

## 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--ADVENT DEVOTIONAL GUIDES:** Our Advent Devotional Guides are now available in the foyer. These will assist you in your family devotions during the season of Advent which begins today. Pick up one and make this Advent season one full of praise and joy.

**HOSPITALITY MEAL TODAY:** We will have a "Hospitality Meal" today after our morning service. If you have no plans for lunch, you are welcome to join some of our COTR families in the fellowship hall for a great time of food and fellowship.

**HIGH SCHOOL FELLOWSHIP:** All high schoolers are invited to our High School fellowship this evening after evening worship at 7:15. Plan to come!

**Thursday--DYC FALL CONCERT:** The Delta Youth Chorale's Fall Concert, "The Light and the Glory," will be held Thursday at 7:00 p.m. here in our sanctuary. The concert will feature soloists Ben Caston and Claire Vangelisti. Come enjoy a great evening with great music!

**Friday--RENEWAL CENTER LUNCH:** We will be serving lunch at the Renewal Center this Friday beginning at 11:30 a.m. If you are able to help prepare the food, please contact Jackie and let her know what you are able to do to help. Thank you for serving this fine work.

**THE TEMPEST:** This Friday, the "Golden Apples" (Geneva Theatre Group) will perform Shakespeare's *The Tempest* in the Geneva Theatre. The performance is at 7:00 p.m. and is free but donations are gladly accepted.

**Saturday--THE TEMPEST:** The "Golden Apples" will give their second performance of *The Tempest* in the theatre at 7:00 p.m.

**Next Sunday--SECOND SUNDAY SERVICE:** Next Sunday we'll have our "Second Sunday" service with a time of singing, prayer, and a brief study on the history of the Church.

### UPCOMING

**CHRISTMAS EVE LESSONS & CAROLS SERVICE:** We will again have our "Lessons & Carols" service on Sunday evening, December 24, here in the sanctuary. Make plans to come!

**GLORIA SANCTA X:** Registration is open for Gloria Sancta X (January 3-6), at Timberline Camp and Conference Center, in Lindale, Texas. This conference is for unmarried adults ages 18-28. Register today (**deadline is Dec. 18**) so that you don't miss this outstanding conference.

**2024 CHRISTENDOM LECTURES:** Our 2024 Christendom Lectures will be held January 8-10, 2024. Our speakers are Joe Rigney (professor, New Saint Andrews College), Vishal Mangalwadi (founder-president of BOMI/Revelation Movement) and John Hodges (director of the Center for Western Studies). This year we will have breakout sessions on music Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon led by John Hodges, Scott Aniol, (executive vice president of G3 Ministries), Jarrod Richey, and Glen Warner. COTR members may attend for free BUT YOU MUST REGISTER! The deadline for registration is Friday, December 15.

**YOUTH DANCE:** A Youth Dance will be held at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, Alabama, on Saturday, January 13, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. til 9:30. All young people (12 yrs. And up) are invited. Contact the church office for more information.

## CALENDAR

December 3 – First Sunday of Advent  
High School Fellowship, 7:15 p.m.  
7 – DYC Concert, 7:00 p.m.  
8 – Renewal Center lunch, 11:30 a.m.  
10 – Second Sunday service, 6:00 p.m.  
13 – Session Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
17 – High School Fellowship, 7:15 p.m.  
24 – Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols Service, 6:00 p.m.  
25 – Merry Christmas!

January 3-6 – Gloria Sancta X, Lindale, TX  
8-10 – 2024 Christendom Lectures  
12 – Renewal Center lunch, 11:30 a.m.  
13 – Youth Dance at Trinity Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, AL  
14 – Second Sunday service, 6:00 p.m.  
26 – Fridays with Flannery, 7:00 p.m.

February 9 – Renewal Center lunch, 11:30 a.m.  
Fridays with Flannery, 7:00 p.m.  
11 – Second Sunday Service, 6:00 p.m.  
23 – Fridays with Flannery, 7:00 p.m.

### NURSERY WORKERS FOR TODAY:

**Infant:** AM: Connie Merritt, Elisabeth Brown  
Floater: Maggie Myers

**Toddler:** AM: Julian Ferrington, Paul Gullette  
Floater: Brode Huber

### NEXT WEEK:

Anna Pryor, Sarah Richey  
Hayes Merritt

Aleta Eley, Emily Gautreaux  
Bryce Lizenby

**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

715 Cypress Street | West Monroe, LA 71291  
Phone: (318) 323-3061 | Fax: (318) 387-5135  
[www.redeemertwincities.org](http://www.redeemertwincities.org)



---

## THE LORD'S SERVICE

---

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# DECEMBER 3, 2023

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 #41 (SH) *“Lo He Comes with Clouds Descending”*

† 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: “Prepare ye the way of the Lord.”

**Cong: “Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.”**

Minister: “I will hear what God the LORD will speak, for He will speak peace to His people. . .

*Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, that glory may dwell in our land.” Amen.*

## THE LORD CLEANSSES 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, and hardness of heart. We have not heeded the warnings of Your prophets and apostles nor lived as those who await the appearing of Your Son in judgment. We have loved the world and the things of the world, and have not sought first Your Kingdom and righteousness. Wherefore we beseech Your mercy. Forgive us for our sins and deliver us from all evil and the evil one, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

† ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

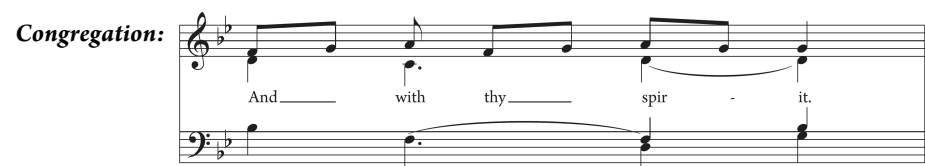
Minister: “Arise and hear the good news of God’s forgiveness: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

† OPENING ACCLAMATION:



† ASCENSION (Sung Preface & Sursum Corda):

Minister: The Lord be with You.



Minister: Lift up your hearts.



Minister: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.



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 singing:”

† SANCTUS (p. vii, SH)

† PRAYER OF ADORATION

† CANTICLE #3 (SH) *“Magnificat”*

## THE LORD INSTRUCTS US

THE LESSON

Isaiah 64:1-9

Minister: “The Word of the Lord.”

**Cong: “Thanks be to God.”**

CONGREGATIONAL PSALM

Psalms 24

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Minister: “The Word of the Lord.”

**Cong: “Thanks be to God.”**

† HYMN #233

*“Rejoice All Ye Believers”*

† READING OF THE GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

Minister: “The Gospel of our Lord.”

**Cong: “Praise be to You, O Christ.”**

† THREE-FOLD ALLELUIA:



† PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

*“The Abomination of Desolation”*

Pastor Steve Wilkins

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY #55 (SH)

*“Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying”*

(the congregation will sing this hymn)

† DOXOLOGY

(We lift our hearts, voices, and hands in praise to God)

† PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## THE LORD COMMUNES WITH US

HYMN #52 (SH)

*“The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”*

† 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 #32 (SH) *“Come Thou Precious Ransom Come”*

Thanksgiving for the Wine

Passing the peace of Christ

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 #5 (SH)

*“Nunc Dimittis”*

† BENEDICTION

† THREE-FOLD AMEN