
ADVENT AT
REDEEMER

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, ADVENT I

PRELUDE "Lo, How a Rose" by Michael Burkhardt

INTROIT

HYMN O Loving Founder of the Stars (NCH 111 v.1-3,5)

O loving founder of the stars, to all of faith light
Without end, O Christ, redeemer of us all
To earnest prayers your mercy lent

Who grieving at the cry of pain— the anguish of our
Dying race— Did death itself for us destroy,
And guilt assume through loving grace:

As Saviour from the heaven forth, when earth draws near its
Final hour, you from the virgins mother's womb
Appeared in love's redeeming power

Your judgment of this world draws near, O Holy One
Until that day protect us all your faithful ones
Against the Faithless One, We pray.

A COLLECT FOR DISCERNMENT

God of all wisdom and vision, guide Redeemer as we discern new directions and pursue the creation of your realm here. Grant that we will be open to your guidance in searching for a new priest and choosing our future. Thank you for our heritage and help us discern your new vision for our community as we continue welcoming all, learning and doing in new ways, and walking in justice as God's love in the world. Amen.

GREETING

You have caused your Word to be heard from heaven
The earth trembled and was still
The Grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us. **Amen**

HYMN With Joy Draw Water (NCH 109 vs.1-3, 5)

With Joy draw water from the spring; salvation's living well
The Holy One is in your midst; glad praises sing and tell

A shoot has sprung from Jesse's tree; of God the chosen One
a branch of knowledge and of truth; a gift of love has come

With love the poor will be received; the proud will turn aside;
And faithfulness will be a path, and righteousness the guide

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

God is with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.

God of unveiled truth, faithful flame in times of darkened sun and waning moon: lift up our unknowing hearts, and waken our sleeping love to announce the coming dawn of unexpected peace; through Jesus our Christ, the one who is to come. **Amen**.

THE READINGS

A reading from Prophet Isaiah **64:1-9**

After the readings the reader say
Listen for what the Spirit is saying.

The people respond
Thanks be to God.

The Contemporary Reading is "Remembering that It Happened Once…"
by Wendell Berry

Remembering that it happened once,
We cannot turn away the thought,
As we go out, cold, to our barns
Toward the long night's end, that we
Ourselves are living in the world
It happened in when it first happened,
That we ourselves, opening a stall
(A latch thrown open countless times
Before), might find them breathing there,
Foreknown: the Child bedded in straw,
The mother kneeling over Him,
The husband standing in belief
He scarcely can believe, in light
That lights them from no source we see,
An April morning's light, the air
Around them joyful as a choir.
We stand with one hand on the door,
Looking into another world
That is this world, the pale daylight
Coming just as before, our chores
To do, the cattle all awake,
Our own frozen breath hanging
In front of us; and we are here
As we have never been before,
Sighted as not before, our place
Holy, although we knew it not.

ANTIPHON (NCH 766)

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

THE GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

Response before the Gospel
Glory to you, O Christ.

Response after the Gospel
Praise to you, O Christ.

REFLECTION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of love, you are with us in every transition and change. We thank you for the gifts, talents and skills with which you have blessed us. We thank you for the experiences that have brought us to this moment. We thank you for the work of others that gives breadth and depth to our own work. Be with us as we move forward, rejoicing with you and supporting one another. God of mercy, God of peace, hear our prayer.

Holy and loving God, your will is that no one shall hurt or destroy, yet your world is filled with violence and strife; we cry out to you in longing and hope:

That we may pray humbly, longing to see as you see, and love as you love,
God of mercy, God of peace, **hear our prayer.**

For all who learn war as they practice the care of weapons and the application of deadly force,
God of mercy, God of peace, **hear our prayer.**

For all whom we currently name as defenders, allies, and enemies—and for all who name us as their enemies,
God of mercy, God of peace, **hear our prayer.**

For children and adults whose bodies become statistics, or who are regarded as not worth counting,
God of mercy, God of peace, **hear our prayer.**

For all whose lives are torn apart by death, destruction, and wounds of body and mind,
God of mercy, God of peace, **hear our prayer.**

For all who are scarred by the trauma of battle, who carry unbearable knowledge and memories they cannot share,
God of mercy, God of peace, **hear our prayer.**

For all, including ourselves, who are swayed, excited, or ruled by the drumbeats of anger, the thirst for revenge, and the seductive appeal of force,
God of mercy, God of peace, **hear our prayer.**

For those people, concerns and thanksgivings closest to our hearts that we now name, either silently or aloud.

We offer our concerns and thanksgivings for this parish and the world,
aloud, in the chat or in the silence of our hearts

In the name of Jesus, who refused to hurt or destroy,
God of mercy, God of peace, **hear our prayer. Amen.**

CONFESSION

Silence

Presider and People, together

O God, we regret we do not always share the gifts you have given us,
We often fail
to work for justice,
to initiate the exchange of forgiveness,
to risk a new beginning free of past grievances,
to engage with each other in joy,
to seek the gifts of larger love and deeper peace.

THE PEACE

Secure in God's forgiveness and acceptance, we greet one another.
Shalom, the peace of God is always with you.
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

"In The Bleak Midwinter" - Gustav Holst
Krista Ezra, Emily and William, singers, Chris Henke, piano

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

God is with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to God.
Let us give thanks to God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, God of all creation;
In your love you made us for yourself,
When we turned away
you did not reject us,
but came to meet us in your Son.
You embraced us as your children
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you

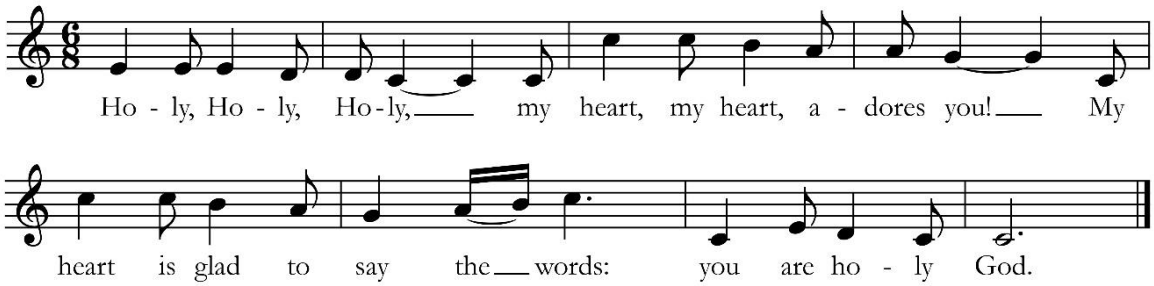
in Christ you shared our life
that we might live in him and he in us.
Christ opened his arms in love.

On the night he was betrayed,
at supper with his friends
he took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to them saying:
Take eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.
God, we do this in remembrance of him:
His body is the bread of life.

At the end of supper, taking the cup of wine,
He gave thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
do this in remembrance of me.
God, we do this in remembrance of him:
This is the cup of blessing.

As we proclaim his death and celebrate his rising in glory,
Send your Holy Spirit that this bread and this wine
May be to us the body and blood of Jesus.
As we eat and drink these holy gifts
Make us one in Christ, our risen Lord.

With your whole Church throughout the world
We offer you this sacrifice of praise
And lift our voice to join the eternal hymn of heaven:



THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Mother, 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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FRACTION *The breaking of the bread symbolizes that, out of the broken places of our lives, new life will grow.*

THE INVITATION

Christ was always the guest.
At the tables of the wealthy where he pled the case of the poor, he was always the guest.
Upsetting polite company, befriending isolated people, welcoming the stranger, he was always the quest.
But here at this table, Christ is the host.
So come, you who hunger and thirst for a deeper faith, for a better life, for a fairer world.
Jesus Christ who sat at our tables, now invites us to be guests at his.

THE COMMUNION Watcher, Tell Us of the Night (NCH 103)

1 Watcher, tell us of the night,
what its signs of promise are.
Traveler, O a wondrous sight!
See that glory-beaming star!
Watcher, does its beauteous ray
news of joy or hope foretell?
Traveler, yes; it brings the day,
promised day of Israel!

2 Watcher, tell us of the night;
higher yet that star ascends.
Traveler, blessedness and light,
peace and truth its course portends.
Watcher, will its beams alone
gild the spot that gave them birth?
Traveler, ages are its own;
see, it bursts o'er all the earth!

3 Watcher, tell us of the night,
for the morning seems to dawn.
Traveler, shadows take their flight,
doubt and terror are withdrawn.
Watcher, you may go your way;
hasten to your quiet home.
Traveler, I rejoice today,
for Emmanuel has come!

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

God, teach us to be merciful to the stranger for we were all once strangers in this land.
God, grant us the strength and courage to honor the dignity of every human being, to speak the truth to one another in love and walk humbly with each other and with you .
We ask that we leave this placed carrying your gift of peace to all people in this nation and the world. Amen.

BLESSING

HYMN My God, what a morning (text taken from the Spiritual, O Lord, what a morning)

1 You'll hear the trumpet sound,
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand,
When the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

Refrain:
My God, what a morning;
My God, what a morning;
Oh, my God, what a morning,
When the stars begin to fall,
When the stars begin to fall.

2 You'll hear the sinner cry,
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand,
When the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

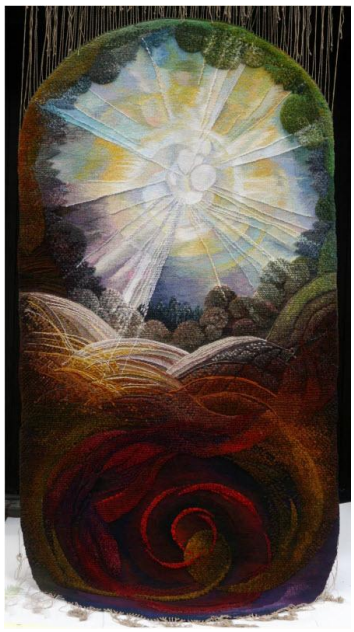
3 You'll hear the Christian shout,
To wake the nations underground,
Looking to my God's right hand,
When the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, awaiting God's coming.
Thanks be to God.

VESTRY NOTES – NOVEMER 29TH 2026

This Sunday marks the beginning of Advent, a time of waiting in hope and expectation for the coming of the Christ child. The Advent wreath will be set up in the front of the church with its four candles. Each candle represents something: hope, peace, joy and love. The wreath of evergreens symbolizes everlasting life as the circular shape represents God's unending love. I try to always remember those details as each candle is lit week after week.



Here in the northern hemisphere, Advent always begins as Earth is tilting toward the darkest time of year, when the deep stillness of winter does not signal death but rather the quiet preparation for the renewal of life in the spring. The planet's tilt and the seasonal lectionary, as well as our liturgical prayers and hymns all invite us into that same kind of interior space.

As I so often do, I find the words of Bishop Steven Charleston so inspiring. This is from his book *Hope as Old as Fire: A Spiritual Diary*. It speaks to me of the power of Advent as we wait in hope for what will come.

Come sit with me beside a pool of wonder.
Take time to watch still water.
See how deep your mind can go,
when you drop it like a stone,
into hidden depths of the heart,
where even reason cannot follow.
We will never know every answer.
Our task is to be stewards of the mysteries of God,
in awe of what we have yet to learn,
mystics beside the pool of living water,
where shadows
"Advent" by Maija Purgaille

Welcome to a holy Advent. Colleen Hintz for the Vestry

ANNOUNCEMENTS - MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

*** The Serendipity Stitchers** welcome you. 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m.
Our gatherings are full of laughter, delicious treats, and plenty of good company. No experience necessary. Please get in touch with Veronica for more information.

*** The Book Group** meets online at 7pm:
November 30 - ONE FOR THE MONEY - Janet Evanovich
December 28 - THE CALAMITY CLUB - Kathryn Stockett
January 25 - AETNA - Paul Yoon

February 22 - UNLESS - Carol Shields
March 29 - WHISTLER - Ann Patchett Please support your local bookshop and Redeemer by ordering from our online Bookshop. https://bookshop.org/shop/Redeemer

*** Moms for Comfort: A New Ministry for Redeemer**
Redeemer is honored to partner with Moms for Comfort, a local ministry that provides groceries, diapers, and other essential supplies to immigrant families in our community. By offering space, support, and volunteers, we are helping extend compassion and practical care to neighbors in need.
We invite parishioners to join this meaningful ministry through volunteering, donations, and prayer. You can donate online: https://bit.ly/4kzdqTv





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