

**DECEMBER 22, 2024** 

These verses show us, lastly, a striking example of faith. The wise men believed in Christ when they had never seen him; but that was not all. They believed in him when the scribes and Pharisees were unbelieving; but that again was not all. They believed in him when they saw him a little infant on Mary's knees, and worshipped him as a King. This was the crowning point of their faith ... when they saw the infant, they believed that they saw the divine Savior of the world!

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

## Isaiah 9:6-7 and 2 Corinthians 1:20

Leader: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be on his shoulder,

People: and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Leader: Of the increase of his government and 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 righteousness from this time forth and forevermore.

The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

People: All the promises of God find their Yes in Jesus Christ. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for His glory.



### WELCOME TO REDEEMER!

We're glad to have you joining us in worship today. If you'd like to know more about Redeemer, including ways to get involved, please scan the QR code and let us know.



## ADORING GOD IN SONG

## Sing We the Song of Emmanuel

Sing we the song of Emmanuel;
This the Christ who was long foretold.
Lo in the shadows of Bethlehem,
Promise of dawn now our eyes behold.
God Most High in a manger laid;
Lift your voices and now proclaim:
Great and glorious, Love has come to us;
Join now with the hosts of heaven.

Come we to welcome Emmanuel;
King who came with no crown or throne.
Helpless He lay, the Invincible,
Maker of Mary, now Mary's son.
O what wisdom to save us all,
Shepherds, sages, before Him fall.
Grace and majesty, what humility;
Come on bended knee, adore Him.

Go spread the news of Emmanuel;
Joy and peace for the weary heart.
Lift up your heads, for your King has come;
Sing for the Light overwhelms the dark.
Glory shining for all to see,
Hope alive let the gospel ring.
God has made a way, He will have the praise;
Tell the world His name is Jesus.

Glory shining for all to see, Hope alive let the gospel ring. God has made a way, He will have the praise; Tell the world His name is Jesus.

Gloria, gloria, gloria in excelsis deo Gloria, gloria, gloria in excelsis deo (Repeat Bold)

Sing We the Song of Emmanuel, © 2015 Getty Music Publishing Words and Music: Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Stuart Townsend and Keith Getty



#### PARENTS AND NURSING MOMS:

We have a "wiggle room" in the back of the Sanctuary. While not soundproof, it does offer you a little extra room to move around. If you are a nursing mom in need of a quiet place on Sunday mornings, the "wiggle room" and infant nursery are available options. We also have a nursing mother's room available on the lower level. Changing tables and changing supplies are also available on the lower level. Our nursery coordinator will be happy to answer any questions and help you get settled.

## Jesus Messiah

He became sin, who knew no sin That we might become His Righteousness; He humbled himself, and carried the cross. Love so amazing, love so amazing.

Chorus:

Jesus Messiah, Name above all names, Blessed Redeemer, Emmanuel, The Rescue for sinners, the Ransom from Heaven, Jesus Messiah, Lord of all.

His body the bread, His blood the wine Broken and poured out, all for love. The whole earth trembled, And the veil was torn. Love so amazing, love so amazing. (Chorus) All our hope is in You, All our hope is in You. All the glory to You, God, the Light of the world. (Chorus 2x)

Jesus, Messiah, Lord of all.

Jesus Messiah © 2008 sixsteps Music / worshiptogether.com Songs Words & Music: Daniel Carson,

Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Jesse Reeves

## **CONFESSION OF SIN & ASSURANCE**

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

**MATTHEW 1:21-23** 

She (Mary) will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

## THE GIVING OF OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

### **DEACON'S PRAYER**

**JAMES RUSHING** 

### **OFFERTORY**

Jesus, I Come

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come. Into Thy freedom, gladness and light, Jesus, I come to Thee. Out of my sickness into Thy health, Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth, Out of my sin and into Thyself, Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come. Into the glorious gain of Thy cross, Jesus, I come to Thee. Out of earth's sorrows into Thy balm, Out of life's storms and into Thy calm, Out of distress into jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to Thee. Out of unrest and arrogant pride,
Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into Thy blessed will to abide,
Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love,
Out of despair into raptures above,
Upward forever on wings like a dove,
Jesus, I come to Thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come; Jesus, I come.
Into the joy and light of Thy home, Jesus, I come to Thee.
Out of the depths of ruin untold, Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold, Ever Thy glorious face to behold, **Jesus, I come to Thee.**(Repeat bold 3x)

Jesus, I Come © 2000 Greg Thompson Words: William Sleeper Music: Greg Thompson

#### HOW CAN WE GIVE TO THE CHURCH?

There are several ways to give to the church. You can drop a check or cash in the offering plate as it is passed. You can mail a check, bring it by the church office, or leave it in our outside mailbox. You can also give online through your Breeze account or on our website. Online you can give by credit card or Bank ACH. Questions? Contact the church office, office@redeemerpca.net

## Doxology

**TRINITY HYMNAL #731** 

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### **GREET ONE ANOTHER**

## MINISTRY OF WORD & PRAYER

Reading of Scripture

MATTHEW 2:1-12

PAGE 1026 IN THE PEW BIBLE

Prayer for the Kingdom of God on Earth

### SONG OF PREPARATION

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

**TRINITY HYMNAL #195** 

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:

Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare Him room,

And heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace,

And makes the nations prove

The glories of His righteousness

And wonders of His love,

And wonders of His love,

And wonders, wonders of His love.

(Repeat bold)

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: Let men their songs employ; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground; He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.



### CHILDREN'S CHURCH:

Children ages 4 through Kindergarten are invited to attend Children's Church during the song of preparation. This is a great opportunity for them to prepare for participation in the full worship service as well as practice the different elements of worship.

## **SERMON**

# Awkward Gifts

Matthew 2:1-12

GARRETT BLACK, ASSISTANT PASTOR	



### **RESPONSE**

## Amazing Grace!

TRINITY HYMNAL #460

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found; Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fears relieved; How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed.

Thro' many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come; 'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.

And when this flesh and heart shall fail, And mortal life shall cease, I shall possess, within the veil, A life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun, We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we first begun.

## **BENEDICTION**

## **Support Refugee Hope Partners this Christmas**

This month we have an opportunity to help our local mission partner, Refugee Hope Partners (RHP). We are helping RHP with supplies for their Early Learning Club. Various needs are listed on ornaments on the little giving tree in the foyer. Have a question about RHP, reach out to Justine Bowser. justine@refugeehopepartners.org

## Christmas Eve: Tuesday, December 24

Our Candlelight Christmas Eve Service will be at 5:00 p.m., on Tuesday, December 24. We have candles for everyone. Flame-less candles will be available for our younger members. Children are welcome in worship. There will not be childcare during the Candlelight Service. The 242 Room and the nurseries will be open and available for families to use.

## Message from the Diaconate - Gift of Thanks to Our Staff

To the Redeemer Family: Thank you for your faithfulness in supporting the ministries and staff of Redeemer throughout 2024. The Diaconate would like to provide the opportunity for you to contribute to a year-end gift for the staff. This monetary gift will be given as a small token of appreciation for the hard work and dedication our church staff provides throughout the year. We would like to collect your contributions by Sunday, December 29. As these funds are being collected for the express purpose of a year-end gift for the staff of Redeemer PCA, your contribution is considered a donation to a charitable organization. Please note "year-end staff gift" in the memo portion of your check. Your contribution will be included in your annual statement of giving to Redeemer. If you have any questions, please contact any Deacon.

## No Sunday School: December 29

There will not be Sunday School on Sunday, December 29. Sunday School will return, Sunday, January 5.

#### WEEKLY CALENDAR

### **Sunday**

• Worship, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Tuesday

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service,
 5 p.m., Sanctuary and 242 Room

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 24: **Candlelight Christmas Eve Service**, 5 p.m. at
  Redeemer
- December 29: No Sunday School
- January 14: **R.O.M.E.O. Breakfast**, 8:30 a.m. at Redeemer
- January 18, Memorial Service for Susan Forcum, 11 a.m. at Redeemer
- Vacation Bible School 2025:
   June 16-20

## **Church Office Holiday Schedule & Year-End Giving**

The church office will be closed from December 25 - January 1. If you'd like to make a contribution before the end of the year you can mail your check to the church office, and it will be counted as part of your 2024 giving as long as it is postmarked by December 31. You can also give online at redeemerpca.com. All gifts postmarked on or after January 1 will be credited to 2025.

#### STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Dan Seale, Senior Pastor
DAN@REDEEMERPCA.NET

Ross Jelgerhuis, Associate Pastor ROSS@REDEEMERPCA.NET

Garrett Black, Assistant Pastor, Student Ministry
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Claire Weibking, Student Ministry Assistant studentministry@redeemerpca.net

Anna Baughman,

Children's Ministry Director

CHILDRENSMINISTRY® REDEEMERPCA.NET

Brook Hagan, Administrator

#### **OUR MISSIONARIES & MINISTRY PARTNERS**

We desire to see the life-changing power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ declared and displayed locally and globally. Therefore, we partner with like-minded people committed to the same mission supporting them personally prayerfully and financially. We consider

to the same mission supporting them personally, prayerfully and financially. We consider them part of our Redeemer family.	
GLOBAL MISSIONS	REFORMED UNIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP (RUF)
Cartee & Colleen MTW - Senior Director of Field Operations	Chuck & Lauren Askew, RUF - NCSU
Jonathan & Beka MTW	Kris & Santae Cooper, RUF - NC Central
	Sam & Shaunna Kennedy, RUF - UNC W
Isaac & Gloria, India	Skylar & Dori Adams, RUF - ECU
Jim & Carin F., International Ministry, NYC MTW	Matt & Bethany Mahla, RUF - Duke
The Basaran Family Cru - Family Life Ministry	Jim Hahn, RUF - UNC Chapel Hill
	Cadey Campbell, RUF Intern - Montana State
<b>Dave &amp; Darlene Eby,</b> Uganda Africa Reformation Theological Seminary	LOCAL MINISTRIES
<b>Dan Gilchrist</b> , Africa Equipping Leaders International	<b>Justine Bowser</b> Refugee Hope Partners - Raleigh
Jamie & Jacki Gildard, France MTW	Safe Families for Children (SFFC) of Greater Raleigh/Durham
<b>Tim &amp; Huilan</b> , East Asia MTW	Redeemer Presbyterian Church Mercy Team
	CLI Prison Alliance
<b>Shaun &amp; Becky Hurrie</b> , South Africa MTW	<b>Reformed Youth Ministries (RYM)</b>
	Lamp Seminary - RDU
Matt & Caroline Newkirk, Japan MTW	
Mark & Esther Jeong, Japan	CHURCH PLANTS
Mark & Esther Jeung, Japan	Tim & Angela Inman,

Puerta de Esperanza, Honduras AIM

MTW

RUF-I, Reformed University Fellowship -International, NCSU

Russell & Latoya McCutcheon Reconciliation Church, Knightdale, NC

Christ Church, Dunn, NC

Jay & Bet Denton, Downtown Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, NC