Advent



DESIGNED FOR DIGNITY – Design for Justice

Think how we feel when we see someone we love ravaged by unwise actions or relationships. Do we respond with benign tolerance as we might toward strangers? Far from it.... Anger isn't the opposite of love. Hate is, and the final form of hate is indifference.... God's wrath is not a cranky explosion, but his settled opposition to the cancer...which is eating out the insides of the human race he loves with his whole being.

Becky Pippert

ORDER OF WORSHIP | DECEMBER 10, 2023

Hearing support is available. Please, ask an usher, audio technician, or Deacon Norm Marks.

Welcome

PASTOR BARBER

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

Prelude — Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirkengesang, 1599; setting by John Carter)

ALAN MASON, Double Bass

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

* GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Call to Worship — Psalm 108 (Pew Bible, p. 644, adap.)

Pastor: Our hearts are ready, O LORD, our hearts are ready! Let us then praise the LORD.

People: We will sing and make melody! We will awaken the dawn!

Pastor: We will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples, we will sing praises to you among the nations.

All: For your steadfast love is great above the heavens, and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

* Hymn (Trinity #208) — O Come, All Ye Faithful

* PRAYER OF INVOCATION (followed by the Lord's Prayer)

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

* CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed (Trinity Hymnal, p. 845)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. [continues next page]

WILL DODD

PASTOR BARBER

PASTOR POST

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come 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.

* Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS WORD

New Testament readings — Luke 19:41–44 (Pew Bible, p. 1118)

Matthew 23:37–39 (Pew Bible, p. 1053)

2 Peter 3:8-10 (Pew Bible, p. 1300)

Luke 19:41 And when he drew near and saw the city, he wept over it, ⁴² saying, "Would that you, even you, had known on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. ⁴³ For the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up a barricade around you and surround you and hem you in on every side ⁴⁴ and tear you down to the ground, you and your children within you. And they will not leave one stone upon another in you, because you did not know the time of your visitation."

Luke 19:41-44 (ESV)

Mat. 23:37 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁸ See, your house is left to you desolate. ³⁹ For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'" Matthew 23:37–39 (ESV)

^{2Pet. 3:8} But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

[continues next page]

ELDER KEVIN FREER ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

2 Peter 3:8–10 (ESV)

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN (followed by Private Confession of Sin)

Almighty and most merciful Father, we are thankful that your mercy is higher than the heavens, wider than our wanderings, deeper than all our sin. Forgive our careless attitudes toward your purposes, our refusal to relieve the suffering of others, our envy of those who have more than we have, our obsession with creating a life of constant pleasure, our indifference to the treasures of heaven, our boasting in our arrogance, our neglect of your wise and gracious law. Help us to change our way of life so that when we know the right thing to do, we will by the power of your Spirit do it for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Assurance of Pardon

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand. Isaiah 41:10 (Pew Bible, p. 764)

WE LIVE OUT OUR MISSION and PASTORAL PRAYER

Reception of New Members

Will Dodd • Louise Maia • Riama Tobing • Simon Zhou

WE GIVE TO THE ONE WHO HAS GIVEN US EVERYTHING



里歇諾里 You can also give online on our website, through the app Vanco Mobile, or mail a check to the office (if it is for the Deacons Fund, please note on the memo).

Offertory Response — The First Noel (arr. by Ellen Foncannon)

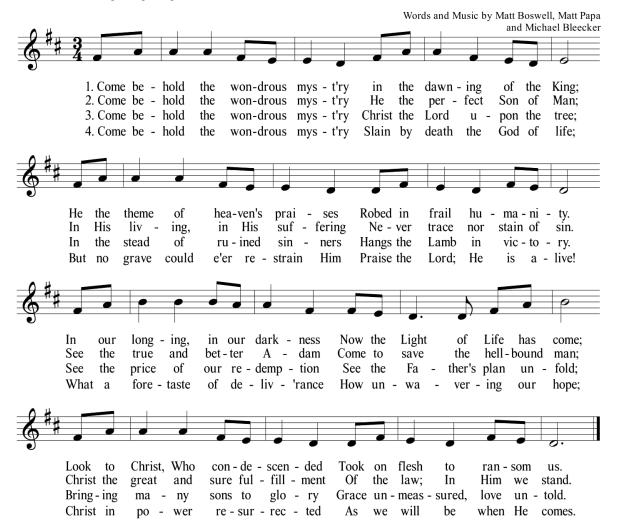
STEPHEN RIPPON. HIGO RODRIGUES, Organ

PASTOR POST

*Song — Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Children are welcome to remain in worship with us. Children 2 and 3 years old may go to Beginner Bible in room 100; children 4 years to 2nd grade may depart during the last verse to the Fellowship Hall for Junior Church.

Parents please pick up children after the service.



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❖ stand if able 5

GOD EXHORTS THROUGH THE WORD AND WE SING

them." 8 But Noah found favor in the eyes of the LORD.

Design for Justice — Genesis 6:5–14, 17–19; 7:17–19 (Pew Bible, p. 6, 7)

6:5 The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. ⁶ And the Lord regretted that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him to his heart. ⁷ So the Lord said, "I will blot out man whom I have created from the face of the land, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens, for I am sorry that I have made

⁹ These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his generation. Noah walked with God. ¹⁰ And Noah had three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

¹¹ Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence. ¹² And God saw the earth, and behold, it was corrupt, for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth. ¹³ And God said to Noah, "I have determined to make an end of all flesh, for the earth is filled with violence through them. Behold, I will destroy them with the earth.

¹⁴Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and out with pitch. [...]

¹⁷ For behold, I will bring a flood of waters upon the earth to destroy all flesh in which is the breath of life under heaven. Everything that is on the earth shall die. ¹⁸ But I will establish my covenant with you, and you shall come into the ark, you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. ¹⁹ And of every living thing of all flesh, you shall bring two of every sort into the ark to keep them alive with you. They shall be male and female.

[continues next page]

PASTOR BARBER

ORDER OF WORSHIP | DECEMBER 10, 2023

^{7:17} The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. ¹⁸ The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters. ¹⁹ And the waters prevailed so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered.

Genesis 6:5–14, 17–19; 7:17–19 (ESV)



*Song — Joy Has Dawned (music on pp. 10–11)

* GOD SENDS US OUT WITH HIS BLESSING

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM (CHANCEL, GRACE AND PEACE Choirs, and Faith Presbyterian Church Choir) — 6рм



OUR MISSION We exist to change lives through sharing Christ. We carry out this mission in three ways:

GATHER — we gather Christians together to worship God through Jesus Christ

MORNING WORSHIP—10:45AM

CHANCEL CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT—Tonight at 6:00pm

FAMILY CHRISTMAS PROGRAM—December 17, 5:15 Ornament Making/6pm Program

DISCIPLE — we make disciples and grow in our relationship with God and each other

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES—9:30AM

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY—Thursdays from 8:00–9:00AM in Room B202 and online. New study begins this Thursday: "Created For Worship" by Jason Helopoulos.

YOUNG ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY—December 15, 7-9pm at the Rose Residence, 101 Kirkcaldy Drive, Elkton, MD.

YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY—December 16 (note change of date), 6:30-8:30pm at the Guckenberger's home, 218 Goldfinch Turn, Newark, 19711.

SEND — we are all Christ's ambassadors that are sent into the world locally and globally

MISSIONARIES—Verne & Alina Marshall—MTW: Chile (see our Missionary Highlight in this week's online EPiC Newsletter)

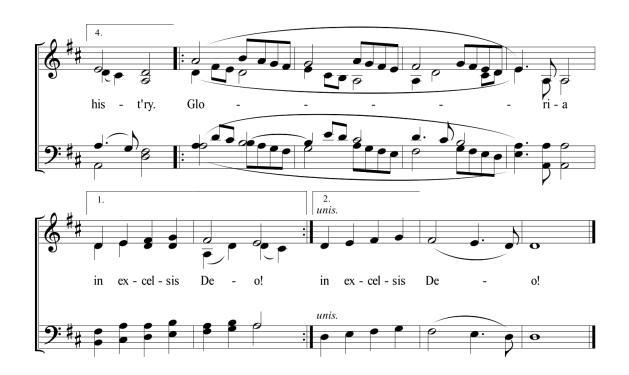
Attendance and Financial Information for December 3, 2023

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General Fund		Deacons Fund	
Weekly Gifts Received	\$ 20,446.47	Deacons Fund Receipts (Nov)	\$ 4,361.76
Weekly Budgeted Requirements	\$ \$ 20,409.21	YTD Deacons Fund Receipt	\$57,275.54
Year-to-Date Gifts Received	\$959,958.10	YTD Deacons Fund Expenses	\$51,189.13
Year-to-Date Requirements	\$1,000,051.29	Deacons Fund Ending Balance	\$40,670.42
Year-to-Date Expenses	\$938,819.38	•	

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OUR MISSION IS TO CHANGE LIVES THROUGH SHARING CHRIST BY GATHERING, DISCIPLING AND SENDING

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Chad Barber, Senior Pastor (chad@epcnewark.org) • Rev. Don Post, Assistant Pastor (don@epcnewark.org) Rev. Rick Gray, Pastor of International Ministry (rick@epcnewark.org)

Dr. Higo Rodrigues, Music Director (higo@epcnewark.org)

• Rev. Caleb Evans, Pastor of Youth and Families (caleb@epcnewark.org)

• Deborah Freer, Children's Ministry Director (deb@epcnewark.org)

Micah Freer, Pastoral Intern (micah@epcnewark.org) • Dot Griffin, Administrative Staff (dot@epcnewark.org) Rev. LeRov Greer, Custodian

THE SESSION

Moderator - Rev. Chad Barber • Clerk - Bill Zinkand²³ • Alan Beattie²⁵ • Bernie Cohen²⁴ Dwight Derby²⁵ • Dennis Dietrich²³ • Chuck Heidel²⁵ • David Rose²³ • Paul Veenema²³ • Bill Vinson²⁵

Brian Warshaw²⁵ • Guy Webster²⁴

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

Norman Marks^{'24} • Dean Nairn^{'24} • David Visser^{'23}

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Committee on Administration • Committee on Discipleship Ministries • Covenant College • Covenant Seminary Mission to the World • Mission to North America • Reformed University Fellowship • Ridge Haven

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A Door of Hope • Greater Europe Mission - Mark and Marti Mylin (France)

Harvest USA - Ellen Dykas • Heritage Presbytery Church Planting - Will Stern (Hope Presbyterian Church) InterVarsity Christian Fellowship - Greg and Sandy Baker (UD) • Love, INC. (In the Name of Christ)

> Navigators - TJ and KyongA Hayes • Pioneers - Scott and Jessica Weber Reformed University Fellowship - Daryl Wattley (DSU)

> Reformed University Fellowship International - Graham and Emily Guo (UD)

Serge (formerly World Harvest) - Josh and Kristi, Jason and Ai Keuh (Japan)

Third Millennium - Gary and Phyllis Waldecker

Wycliffe - John and Judy Williams (Mexico) • Young Life

www.epcnewark.org

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