



The Second Sunday of Advent

10 December 2017
The Holy Eucharist
10:30 a.m.

WELCOME to The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer. We are so glad you are here to worship with us this morning. If you are visiting, we invite you to sign the guest register in the narthex or to fill out a visitor card, found in the pews. Place the visitor card in the offering plate or give it to an usher or member of the clergy. As the parish community gathers, we invite you to prepare for worship in prayerful silence. During the liturgy, we will use the *BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER* 1979 and *The Hymnal* 1982, found in the pew racks. 'S' refers to the service music section at the front of *The Hymnal* 1982. Large-print leaflets and hearing assistance devices are available. Please speak with an usher or member of the clergy before the liturgy.

THE ENTRANCE RITE

The liturgy begins on page 355 in the BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY: Pastorale, from Symphony No. 1 - Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

As the church bell rings, all stand and sing:

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION: Blessed be the God of Israel

HYMNAL, 444

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.
People **You come to your people and set them free.**

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

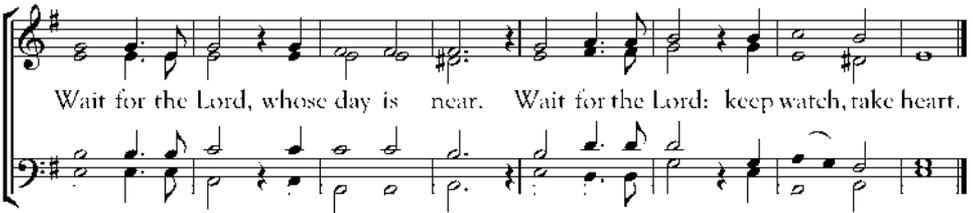
Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

As the children, youth and teachers leave for Church School, all join in singing

HYMN Wait for the Lord



Words: Isaiah 40: Taize Community 1984 Music: Jacques Bethier (1923-1994)
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THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST READING Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 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 people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the LORD God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

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

All stand and sing:

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE: Once he came in blessing

HYMNAL, 53

THE HOLY GOSPEL Mark 1:1-8

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ**

THE SERMON

Rev. Cricket Park

THE NICENE CREED

BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, page 358

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor You are faithful, O God, and by you we are called into the fellowship of your Son. Bless we pray, Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Mariann, our Bishop; Cricket, David, and Sue, our clergy. Shield all who minister in your name.

People **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts.**

Intercessor Awaken, O desire of nations, the hearts and souls of those who hold power in this and every land, so that all earth’s peoples may enjoy the fruits of their labors and preserve the resources of this planet to the next generations.

People **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts.**

Intercessor Comfort, O comfort your people most gracious God, throughout this land and around the world. Give strength and courage to those in

trouble, healing for those who are sick, and your loving presence to those who are lonely. Help us to see them through your eyes and to be your hands and heart to give them hope.

People **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts.**

Intercessor Prepare our hearts, O Wisdom, that we may be ready for your coming and be inspired to share the joy of your life enfolded in ours. Give us the desire to know and love you.

People **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts.**

Intercessor Disperse our sadness, O Dayspring, for those whom we commend to your eternal care. Remind us that the deceased are not without hope, but in your loving presence forever.

People **Restore us, O Lord God of hosts.**

The Celebrant concludes the prayers with a collect, then all say together

THE CONFESSION OF SIN & ABSOLUTION

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen

THE PEACE & THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY *The Adult and Youth choirs sing*

ANTHEM: How beautiful upon the mountains

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace, that publisheth salvation, that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!

Text: Isaiah 52:7

Music: John Stainer (1840-1901)

THE DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS QUI VENIT

HYMNAL, S-124

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, page 364

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

AGNUS DEI:

HYMNAL, S-161

All who seek a deeper relationship with God in Jesus Christ are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion during this liturgy. Gluten-free wafers are available. The second chalice bearers have grape juice. Please make your need known at the altar rail. If the reception of Holy Communion is not part of your tradition, you are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest to indicate to the priest your desire to receive a blessing.

THE COMMUNION

All join in singing

HYMN: Here, O my Lord

HYMNAL, 318

The choir sings

ANTHEM: Come, thou Redeemer of the earth

Come, thou Redeemer of the earth, and manifest thy virgin birth:
Let every age adoring fall; such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will, but of the Spirit, thou art still
The Word of God in flesh arrayed, the Savior now to man displayed.

Forth from that chamber goeth he, that royal home of purity,
A giant in twofold substance one, rejoicing now his course to run.

From God the Father he proceeds, to God the Father back he speeds;
Runs out his course to death and hell, returns on God's high throne to dwell.

O equal to the Father, thou! Gird on thy fleshly mantle now;
The weakness of our mortal state with deathless might invigorate.

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright, and darkness glow with newborn light,
No more shall night extinguish day, where love's bright beams their power display.

O Jesu, Virginborn, to thee eternal praise and glory be,
Whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit evermore. Amen

Words: St. Ambrose translation J. M. Neale and other

Music: German tradition melody; adapted Michael Praetorius and arranged Stephen Cleobury

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING *All respond: Amen.*

HYMN IN PROCESSION: On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry HYMNAL, 76

THE DISMISSAL *All respond: Thanks be to God*

ORGAN VOLUNTARY:

Fantasia in G minor, BWV 542a - Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

*Please respect those who wish to listen to the organ postlude
by holding your conversations outside the sanctuary. Thank you.*

*Special thanks to guest director, Philip Toro
and Redeemer Organ Scholar, Luke Brennan for leading our music this morning.
Chris Betts is performing with the Washington Chorus today at the Kennedy Center.*

*Thank you for worshipping with us. At the conclusion of the liturgy, we invite you to join us
for refreshments and fellowship in the Parish Hall, located on the lower level of the building.
To learn more about the mission and ministry of The Church of the Redeemer,
visit the parish website: redeemberbethesda.org*

■ PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to Church of the Redeemer.

You're invited to join us in our mutual Christian journey.

All are welcome at the Lord's Table for communion.

*Please sign the guest book in the foyer or complete a visitor's card,
and please take a copy of Redeemer Spirit.*

We wish to welcome you fully into the Redeemer community!

Adult Forum Today

Amma Cricket takes the reins of Adult Forum during Advent to look at the history of the season, the upcoming gospel of Mark, and a bit of humorous reading. On December 10th we'll talk about the gospel of Mark. We'll be reading this gospel during the upcoming church year (Year B). Finally, on Rose Sunday - December 17th - relax and enjoy *The Christmas Cantata* by Mark Schweizer. Pick up a copy at www.simp.com, or purchase one

from Cricket (\$10). Mr. Schweizer is the author of the Liturgical Mystery series set in St. Germain, North Carolina. It's like Cabot Cove with an Episcopal twist.

Holiday Alternative Gift Sales

Holiday Alternative Gift Sales continue this morning. Palestinian olive oil products, as well as other items supporting local ministries, will be available after each Sunday service in the Parish Hall.

Redeemer Book Group

The Book Group is reading "The Alto Wore Tweed" by Mark Schweizer. St. Germaine is a quiet little town in the mountains of North Carolina. Quiet until full-time police detective, part-time Episcopal choirmaster and aspiring whodunit novelist Hayden Konig begins his opus amidst murder and hilarious mayhem at St. Barnabas Church. In addition to discussing this liturgical mystery novel, we will continue delving into the forty rules of love that were listed in the book we have been discussing. No prior reading of the book is required. The meeting for discussing "The Alto Wore Tweed" and the forty rules of love will be on December 17, 2017 at 3:00 pm at the home of Susan Grigsby, 7325 University Avenue in Glen Echo. Any questions? Contact Huda Kraske at hqkraske@aol.com.

The book to be read after that is "The Book of Joy" by the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu and deals with attaining happiness in a changing world. This book affirms many of the 40 rules of love mentioned above. More on this later.

For more information, contact Huda Kraske at hqkraske@aol.com or by calling 301-656-2087. All are welcome.

Christmas Services at Redeemer

December 20 at Noon - "Blue Christmas"

December 24 at 10:30 a.m. - Advent IV Holy Eucharist in the Parish Hall

December 24 at 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. - Holy Eucharist with music and choirs

December 25 at 10:00 a.m. - Simple Holy Eucharist

Epiphany Evensong, the Feast of Lights and Magi-themed party!

Saturday, January 6, beginning at 5:00 p.m.

January 6 is the Feast of the Epiphany, when we commemorate the visit of the Magi to the infant Jesus and the coming of the light of Christ into the world. This year we are introducing a new event to mark this special day in our lives as Christians. Our choirs will lead us in an Evensong service, which will include a special liturgy of the Feast of Lights, followed by a party in the parish hall. You are all invited to help decorate the parish hall for the party by bringing your own nativity/manger scene from home to join in a display of many nativities. Joelle Moris is coordinating the nativity sets, so please contact her at robotsofsaturn@yahoo.com if you can bring yours. In honor of the Magi we will serve special Persian-themed food, in addition to our usual wonderful reception refreshments. If you have Persian food that you can bring (savory or sweet) we'd love you to!

Upcoming P.R.A.Y. Events (Potomac River Anglican/Awesome Youth)

Here are some of the upcoming events for youth at Redeemer. I sure hope that your students will participate in these events and activities. All events are designed for those in 5th grade and up. If the event is a Redeemer only event then we are a bit flexible with the ages. For PRAY events we do try to keep to 5th grade or higher. *December PRAY Event Caroling at the Oasis & Secret Santa*

Sunday, December 17

1:45 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

We will sing for the residents of the Oasis, a unit specializing in care for those with dementia and Alzheimer's. The group will gather for snacks and a gift exchange when we take a break in our singing time. Gifts should be under \$10. There is no other cost for the event.

Meet at the entrance for check-in at 1:45. We will begin singing at 2:00 p.m.

Friends are welcome. Dress in your "best" Christmas attire!

All those participating on the day should sign up no later than Wednesday, December 13 in the parish hall or online.

December Youth Night

Wednesday, December 20. Dinner at 6:00 p.m. - Program 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. The program this evening will focus on the Christmas story, including traditions and myths.

Epiphany Celebration A Redeemer Parish Event

Saturday, January 6.

Beginning at 5:00 p.m.

The evening will begin with Evensong and an Epiphany Liturgy of Lights lead by the youth. The celebration will continue with a Persian feast of food and fun in the parish hall.

January PRAY Event: MLK Day of Service

Monday, January 15 Time to be Determined

An interfaith day of serving the least among us in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. We will gather at National Hebrew Congregation on Massachusetts Avenue for a few hours of giving back.

January Youth Night

Wednesday, January 17

Dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Program 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Program to be determined.

SNACKS NEEDED

The youth room is always in need of snacks and any contributions are welcome. Sweet or salty - healthy or unhealthy. Packaged in individual sized containers is helpful. Cricket and Sue have been keeping this stocked - either of us is happy to shop if you want to contribute funds rather than shop yourself.

■ PRAYER REQUESTS

For healing:

Rick Abramson, Barbara Alterowitz, Ellen Boyle, Allison Chow, Joan Eisenstodt, Kiki Garo, Lucien Garo, Jr., Susan Ingraham, Olivier Jeanne, Peter & Beate Kendall, Rosalie Kerr, Clarice Leslie, Catherine Moore, Hal Palmer, Evelyn Paparelli, Mary Potter, Marilyn Raisch, Rich Randa, Charlotte Ripa, Tom Rogers, Bill Ryon, Lynda Shepard, Anne Southard, Karen Stewart, Patricia Snowden, Ann Taylor, Carter Taylor, Beth Warner, Edward, Greg, Jerry, Jim, Katherine, Katie, Mollie, Logan, Jay, James, and the Sewell family.

In thanksgiving for birthdays: Susan Cinkala, Jorge Guzman, Ayesha Court

■ LITURGICAL ASSISTANTS

Today, Sunday, December 10

Lector 8:00 Susan Grigsby; Chalice 8:00 Tami McMinn

Ushers: Jefferson Arrington, Michael Mershon, TBD

Crucifer: Cara Price

Acolyte: Olivia Tyler

Lectors 10:30: Chris Austin (Old Testament); Lisa MacBain (Epistle)

Intercessor: Jo Barclay-Beard

Chalice 10:30: Ben Ivins, Bill MacBain, Nathan Price

Counters: Clark Downs, Ben Ivins

Altar Guild: Tami McMinn, Helen Zitomer, Judy James

Coffee Hour:

Next week, Sunday, December 17

Lector 8:00 Dean Cinkala; Chalice 8:00 Marie France

Ushers: Jefferson Arrington, Rick Tyler, Mary K Young

Crucifer: Sam Nickerson

Acolyte: Thad Arrington

Lectors 10:30: Jo Barclay-Beard (Old Testament); Judy Austin (Epistle)

Intercessor: Bob Yates Cathy Arrington

Chalice 10:30: Patricia Snowden, Peggy Tucker, Helen Zitomer

Counters: Melinda Nelson, Mary K Young

Altar Guild: Diana Dial, Cathy Baker, Ann Taylor

Coffee Hour: Cookie Sunday!

Sign-up sheets for Coffee Hour and Altar Flowers are on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

We're counting on you for these ministries of hospitality. Thank you!

■ **NEXT WEEK'S LECTIONARY - WWW.LECTIONARYPAGE.NET**

Isaiah 64:1-9

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Mark 13:24-37

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

■ **PARISH CALENDAR**

Today, December 10, Second Sunday of Advent

Holy Eucharist, 8:00 a.m.

Advent Adult Forum, 9:15 p.m.

Childcare begins 9:15 a.m..

Holy Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School, 10:45 a.m.

Coffee Hour 11:45 a.m.

Monday, December 11, Office closed

AA Meeting, Noon

Tuesday, December 12

Education for Ministry, 6:30 p.m.

AA Meeting, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 13

Morning Prayer, 9:00 a.m.

Education for Ministry, 9:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist, Noon

AA Meeting, Noon

Youth Choir Rehearsal, 4:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 14

Holy Eucharist, 10:00 a.m.

Balkan Dancers, 7:30 p.m.

Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, December 15

AA Meditation Meeting, Noon

AA Meeting, 8:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 16

Yoga, 9:30 a.m.

Continued on next page

Sunday, December 17, Third Sunday of Advent

Christmas Pageant at 10:30 a.m. service

Holy Eucharist, 8:00 a.m.

Advent Adult Forum, 9:15 p.m.

Childcare, 9:15 a.m.

Holy Eucharist, 10:30 a.m.

Coffee Hour, 11:45 a.m.

Book Group meets, 3:00 p.m.

Looking ahead:

Christmas Eve services at 5:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. (with an extended choral prelude beginning at 10:00 a.m.)

Christmas Day Eucharist at 10:00 a.m.

Choral Evensong for the Feast of the Epiphany, January 6

E-mail Addresses:

Cricket: rector@redeemerbethesda.org

Chris: music@redeemerbethesda.org

General Mailbox: office@redeemerbethesda.org

Margaret: accounting@redeemerbethesda.org

Wearing your name tag prevents memory loss in other people.

Please wear your name tag.



THE EPISCOPAL
CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
BETHESDA, MARYLAND

O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; let the whole earth stand in awe of him.

6201 Dunrobbin Dr. at MacArthur Blvd.
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www.redeemerbethesda.org

The Rev'd Cricket Park, Rector
The Rev'd Dr. David Schlafer, Assisting Priest
Christopher Betts, Director of Music