

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER! We welcome all who are visiting with us this morning. We are delighted to have you with us. Please fill out one of our visitor cards so that we can get to know you. If you have any questions about COTR, feel free to ask one of our elders, our ministers, or members. We’re glad you’re here!

Today–HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP: Following evening worship service, our high schoolers will meet in the fellowship hall for pizza and a movie. We’ll be watching a Charles Dickens movie adaptation set at Christmas: Not Scrooge’s Greatest Hits, but *Nicholas Nickleby* (2002).

Monday–REDEEMER CHOIR REHEARSAL: In preparation for this year’s Christmas Eve service, the Redeemer Choir will meet from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the sanctuary to practice music with Jarrod Richey and Glen Warner.

Wednesday–CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: We will have our annual Lessons & Carols service for Christmas Eve on Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. Make plans to come!

Thursday–CHRISTMAS DAY: Merry Christmas! May God fill your hearts and homes with peace and joy as you celebrate His nativity.

GENERAL:

CONGRATULATIONS! We rejoice in the safe birth of Benjamin Isaac Smith, son of Braden and Eryn Smith on Thursday. Heavenly Father, receive our thanks for the blessing of Benjamin Isaac, a gift of your grace and love in Christ Jesus our Lord.

UPCOMING:

Next Saturday—STUBBS & ROYAL PERFORMANCE: All are invited to attend a live recording & performance of a *Stubbs & Royal* Christmas Special at the church on Saturday, December 27, at 5:00 p.m. What is *Stubbs and Royal*? For about a year, Pastor Zach and a group of church youth have recorded a six-episode audiodrama series about two cats, Stubbs (Gus Eley) and Royal (Owen Myers), who work security at a natural history museum, which is staffed with other Talking Animals. Come watch them perform and laugh as Stubbs and Royal & their many Friends make a mess of Christmas.

Next Sunday–NO EVENING SERVICE: In light of the Christmas holiday, we will have no evening service

Next Monday–CROSS-HICKS WEDDING: The congregation is invited to the wedding of Lauren Cross and Jed Hicks on Monday evening, December 29, 2025. Please pray for God’s blessing upon Lauren and Jed as they become one in Christ Jesus.

PASTOR MICKEY SCHNEIDER PREACHING: We will have the privilege of having Pastor Mickey Schneider preaching in our evening service, the last Sunday of Christmas, January 4. Please pray for God’s blessing.

2026 CHRISTENDOM LECTURES: We will host our 26th annual Christendom Lectures, this coming January 5-7, 2026 (“Surprised by God”). Our speakers are: Victor Lee Austen, canon theologian of the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas, Texas; Jason Staples, assistant professor at North Carolina State University and author; and Jeff Meyers, author and pastor of Providence Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, Missouri. COTR members may attend at no cost, if you register before the deadline December 31, 2026. It’s going to be another great conference and **COTR members may attend free of charge if they register by December 31**. Mark your calendars and plan to come!

GLORIA SANCTA, 2026: It’s time to register again for Gloria Sancta, 2026. This is a conference for single adults, ages 18-30. This coming conference will be held January 7-10, 2026, at the Timberline Camp and Conference Center, in Lindale, Texas. For more information go to: www.GloriaSancta.org

CALENDAR

December 24 – Christmas Eve Service, 6:00 p.m.
25 – Merry Christmas!
27 – Stubbs & Royal Christmas Special, 5:00 p.m.
28 – No Evening Service
29 – Cross-Hicks Wedding
31 – Last COTR Hockey Night of 2025

January 1 – Happy New Year!
Feast of Christ’s circumcision
4 – Last Sunday of Christmas
Pastor Mickey Schneider preaching, p.m. service
5-7 – 2026 Christendom Lectures
6 – Feast of Epiphany
7-10 – Gloria Sancta Conference, 2026
11 – First Sunday of Epiphany
Second Sunday service, 6:00 p.m.
14 – Session Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
18 – High School Fellowship after evening worship

NURSERY WORKERS FOR TODAY:

Infant: AM: Morgan Lang, Kaitlyn Rockett
Floater: Marley Amos

Toddler: AM: Amy Hanson, Jackson Huber
Floater: Beau Asher Lizenby

NEXT WEEK:

Charity Jones, AnnaBeth Haisty
Molly Kate Eley

CHURCH of the REDEEMER is a member of the Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches (CREC). The CREC is an international church community with member congregations all across North and South America, Western and Eastern Europe, and Eastern Asia. We are evangelical believers who embrace the historic Christian faith, in the Protestant Reformation tradition. More information may be found at <https://crechurches.org>.

CHURCH of the REDEEMER

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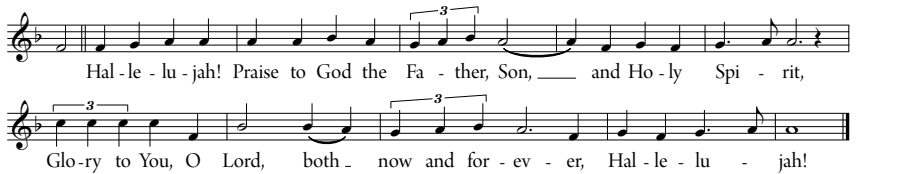
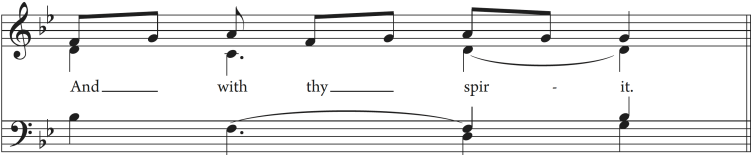





THE LORD’S SERVICE

THE LAST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 21, 2025

10:00AM MORNING SERVICE

THE LORD CALLS US TO DRAW NEAR	
MINISTER: “In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, let us worship God.”	
† HYMN #149 “Joy to the World”	
† SALUTATION:	
Minister: “Grace to you and peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. The Lord be with you.”	
Cong: “And with your spirit”	
Minister: “Sing joyfully to God, all the earth!”	
Cong: “Play music to the glory of His name!”	
Minister: “Set forth glory: His praise! Say to God: How fearful are Your works! So great is Your power that Your enemies cringe before You. All the earth bow themselves before You; And play musics to You; They play musics to Your name.” Amen.	
THE LORD CLEANSES US	
CONFESSION OF SINS:	
Minister: “Let us humbly kneel and confess our sins to Almighty God”	
Cong: Heavenly Father, we have sinned against You, through ingratitude, disobedience, & hardness of heart. We have not heeded the warnings of Your prophets & apostles nor lived as those who await the appearing of Your Son. We have loved the world & the things of the world, & have not sought Your Kingdom and righteousness. Wherefore we beg You, be merciful to us. Forgive us for our sins & deliver us from all evil & the evil one & lead us in the ways of righteousness & peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.	
†ASSURANCE OF PARDON:	
Minister: “Arise and hear the good news of God’s forgiveness: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”	
†OPENING ACCLAMATION	
	
†ASCENSION (Sung Preface & Sursum Corda):	
Minister: The Lord be with You.	
Congregation:	
	
Minister: Lift up your hearts.	
Congregation:	
	
Minister: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.	
Congregation:	
	
†The Congregation will please stand	

Minister: “It is truly meet, right, and salutary, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee. O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty Everlasting God: Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying:”	
† SANCTUS (p. vii, SH)	
† PRAYER OF ADORATION	
† CANTICLE #1 (SH)	“Benedictus”
THE LORD INSTRUCTS US	
THE LESSON	Isaiah 7:1-17
Minister: “The Word of the Lord.”	
Cong: “Thanks be to God.”	
CONGREGATIONAL PSALM	Psalm 96
THE EPISTLE	Romans 1:1-7
Minister: “The Word of the Lord.”	
Cong: “Thanks be to God.”	
† HYMN #38 (SH)	“How Lovely Shines the Morning Star”
† READING OF THE GOSPEL	Matthew 1:18-25
Minister: “The Gospel of our Lord.	
Cong: “Praise be to You, O Christ.”	
† THREE-FOLD ALLELUIA	
	
SERMON	“Immanuel: With One Another”
	Pastor Zach Parker
PRAYER OF CONSECRATION	
GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS	
OFFERTORY #34 (SH)	“Creator of the Stars of Night”
	(the congregation will sing this hymn)
† DOXOLOGY	
	(We lift our hearts, voices, and hands in praise to God)
† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING	

†The Congregation will please stand

THE LORD COMMUNES WITH US

HYMN #163

“To Us a Child of Hope is Born”

† PRAYER OF INTERCESSION:

Minister: Lord, in your mercy,

Congregation: Hear our prayer.

† THE LORD’S PRAYER: page ix (SH)

† NICENE CREED:

WE BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY; Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

AND IN ONE LORD JESUS CHRIST, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God; Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made; being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; Who for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven; And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures; And ascended into heaven; And sits on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

AND WE BELIEVE IN THE HOLY GHOST; the Lord and Giver of life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets and in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead; And the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE LORD’S SUPPER:

Words of Institution

Thanksgiving for the Bread

Communion Hymn #43 (SH)

Thanksgiving for the Wine

Passing the peace of Christ

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”

Minister: “The Body and Blood of our Lord strengthen and preserve you steadfast in the true faith unto life everlasting; in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” Amen.

THE LORD COMMISSIONS US

† HYMN

“Nunc Dimittis (Vickers)”

† BENEDICTION

† THREE-FOLD AMEN

†The Congregation will please stand