



Pastor: A righteous branch springs forth:  
it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,  
in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.  
By the power of the Holy Spirit, receive the grace and forgiveness of God  
through † Christ Jesus, whose day draws near.

**ALL: Amen.** *(Please be seated)*

## **The Greeting**

Pastor: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**ALL: And also with you.**

**Hymn** *Green Book (#25) - Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*

## **Prayer of the Day (Pastor)**

Pastor: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection  
awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless  
until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and  
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**ALL: Amen.**

## **The Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

Pastor: Today is the First Sunday in Advent. In lighting the first candle in the Wreath,  
we are reminded of the Hope we have in Christ - that He is our Savior  
and will come to be with us.

## **Responsive Reading:**

Pastor: Gracious God, As the Advent season begins, we cry out to you.  
We come to you looking for hope.

**ALL: When everything else we rely on fails us, our only hope is in you.  
When we do not understand what has happened, we hope in you.**

Pastor: We can hope for better days because we trust you.

**ALL We know you and we know you are here with us no matter what  
we are facing. Some of us see only darkness this time of year.  
Some of us find life overwhelming. Some of us are filled with  
Advent joy.**

Pastor: Wherever we find ourselves today, Loving God, remind us that our hope  
is in you. Be with us on this journey.

**ALL: Amen.**

## **The Blessing:**

**Pastor:** Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near.  
You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world.  
You show up in our lives at unexpected times.  
Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival.  
We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour,  
you hurry to gather all people to your peace.

(The candle is lit and the animals are placed in the manger.)

**Song:** Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel (verse 1) LBW (Green Book #34)

## **The First Reading is from Jeremiah chapter 33** *(Assistant)*

<sup>14</sup>The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

**Reader: The Word of the Lord. ALL: Thanks be to God.**

## **The Second Reading is from 1st Thessalonians, the 3rd chapter** *(Assistant)*

<sup>9</sup>How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you.

<sup>12</sup>And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup>And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

**Reader: The Word of the Lord. ALL: Thanks be to God.**  
*(Please Stand as you are able)*

## **The Gospel is from St. Luke, the 21st chapter** *(Pastor)*

Jesus said: <sup>25</sup>"There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves.

<sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

<sup>27</sup> Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory.

<sup>28</sup> Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

<sup>29</sup> Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup> as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near.

<sup>31</sup> So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup> Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup> Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup> "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup> like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

Pastor: The Gospel of our Lord.

**All: Praise to you, O Christ** (Please be seated)

### **Dismissal to Sunday School**

**Song** *Blue Book - #626 - People, Look East*

**The Message:** Pastor Kevin Compton

**Song** *Blue Book #629 - All Earth is Hopeful*

**Apostles' Creed.** (*Please stand as you are able* )

(Assistant): Living together in trust and hope, let us confess our faith sharing together the words of the Apostles' Creed....

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **Prayers of Intercession** *(Assistant)*

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence.

*A brief silence.*

God of righteousness, your people live in hopeful expectation of your coming. Fill your church with renewed passion for our shared mission, and deepen our relationships with other Christians and other faith traditions in our local community and across the world. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of the cosmos, all creation shows that your presence is near. Help us sense your goodness and love in the sun and moon, in sprouting leaves and bare branches, in the roaring sea and quiet breeze. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of the nations, your reign extends over all principalities and powers. Give leaders and all in authority hearts for justice and peace. Encourage efforts to enact policies that benefit the common good. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of change, you accompany us through life's transitions. Be near to all who are changing jobs, moving, welcoming children, or facing the loss of loved ones. Sustain those who are ill or suffering especially those on our prayer list. In times of change, remind us of your steadfast love. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of community, your Spirit holds us together. Sustain our care for one another Open Link, and the Upper Perkiomen Homelessness Coalition. Inspire us to seek new ways to live together and to embrace the diversity of thought and identity in our communities. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

God of memory, we give you thanks for faithful ones who have died. Tend to our grief and sorrow with renewed trust in your promise of abundant and eternal life. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## **Offering & Prayer**

## **The Peace**

Pastor: The Peace of the Lord be with you all!

**ALL: And also with you!**

Pastor: Let us offer one another a sign of peace *(Please be seated)*

**Song** *Sanctuary (4 Times with third time acapella)* CCLI License No. 108389

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary, pure and holy, tried and true:  
with thanksgiving, I'll be a living sanctuary for you. *(Sung 4 times, third time acapella)*

*(Please stand as you are able)*

**Song Offering** (Shortened)

The sun cannot compare to the glory of Your love;  
There is no shadow in Your presence;  
No mortal man would dare to stand before Your throne.  
Before the Holy One of Heaven;  
It's only by Your blood and it's only thro' Your mercy, Lord, I come

I bring an offering of worship to my King;  
No one on earth deserves the praises that I sing;  
Jesus, may You receive the honor that You're due;  
O Lord, I bring an offering to You. *Repeat*

Pastor: Creator God, you made the whole world,  
even the farthest stars, and you draw near to feed us.  
We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine.  
Strengthen us with this food that we may live in expectation  
for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**ALL: Amen.**

## **Great Thanksgiving**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord or God.

**ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## Preface

Pastor: It is indeed right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

**ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

## Thanksgiving at the Table *(Pastor)*

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:  
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.  
You have filled all creation with light and life;  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:  
the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land,  
the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,  
who proclaimed the good news in word and deed  
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread,  
and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people  
for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**ALL: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord  
offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection,  
we await His coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

**ALL: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

**ALL: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**ALL: Amen**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Pastor: Let us pray together in the words our Lord taught us:

**ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

### **Holy Communion**

Pastor: God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.

**ALL: Amen.** *(Please be seated)*

### **The Distribution**

*Please take a piece of bread from the pastor and then a small cup of wine or grape juice from the assistant minister. A gluten-free option is also available.*



**Song** *No Other Name* Robert Gay 1988 / CCLI License No. 1083898

**Chorus** No other name but the name of Jesus.  
No other name but the name of the Lord;  
No other name but the name of Jesus,  
Is worthy of glory and worthy of honor,  
And worthy of power and all praise.

His name is exalted far above the earth;  
His name is high above the heavens.  
His name is exalted far above the earth;  
Give glory and honor And praise unto His name. **Chorus**

**Song** *Jesus Name Above All Names* Naida Hearn CCLI Song #21291 © 1974, 1978 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #1083898

Verse 1 Jesus name above all names  
Beautiful Savior glorious Lord  
Emmanuel God is with us  
Blessed Redeemer living Word

Verse 2 Jesus loving Shepherd  
Vine of the branches Son of God  
Prince of Peace Wonderful Counselor  
Lord of the universe Light of the world

Verse 3 Praise him Lord above all lords  
King above all kings God's only Son  
The Prince of Peace who by his Spirit  
Comes to live in us Master and Friend

**Song** *Come, Share the Lord* Bryan Jeffery Leech CCLI Song #106408 © 1984, 1987 Fred Bock Music Company For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License #1083898

We gather here in Jesus' name  
His love is burning in our hearts like living flame  
For through His loving Son the Father makes us one  
Come take the bread come drink the wine  
Come share the Lord

*(continued on next page)*

We'll gather soon where angels sing  
We'll see the glory of our Lord and coming King  
Now we anticipate the feast for which we wait  
Come take the bread come drink the wine  
Come share the Lord

He joins us here He breaks the bread  
The Lord who pours the cup is risen from the dead  
The One we love the most is now our gracious host  
Come take the bread come drink the wine  
Come share the Lord

**Post Communion Prayer** *(Please stand as you are able)*

Pastor: Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of salvation.  
We thank you for coming among us, for leading us into peace.  
We thank you for showering us with mercy, for sending us into the world.  
Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us as we feed the hungry in your name.

**ALL: Amen.**

**The Blessing**

Pastor: God of endings and beginnings, God in the darkness and the light,  
God, our hope for the journey, ✠ bless and keep you now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

**Announcements from the Congregation**

*The proposed budget for 2025 will be presented following worship today in the sanctuary. Members are welcome to stay and attend.*

**Song**      *Prepare the Way* Darrell Evens and Eric Nuzum 1999 Integrity Music, Inc. CCLI License No. 1083898

He has come to bring light into the darkness;  
He has come to bring freedom to the captives;  
He has come to restore the broken hearted,  
It's time to proclaim the year of the Lord

Prepare the way, (echo), Prepare the way for our Redeemer;  
Prepare the way, (echo), Prepare the way for our Restorer.  
Make ready your heart    Make ready your home,  
Make ready the people of God    Prepare the way. (Pause)

He has come to bring hope to the hopeless;  
He has come, to comfort all the poor.  
He has come to heal our every sickness,  
It's time to proclaim the year of the Lord.

Prepare the way, (echo), Prepare the way for our Redeemer;  
Prepare the way, (echo), Prepare the way for our Restorer.  
Make ready your heart make ready your home,  
Make ready the people of God.  
Make ready your heart make ready your home,  
Make ready the people of God. Prepare the way.

## **Dismissal**

Pastor:    Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

**ALL:      Thanks be to God**

**Postlude**    *Prepare the Way*

## **We Remember in Our Prayers**

Larry Cassel; Vicki Clugston; James Cushman; Barbara Green; Larry Hange;  
Allison Cairns Heist; Laverne Keyser; Joann Kolonia; Frances Lechner; Alma Leister;  
Diana McMurtrie; Ryan, Carolyn & Baby Mary Parker; Ruth Ann Quintavalle;  
Barbara Roeder; B. Fern Roth; Abbie Sands; Gladys Sands; Jean Stifnell; Ryan Weaver;  
Larry Weiss; Linda Wood; Charles Zepp

## Announcements & Events

**Thank You** to Emily Foreman, our Worship Assistant and our Ushers, Shea and Ehyv Reinhart. Thanks to everyone who helps with worship.

**Next Sunday worship will be in person and live-streamed.** Join us here or from home to start the Advent season.

**Thank you to all who came to decorate** the church and sanctuary for Christmas. It looks beautiful and we are very grateful.

**Member Meetings:** There are 3 upcoming meetings for members. Please be sure to mark your calendars:

- The proposed budget for 2025 is being presented today, **December 1, 2024** at 10AM following worship. Members are welcome.
- The Budget for 2025 will be voted on **December 15, 2024** at 10AM during fellowship in the fellowship hall. All are welcome at fellowship. Member will be able to vote at the meeting.
- The Annual Meeting covering 2024 will be held on **January 12, 2025** at 10AM during fellowship in the fellowship hall. All are welcome to fellowship. This is a voting meeting for members. Officers will be elected.

### **Tree Lighting & Caroling Party This Saturday, December 7th at 6pm.**

Everyone is welcome to join the fun! We will gather for the tree lighting, carol in the nearby neighborhood and then come back from some cookies, hot cocoa and games. See you there!

**The Christmas Poinsettia Sale** ends Sunday, December 8, 2024. Please return your order forms this week, or in the collection plate next Sunday.

**Mark your calendar for the All Ages Christmas Program** on December 22nd during worship. It is sure to be wonderful. If you have questions or would like to be involved, please contact Laura Foreman. [Laura.foreman@stpaulredhill.org](mailto:Laura.foreman@stpaulredhill.org).

**The Church Tidy Up Group needs you!** Please consider giving the gift of service to help with vacuuming or tidying parts of the church. Times are on Sunday, but can be done during the week as your schedule permits. have questions, please contact Jon Walter. You can sign up for available slots at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C4EAAAAA2BA5F94-44579155-tidy> or by scanning the qr code.

