



CHRIST
THE REDEEMER
-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-



SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

December 20, 2022

ADVENT CANDLE READING
THE CHRIST CANDLE

Read by EJ and Vicky Kruse

We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

In the wilderness prepare the way of our Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

The Lord will give you a sign.

A young woman is with child and shall bear a son.

And they shall name him Immanuel, which means "God is with us."

Every valley shall be lifted up and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all the people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

The Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory,
the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Josh Henderson

Song:

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 3:3-19

Read by Matthew Holloway

God Promises Adam that he has lost the life of paradise and that his offspring will strike the serpent's head

³ but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’” ⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

⁸ And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰ And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹ He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹² The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

¹⁴ The LORD God said to the serpent,
“Because you have done this,
cursed are you above all livestock
and above all beasts of the field;
on your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat
all the days of your life.

¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring;
he shall bruise your head,
and you shall bruise his heel.”

¹⁶ To the woman he said,

“I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing;
in pain you shall bring forth children.
Your desire shall be for your husband,
and he shall rule over you.”

¹⁷ And to Adam he said,

“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife
and have eaten of the tree
of which I commanded you,
‘You shall not eat of it,’
cursed is the ground because of you;
in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life;
¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;
and you shall eat the plants of the field.

¹⁹ By the sweat of your face
you shall eat bread,
till you return to the ground,
for out of it you were taken;
for you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.”

Let us pray:

Promised Offspring of the woman, we praise you for your victory over sin, death, and despair. Conquer our hearts that we may eat at your eternal banquet forever.

[All] **Come quickly, Lord Jesus!**

Song:

COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS

SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7; 11:1-3a, 4a, 6-9

Read by Douglas Peaslee

The Prophet foretells the coming of the Savior and the peace that Christ will bring is foreshown.

² 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.

⁶ 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.

⁷ 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.

11 ¹ There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

² And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³ And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

⁶The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.

⁹They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.

Let us pray:

Mighty God, you alone reign over your kingdom and bring peace to your people. We honor you whose righteousness, justice, salvation and mercy is everlasting. Shine your light upon us!

[All] **Come quickly, Lord Jesus!**

Song:

COME, BEHOLD THE WONDROUS MYSTERY

THIRD LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

Read by Dan McKrell

The Annunciation of the Angel Gabriel to the virgin Mary

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,
²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this

might be. ³⁰ And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”

³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

³⁵ And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.

³⁶ And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸ And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

Let us pray:

Our souls magnify you, O Lord, and our spirits rejoice in you our Savior. Grant us your mercy and strength and fill us, for we are hungry!

[All] **Come quickly, Lord Jesus!**

Song:

MARY’S SONG

F O U R T H L E S S O N

Luke 2:1-7

Rad by Kit Brostek

Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.

²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And 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, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ 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.

Let us pray:

Son of David, you are Lord of all; born in a manger low, all the while ruling on high. You come to the poor as one of our own with riches beyond all imagining. Teach us to care for the poor.

[All] **Come quickly, Lord Jesus!**

VOCAL SOLO

Moriah Hollen Peaslee

“Labor of Love”

Song:

MY SAVIOR’S LOVE ENDURES [MAGNIFICAT]

FIFTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-16

Read by Luna Button

The shepherds go to the manger.

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰ And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a

baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.”¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

Let us pray:

Firstborn of All Creation, we too, proclaim your good news to our lost and fearful world. We look forward with expectation to the hour of your coming--the hour that no creature in heaven or below knows --when you shall return not as a weak and helpless child, but with power and authority to judge all of your creation. May your favor rest upon us in that hour!

[All] **Come quickly, Lord Jesus!**

CHILDREN’S CHOIR

“Do You See What I See?”

CHILDREN’S BIBLE READING:

“HE’S HERE”

The Jesus Storybook Bible

Read by Sarah Cohen

Song:

AWAY IN A MANGER [FOREVER AMEN]

SIXTH LESSON

John 1:1-14

Read by Marisa Corsetti

John unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Let us pray:

Living God, may your grace and truth shine in us this night. Be with us we pray!

[All] **Come quickly, Lord Jesus!**

Song:

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

SEVENTH LESSON

CHILDREN'S BIBLE READING: "THE LIGHT OF THE WHOLE WORLD"

The Jesus Storybook Bible

Read by Sarah Cohen

HOMILY

Rev. Sean J.S. Roberts

PRAYER AND BLESSING

Almighty God, you have given your only begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.

May he who by his incarnation gathered into one thing earthly and heavenly, fill you with the sweetness of inward peace and goodwill; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

CANDLELIGHTING CEREMONY

Song:

SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT



**CHRIST
THE REDEEMER**
-PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-

Christ the Redeemer Presbyterian Church
longs to be a diverse people who gather around
and extend the table of God's grace.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:00 AM

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