

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE
December 14, 2025 11:00 A.M.

*"Peace is not the absence of trouble,
but the presence of Christ." ~ Sheila Walsh*

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE 3rd ADVENT CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER

***HYMN:** “Angels, from the Realms of Glory” Hymn No. 259

***CONFESSION**

***Invitation**

***Prayer of Confession:** *in unison*

Gracious God, the light has dawned, yet we have loved the darkness. The day has appeared, yet we still walk in the night. O Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive us for living as people still blinded by sin. Make us worthy of the brightness of your coming. Receive our repentance and heal our hidden sins. We rejoice in the Hope of the world, our redemption. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS:**

“An angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.’”
Matthew 1: 20-21

***RESPONSE:** Hymn No. 813

“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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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

***Offertory Prayer**

CHILDREN 4 YEARS – 5TH GRADE ARE DISMISSED TO JR. CHURCH

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE & 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 evil; For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

***HYMN:** “It Came upon the Midnight Clear” Hymn No. 251

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2: 8-21, page 1591

SERMON “Great Joy!” Dr. Heather Rice

***HYMN:** “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing” Hymn No. 277

***BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE:** Hymn No. 259

*“Come and worship, come and worship;
Worship Christ, the newborn King.”*

***POSTLUDE**

**Those who are able are asked to stand*

NEW PRAYER FOCUS

- Family and friends of Ted, Helen Tyler's brother-in-law who passed away. Continued prayers for his wife Carol.
- Tim, friend of Lois Wanushek, his cancer is spreading.
- Lynn, Linda Hauptmann's sister-in-law, has been placed in hospice.
- Tom, brother of Don McGettigan, hospitalized with pulmonary issues.
- Maryanne, friend of Lois Wanushek, heart valve replacement.
- Frank Flanigan, Carol Catto's cousin, breathing and lung problems.
- Steve Wermuth, Beverly Hernandez's brother, had surgery 12/10 for cancerous tumor on his bronchial tubes pressing on his sternum.



MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

Bob Emberger – mobility and discomfort; several health issues

Joe Hauptmann – diagnosed with pulmonary embolism.

Linda Hauptmann – sciatic nerve pain in her leg.

* Urgent prayers

+ Just added this week

MINISTRY TEAM

Amy Ferretti, Administrative Assistant

Olena Haviuk-Sheremet, Organist

Amy Blau, Clerk of Session

Amy Ferretti, Joel Allen, Sexton



The 3rd Sunday of Advent

Rhawnhurst Presbyterian Church

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Philadelphia, PA 19111

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rhawnhurstpc.org

WELCOME TO OUR CHURCH

We extend a warm welcome to all who worship with us today. We pray by the hearing of His Word, you find your burdens lighter, your heart encouraged, and your soul refreshed.

“Be exalted, O Lord, in your strength; we will sing and praise your might.”
Psalm 21:13

THIS WEEK AT RPC

MONDAY	10:00	Office Hours until 3:00PM
WEDNESDAY	10:00	Office Hours until 3:00PM

UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY

3rd Sunday in Advent
Angel Tree gifts due

December 21st

Joint Officer’s Meeting
4th Sunday in Advent

December 24th

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service 6:00PM



ANNOUNCEMENTS



TO THE PULPIT, DR. HEATHER RICE. Born and raised in Philadelphia, Heather is the Director of the Whosoever Gospel Mission in Germantown, sharing the love of Christ with homeless men since she was a freshman at Central High School. She’s a graduate of Cairn University, Westminster Theological Seminary, and holds a doctorate in urban mission from Biblical Theological Seminary. Heather is passionate about helping others find and drink deeply of God’s grace in Christ through her relationships, her work at the Mission, and preaching and teaching ministry throughout the area. She lives with her cat, Pickles, and loves gardening, camping, and spending time with her friends and family.



DISCIPLES BASKET. We are looking ahead to the Christmas holiday. Please use the specific Disciples Basket list in the Narthex when you are shopping and consider picking up a few extra items for our food pantry. We are helping 3 families at this time. Your kindness and generosity is always appreciated.

CHRISTMAS MAILBOX. Want to send your church family holiday cards? Don’t pay for postage! Use our Christmas mailboxes instead! Drop your Christmas cards in the alphabetized bins located in the Narthex and don’t forget to check for cards addressed to you. We will not be mailing any cards that are left over after the New Year.



2026 DIRECTORY. We are updating our directory to be handed out in the new year. If you have moved, gotten a new number, or have begun worshipping with us in the past year, please contact the church office at 215-342-2112 or rpc19111@gmail.com, or notate your updates on the clipboard in the Narthex, so our information for you is up-to-date. If you have begun worshipping with us in the past year, please also include your month and day of birth for our birthday list.