing mother's room, changing tables and changing supplies available on the lower level. Head downstairs and look for our nursery coordinator by the check-in area. She will be happy to answer any questions and help you get settled.

## THE SECOND LESSON

GENESIS 22:9-18

EMILY MYERS

*God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed.*

## THE THIRD LESSON

ISAIAH 9:2, 6-7; 11:1-9

JON MURPHY

*The prophet Isaiah foretells the coming of the Savior.*

### \*THE CAROL

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

TRINITY HYMNAL #194 (VERSES 1,3,4,5)

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appear.

O come, Thou Key of David, come  
And open wide our heavenly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery.  
(Refrain)

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free  
Thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
From depths of hell Thy people save,  
And give them victory o'er the grave.  
(Refrain)

O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.  
(Refrain)

## THE FOURTH LESSON

MICAH 5:2-5

DEE MUNRO

*The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem.*

## THE CAROL

*O Little Town of Bethlehem*

TRINITY HYMNAL #201 (VERSES 1,3,4)

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by:  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heav'n.  
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.

## THE FIFTH LESSON

LUKE 1:26-38

MOLLY RIDOUT

*The Angel Gabriel greets the Virgin Mary.*

# THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

## DEACON'S PRAYER

RAY REIN

### *Doxology*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## THE SIXTH LESSON

LUKE 2:1-7

LAURA EATON

*Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*

### *Away in a Manger*

(THE CHILDREN WILL SING VERSE 1, THE CONGREGATION WILL SING VERSES 2 & 3.)

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay  
The little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky  
And stay by my cradle 'til morning is nigh

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care  
And fit us for heaven to live with Thee there

# THE SEVENTH LESSON

LUKE 2:8-20

ELLIS NEWKIRK

*The shepherds go to the manger.*

## **\*THE CAROL**

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

TRINITY HYMNAL #214

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain:

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
Say what may the tidings be  
Which inspire your heavenly song?  
(Refrain)

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Christ Whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee,  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
(Refrain)

# THE EIGHTH LESSON

MATTHEW 2:1-11

LOIS BOCKMANN

*The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.*

## THE CAROL

*What Child Is This*

TRINITY HYMNAL #213

What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies He in such mean estate,  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear, shall pierce Him through;  
The cross be borne for me, for you:  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
The babe, the son of Mary.

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
Come, peasant, king, to own Him;  
The King of kings salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby:  
Joy, joy for Christ is born,  
The babe, the son of Mary.



# THE NINTH LESSON

JOHN 1:1-14

STEVE EDWARDS

*John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation.*

## \*THE CAROL

*(Children ages 4 - kindergarten are invited to go to Children's Church at this time.)*

### *Joy to the World*

TRINITY HYMNAL #195

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:	He rules the world with truth and grace,
Let earth receive her King;	And makes the nations prove
Let every heart prepare Him room,	The glories of His righteousness
And heav'n and nature sing,	And wonders of His love,
And heav'n and nature sing,	And wonders of His love,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.	And wonders, wonders of His love.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns:  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.



#### **CHILDREN'S CHURCH:**

Children ages 4 through Kindergarten are invited to attend Children's Church during the song of preparation. This is a great opportunity for them to prepare for participation in the full worship service as well as practice the different elements of worship.



## **\*THE CONCLUDING CAROL**

### *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

TRINITY HYMNAL #203

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With th’angelic host proclaim,  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Refrain:

Hark! the herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King.”

Christ, by highest heaven adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of the Virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
Hail th’incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with men to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
(Refrain)

Hail the heav’n born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Ris’n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.  
(Refrain)

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**



## **Thank You!**

Thank you to our scripture readers and Christmas orchestra for leading us in worship this morning. Thank you to Chris Serina for directing the Christmas orchestra.

## **Christmas Eve: Sunday, December 24**

Join us for our regular morning worship service at 10 a.m. on Sunday, December 24. (There will not be Sunday School.) Our **Candlelight Christmas Eve Service** will be at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 24. There will not be childcare during the Candlelight Service. Children are welcome in worship. We have flameless candles available for our younger members. The 242 Room and the nurseries will be open and available for families to use.

## **Support Safe Families and Refugee Hope Partners this Christmas**

This month we have two opportunities to help our local mission partners. We are helping Safe Families stock their resource room by purchasing new children's clothes and helping Refugee Hope Partners with supplies for their Early Learning Club. More information about fulfilling these needs can be found in the Breezeway, near the coffee table.

## **Message from the Diaconate - Gift of Thanks to Our Staff**

To the Redeemer Family: Thank you for your faithfulness in supporting the ministries and staff of Redeemer throughout 2023. The Diaconate would like to provide the opportunity for you to contribute to a year-end gift for the staff. This monetary gift will be given as a small token of appreciation for the hard work and dedication our church staff provides throughout the year.

We would like to collect your contributions by Sunday, December 24. As these funds are being collected for the express purpose of a year-end gift for the staff of Redeemer PCA, your contribution is considered a donation to a charitable organization. Please note "year-end staff gift" in the memo portion of your check. Your contribution will be included in your annual statement of giving to Redeemer. If you have any questions, please contact any Deacon.

## **No Sunday School: December 24 & December 31**

There will not be Sunday School on Sunday, December 24, and Sunday, December 31. Sunday School will return, Sunday, January 7.

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## WEEKLY CALENDAR

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### Sunday

- Sunday School, 9 a.m.
- Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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- December 24: **Candlelight Christmas Eve Service** at 5 p.m.
- January 3: **First Youth Large Group & Parent Meeting of 2024**
- January 6: **Men's Breakfast**
- January 8: **5th & 6th Grade Gathering**
- February 2: **A Night of Worship: Matt Papa in Concert with Mission House**, at Redeemer

### **Church Office Holiday Schedule & Year-End Giving**

The church office will be closed from December 25 - January 1. If you'd like to make a contribution before the end of the year you can mail your check to the church office, and it will be counted as part of your 2023 giving as long as it is postmarked by December 31. You can also give online at [redeemerpca.com](http://redeemerpca.com). All gifts postmarked on or after January 1 will be credited to 2024.

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## STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

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## *Sunday Morning Service*

Sunday, December 24, 10 a.m.

(No Sunday School)

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## *Candlelight Christmas Eve Service*

Sunday, December 24, 5:00 p.m.

There will not be childcare. Children are welcome in worship. We have flameless candles available for our younger members. The 242 Room and the nurseries will be open and available for families to use. The service will be livestreamed on our website and shown in the 242 Room.

The Barton Pond Parking Shuttle will be available.

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# A Night of Worship

with Matt Papa and special  
guest Mission House



JOIN US

## Feb. 2

Friday, February 2, 2024  
Redeemer Presbyterian Church  
at 11412 Strickland Rd., Raleigh

Reserve your ticket  
here:

TICKETS: \$20



[WWW.REDEEMERPCA.COM](http://WWW.REDEEMERPCA.COM)

