

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE
December 7, 2025 11:00 A.M.

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

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE 2nd ADVENT CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER

***HYMN:** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Hymn No. 245

***CONFESSION**

***Invitation**

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

Heavenly Father, we confess that we so often fix our eyes on the troubles of this world rather than in your eternal hope. As a result, we doubt you and your promises. Forgive us, Lord, for focusing only on what we can see. Empower us instead to trust you, walk by faith, and rest confidently in your grace daily. We pray this in the merciful name of Jesus. Amen.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS:**

O Holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today. As we wait for Christmas, we know that Christ has already come into our world and lives, has already been born in us. We are renewed and restored. Go and share the good news of God’s love and restoration. Amen.

***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:** “O Little Town of Bethlehem” Hymn No. 250

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 11: 1-9, page 1076

SERMON “Second Sunday in Advent: Peace” Dr. Heather Rice

***HYMN:** “Good Christian Men, Rejoice” Hymn No. 273

***BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE:** Hymn No. 265

*“No-el, No-el,
No-el, No-el,
Born is the King
of Is – ra – el.”*

***POSTLUDE**

**Those who are able are asked to stand*

NEW PRAYER FOCUS

- Family and friends of Jean Wiedeman, mother of Linda Brian, who passed away last week.
- 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.
- Cindy Rice, irregularities found with her heart. Cardiologist appt. 12/1.
- Steve Wermuth, Beverly Hernandez's brother, having 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.
Barbara Sollberger – in a great deal of pain.
Helen Tyler – doing physical therapy

*** 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



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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



Coffee Hour
2nd Sunday in Advent



December 21st

Joint Officer’s Meeting



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 where she has served for 29 years, 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 (now Mission 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 her preaching and teaching ministry throughout the Greater Philadelphia area. She lives in Northeast Philadelphia 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 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.

ANGEL TREE. This year, we will continue to support the Whosoever Gospel Mission through our annual Angel Tree gifts. Please refer to the wish list that has been inserted into the bulletin for a list of gift suggestions. All donations are due back to church by **NEXT Sunday, December 14th.**



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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED...

OFFERING ENVELOPES. Your 2026 giving envelopes are now available in the back of the Narthex. If you regularly gave this past year, *whether you are a member or not*, you have envelopes assigned to you for next year. If you have questions, please reach out to Amy Blau or the church office.



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

WHOSOEVER GOSPEL MISSION. Is looking for volunteers to help set-up and wrap gifts for their homeless men living at the Mission on Thursday, December 18th from 9:30AM – 4:00PM, when the men at the Mission will be holiday shopping for their loved ones. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated. The address is: 101 E Cheltenham Ave, Phila., PA 19144.

