



# Redeemer

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 24, 2023

## CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

If Christmas is just a nice legend, in a sense you are on your own. But if Christmas is true, then you can be saved by grace.

TIM KELLER

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**Isaiah 9:6-7; Luke 2:14**

Leader: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will 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. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

**People: "Glory to God in the highest, and peace among those with whom He is pleased."**



### 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.



# INVOCATION

## *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

TRINITY HYMNAL #208

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.

God of God, Light of Light;  
Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb,  
Very God, begotten, not created.  
(Refrain)

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)



#### **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. We are also livestreaming tonight's service in the 242 Room, which offers space to move and wiggle. If you are a nursing mom in need of a quiet place our infant nursery and nursing mother's room is available on the lower level. These rooms also have changing tables and changing supplies available.

## READING OF GOD'S WORD

MATTHEW 1:18-25

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. 19 And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. 20 But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 21 She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

23 "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall call his name Immanuel"

(which means, God with us). 24 When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, 25 but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

*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.

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)

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)

## READING OF GOD'S WORD

MATTHEW 2:1-12

1 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, 2 saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." 3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; 4 and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

6 "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who will shepherd my people Israel."

7 Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." 9 After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. 11 And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. 12 And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

## *Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery*

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
In the dawning of the King  
He the theme of heaven's praises  
Robed in frail humanity  
In our longing, in our darkness  
Now the light of life has come  
Look to Christ, who condescended  
Took on flesh to ransom us

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
He the perfect Son of Man  
In his living, in his suffering  
Neither trace nor stain of sin  
See the true and better Adam  
Come to save the hell-bound man  
Christ the great and sure fulfillment  
Of the law; in Him we stand

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
Christ the Lord upon the tree  
In the stead of ruined sinners  
Hangs the Lamb in victory  
See the price of our redemption  
See the Father's plan unfold  
Bringing many sons to glory  
Grace unmeasured, love untold

Come behold the wondrous mystery  
Slain by death, the God of life  
But no grave could e'er restrain Him  
Praise the Lord, He is alive!  
What a foretaste of deliverance  
How unwavering our hope  
Christ in power resurrected  
As we will be when He comes

What a foretaste of deliverance  
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*Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery*  
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Matt Papa, Michael Bleecker





## PRAYER

### *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 heav’n 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)

## **LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES**

*Silent Night! Holy Night!*

TRINITY HYMNAL #210

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright,  
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight!  
Glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light,  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth; Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night! Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing, alleluia to our King;  
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

## **BENEDICTION**

As you exit the Sanctuary, please place your candle in a metal basket in the foyer.

## WELCOME TO REDEEMER

### *Helpful tips for families this evening:*

- Pick up a candle in the foyer. We have battery-operated candles available for little ones who need a safer option.
- Children's bulletins and worship bags are available in the foyer. Please return the bags at the conclusion of the service.
- Green sensory bags are available in the foyer. If you are the parent of a child with special needs, and would like to discuss how our children's ministry team can come alongside and support the specific needs of your family, please reach out to Anna Baughman at [childrensministry@redeemerpca.net](mailto:childrensministry@redeemerpca.net)
- If your children need a little more space to move and wiggle, visit the 242 Room. The service is livestreamed in the 242 Room.
- Our nurseries and nursing mother's room are available for use on the lower level; however volunteers are not present to watch children tonight. Changing tables and supplies are available.
- A family restroom is available on the lower level.

**Please return your candle  
(traditional and flameless)  
at the end of the service.**

**Join us for worship at 10 a.m. on Sunday mornings.**

Note: There will be no Sunday School on Sunday, December 31.

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**STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION**

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