

MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE
December 1, 2024 11:00 A.M.

“The mark of a great church is not its seating capacity,
but its sending capacity.”
~ Mike Stachura

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE 1st ADVENT CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER

***HYMN:** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” Hymn No.244

***CONFESSION**

***Invitation**

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

Merciful God, always with us, always coming: we confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent. We have forgotten how to hope in miracles; we have ignored the promise of your kingdom; we get distracted by all the busyness of this season. Forgive us, God. Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds, the intelligent courage of the Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph, that we may journey with them to Bethlehem and find the good news of a child born for us. Now, in the quiet of our hearts, we ask you to make us ready for His coming.

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS:**

“Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.”
Isaiah 40: 1-2
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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

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 Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Hymn No. 245

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 21: 25-36
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SERMON “Hope” Dr. Heather Rice

***HYMN:** “It Is Well with My Soul” Hymn No. 705

***BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE:** Hymn No. 245

“Rejoice! Rejoice! Em-man-u-el
Shall come to thee,
O Is-ra-el!”

***POSTLUDE**

**Those who are able are asked to stand*

NEW PRAYER FOCUS

- Chelsea Wise, friend of the Blau family, mother of 5, having high heart rate with no answers from doctors.
- Colleen and family, her newborn baby, Paxton, was born with complications and needs surgery. Colleen is the niece of Karen Toner.
- Aaron and Crystal Weis, as they mourn the loss of their baby, Emily.
- Baby Eliana, Beverly Hernandez's granddaughter, has an infection around the feeding tube entrance.
- Marianne & Ed Walker, sister & brother-in-law of Don McGettigan, several health issues.



MEMBERS AND FRIENDS:

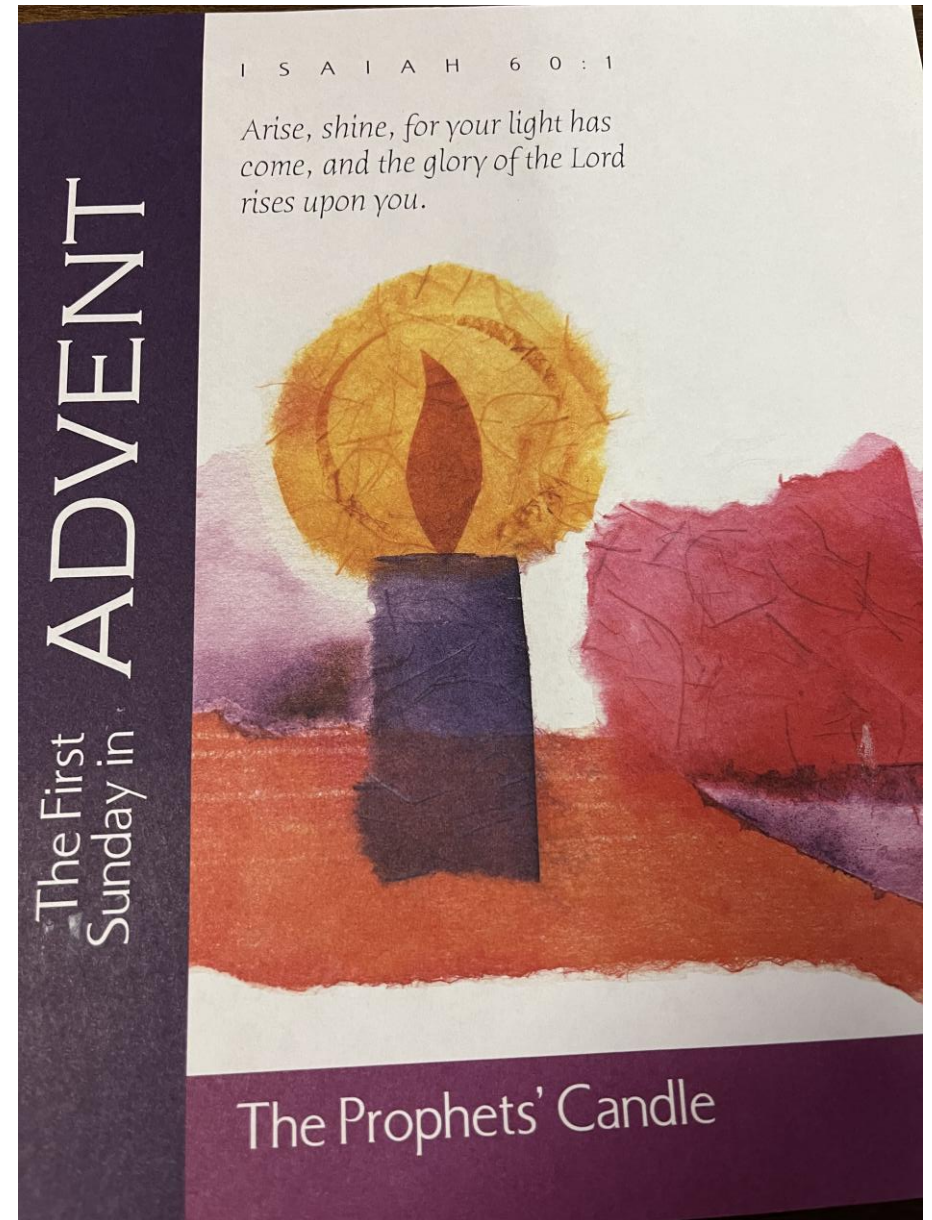
Bob Emberger – needs 3rd open heart surgery, but is at high risk
Susan Jorett – diagnosed w/gastroparesis
Enid Milligan – recovering from a stroke
Ann Mulholland – various health issues
Pat Salemno
Lois Wanushek – health issues

*Urgent Prayer Needed

+Just added this week

MINISTRY TEAM

Amy Ferretti, Administrative Assistant
Olena Haviuk-Sheremet, Organist
Amy Blau, Clerk of Session
Jesse Acosta, Joel Allen, Sexton



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

TODAY	11:00 AM	WORSHIP
MONDAY	NO OFFICE HOURS	
TUESDAY	10:00 AM	Office Hours until 3:00PM
WEDNESDAY	10:00 AM	Office Hours until 3:00PM

UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY	1 st Sunday of Advent Thanksgiving Luncheon
December 15 th	Joint Officers Meeting
December 24 th	Christmas Eve. Candlelight Service 6:00PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS



WELCOME 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.

CHANGE OF CHURCH OFFICE DAYS. Our church office will be open now on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, having the same hours from 10:00am-3:00pm.



NEW ADDRESS. As of December 1st, Jim & Peg Murray's new address will be:
Lake Forrest at Swift Creek
Unit 324
6050 Harbour Green Drive
Midlothian, Virginia 23112

THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON. The Khan Family will be hosting a Thanksgiving Luncheon immediately following the worship service **today** and extends an invitation for all to attend. They will be providing the full luncheon. This is not a potluck. We look forward to this time together with deep appreciation to the Khan Family.

