

The Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025 | 10:00 am



CHURCH
OF OUR
SAVIOUR
ON EARTH AS IN HEAVEN



Welcome to Church of Our Saviour
chicagocos.org

Welcome | We hope you will participate fully in today's services, as you feel comfortable. Customary times to stand, and sit (as able) are indicated in *italics*. Words spoken by the people are indicated in **bold**. Everything you need to worship is provided in this worship bulletin unless otherwise noted.

Connect with Us | We would love to get to know you, especially if this is your first visit. Please use the QR code on the right to share some information, or ask a greeter for a Connect Card, found on the welcome table. Place it in the offering plate, or hand it to the clergy or staff on your way out.



Restrooms | Restrooms are located in the back of the church on the east side, and in the Parish Commons.

Nursery | Nursery care is available on the second floor in the Parish Commons.

Parking | Parking is available at Lurie Children's Hospital (2515 N. Clark). Stickers are on the welcome table in the narthex.



Online Giving | Offerings are made of bread and wine and water, and the financial gifts of the people. Online offerings to Church of Our Saviour can be made at chicagocos.org/give, or by using the QR Code at the right.

A reminder that this public service may be photographed and/or videotaped and your image or the image of any children or vulnerable adults in your care may appear on the video. By your entry and presence in this service, you agree on behalf of yourself and any children or vulnerable adults attending with you to be photographed, filmed, and/or otherwise recorded, and also agree to our use of such images in any and all media. Music usage licensing and agreements through Church Hymnal Corporation, New York, and OneLicense.net.

Cover Art: Original piece by Rhiannon Taylor, daughter of today's preacher, Peggy Taylor. Reproduced with permission.

TODAYS MINISTERS | *Celebrant: The Rev. Charlotte Johnson; Deacon: The Rev. Jess Elfring-Roberts; Preacher: Peggy Taylor; Lector: Kevin Kamraczewski; Acolyte: Tom Walker; Greeters: Morag Fullilove, Campbell Sharpe; Nursery: Claire Reband, Elvetica Echeverria*

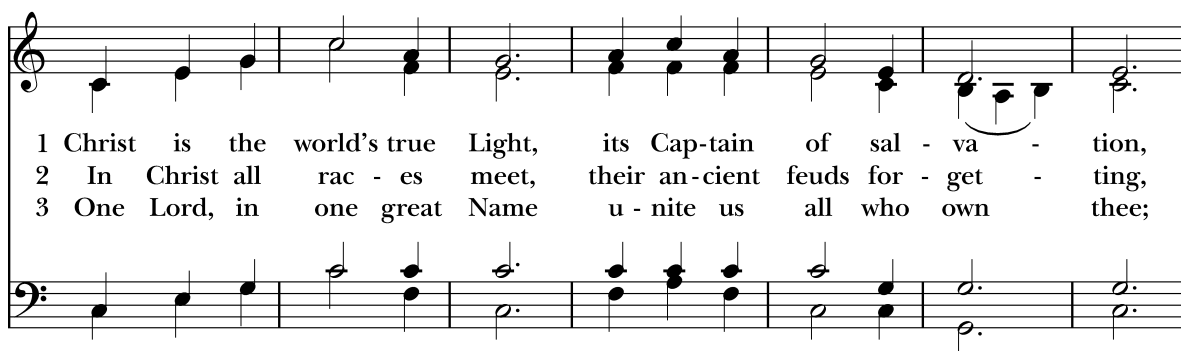
A Celebration of the Eucharist

Gathering the People

VOLUNTARY | “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” arr. Christina Shehi (b.1964)

At the sound of the ringing bell, please stand, as you are able.

OPENING HYMN | *Hymnal 1982* #542: “Christ is the World’s True Light”



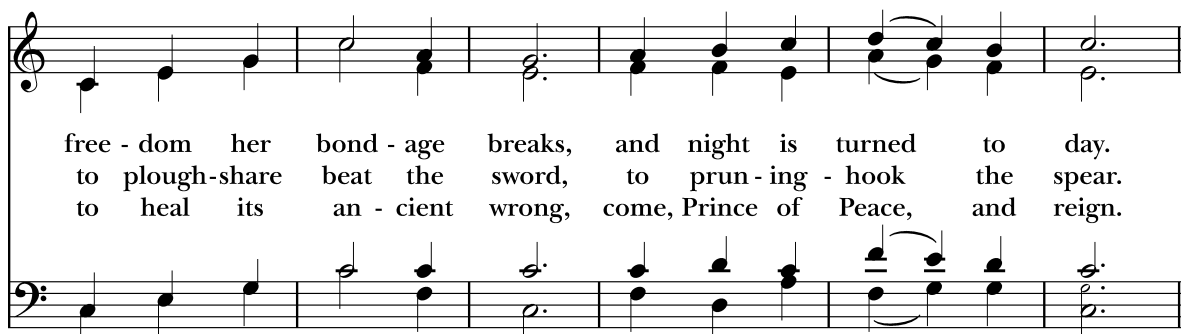
1 Christ is the world's true Light, its Cap-tain of sal - va - tion,
2 In Christ all rac - es meet, their an-cient feuds for - get - ting,
3 One Lord, in one great Name u - nite us all who own thee;



the Day - star clear and bright of ev - ery race and na - tion;
the whole round world com - plete, from sun-rise to its set - ting;
cast out our pride and shame that hin-der to en - throne thee;



new life, new hope a - wakes, for all who own his sway:
when Christ is throned as Lord all shall for - sake their fear,
the world has wait - ed long, has tra - vailed long in pain;



free - dom her bond - age breaks, and night is turned to day.
to plough-share beat the sword, to prun - ing - hook the spear.
to heal its an - cient wrong, come, Prince of Peace, and reign.

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OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God, who forgives all our sins.

People **God's mercy endures for ever. Amen**

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA | *Hymnal 1982* S102: Trisagion

Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: Ver. *Hymnal 1982*, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Word of God

Please be seated.

FIRST READING | A Reading from the Book of Isaiah [11:1-10].

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of

the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

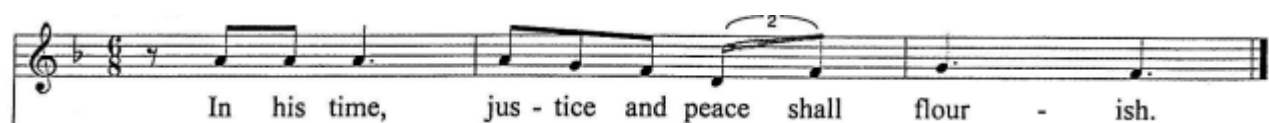
He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

People The Word of the Lord.
 Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE | Psalm 72 [1-7; 18-19]



Give the King your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the King's Son; That he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice; that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people; and the little hills bring righteousness. He shall defend the needy among the people; he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor. **Refrain**

He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another. He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth. In his time shall the righteous flourish; there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more. Refrain

Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous deeds! And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen. **Refrain**

SECOND READING | A Reading from the Letter to the Romans [15:4-13].

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name";

and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL | *Lift Every Voice and Sing* #11: "Prepare Ye the Way"

James E. Moore, Jr

Pre- pare ye the way___ of the Lord._____

Fine

Pre- pare ye the way___ of the Lord.____ Say to all peo- ple_ here_ is your God.

The musical notation is for a gradual in 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a 4-measure rest, followed by a repeat sign. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with triplets indicated by a '3' over a bracket. The lyrics 'Pre- pare ye the way___ of the Lord.____' are written below the first staff. The second staff continues the melody, also with triplets, and includes the word 'Fine' above the staff. The lyrics 'Pre- pare ye the way___ of the Lord.____ Say to all peo- ple_ here_ is your God.' are written below the second staff.

HOLY GOSPEL

Please stand, as you are able.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew [3:1-12].

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.'"

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not

bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

HOMILY

Please be seated.

CREED (paraphrase by Sylvia G. Dunstan) adapted from *Greensleeves*

Please stand, as you are able.

We be- lieve__ in God al- might - y Au - thor of__ all things that be.
We be- lieve__ that Je - sus suf - fered, scourged and scorned and cru - ci - fied;
We be- lieve__ in God's own Spi - rit, bond - ing all__ the saints with - in

Mak - er of__ the earth and heav - ens, Keep - er of__ the sky and sea.
tak - en from__ the cross, was bur - ied, True__ life there had tru - ly died.
one church cath - o - lic, one church ho - ly, where__ for - give - ness frees from sin;

We be- lieve__ in God's Son, Je - sus, now for us__ both Lord and Christ,
We be- lieve__ that on the third__ day Christ was raised__ up from the grave,
in the bod - y's res - ur - rec - tion, for the break - ing of death's chain

of the Spir - it and of Mar - y
then as - cend - ed to God's right__ hand.
gives the life__ that's ev - er - last - ing.

born__ to bring__ a - bun - dant life.__
He__ will come__ to judge and save.__
This__ the faith__ that we have claimed.__

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon In this season of waiting and hope, we lift our voices to you. Hear the prayers we speak aloud and those whispered in the quiet of our hearts. Receive our joys and sorrows, our longings and gratitude, as we prepare for Jesus coming into the world.

Leader For our deepest and most holy longings, we pray:

People **Renew us, O God.**

Leader For all who wander, who hunger, and who thirst. We pray especially today for those on our hearts and in our minds, those who have asked for our prayers, and those only known to you, including those on our parish intercession list... ,we pray:

People **Renew us, O God.**

Leader For this planet, our home. Empower us to be healers of creation, we pray:

People **Renew us, O God.**

Leader For this and every nation, that the desire for compassion and the yearning for peace may guide us, we pray:

People **Renew us, O God.**

Leader For all who experience this season with heavy hearts: those who grieve, those burdened by the need for forgiveness, and those who feel alone, remembering especially for those who have died, we pray:

People **Renew us, O God.**

Leader We pray for all the joys, opportunities, and celebrations in our lives especially for those celebrating birthdays ... and those celebrating anniversaries ... , we pray:

People **Renew us, O God.**

The Celebrant offers a concluding collect.

People **Amen.**

CONFESSION

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

People **And also with you.**

The People exchange a sign of peace with one another and sit for the announcements.

The Holy Communion

Celebrant Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offerings are made of bread and wine and water, and the financial gifts of the people. On-line offerings can be made to Church of Our Saviour at chicagocos.org/give or by using the QR Code on the inside cover of this bulletin.

OFFERTORY | “Prepare the Way, O Zion ” by Sondra K. Tucker (b.1957)

GREAT THANKSGIVING | Enriching Our Worship Eucharistic Prayer 2 (Expansive Language)

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when Christ shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold Christ's appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS | Worship and Rejoice #738: “Holy, Holy, Holy Lord”

The musical score is written on five staves in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav'n and earth are filled with your glo-ry: Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; ho - san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Celebrant We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin

Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People **We proclaim Christ's death.
We proclaim Christ's resurrection.
We await Christ's coming in Glory.**

Celebrant And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

People **AMEN.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People **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 trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & FRACTION ANTHEM

Please note that in Advent, and other penitential seasons, the 'alleluia' is omitted.

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

FRACTION ANTHEM |CMP #241: “Take, Eat, This is My Body” by Paul Simmons, arr. by Christopher Norton

Take, eat, this is my bo - dy, bro - ken for you; for I am come that you might have life;

eat of My flesh and live,_____ eat of my flesh and live.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Communion Note—Everyone is invited to receive communion. Please let the priest know if you desire a gluten-free wafer. If you prefer, you may receive a blessing instead of Communion; to indicate your desire for a blessing, simply cross your arms over your chest.

COMMUNION ANTHEM | “On That Holy Mountain ” by Joe Mattingly

POST COMMUNION PRAYER & BLESSING

Please stand, as you are able.

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Savior. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN | *Hymnal 1982* #75: “There’s a Voice in the Wilderness Crying”

1 There's a voice in the wil - der - ness cry - ing, a____

2 O_____ Zi - on, that bring-est good tid - ings, get thee

3 but the word of our God_____ en - du - reth, the____

call from the ways un - trod: Pre - pare in the des - ert a

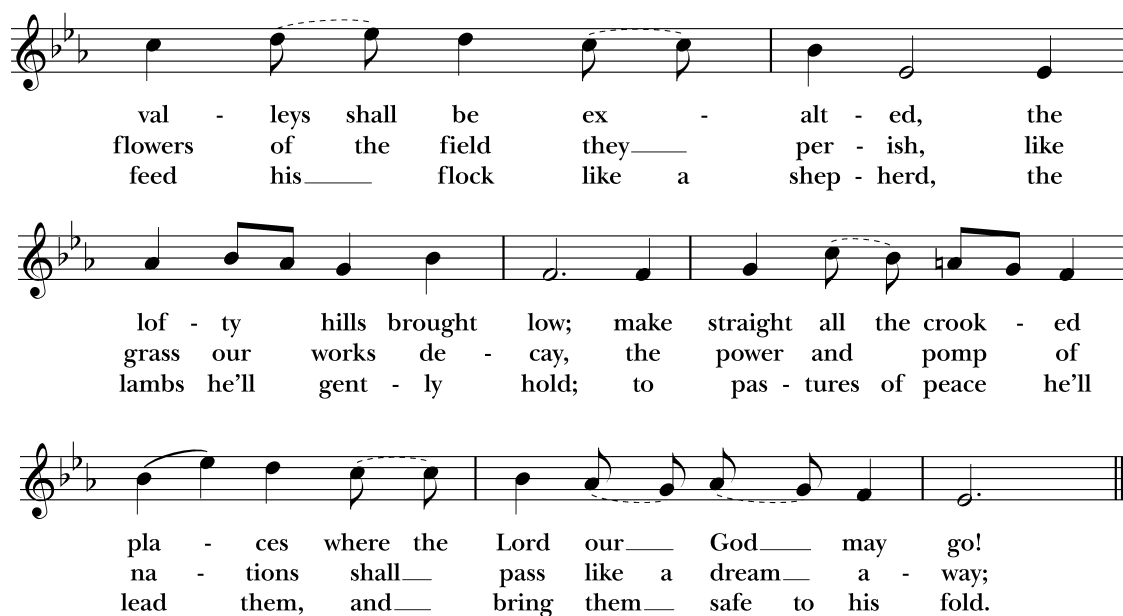
up to the heights and sing! Pro - claim to a des - o - late

arm of the Lord is strong; he stands in the midst____ of

high - way, a high - way for our God! The____

peo - ple the com - ing of their King. Like the

na - tions, and he will right the wrong. He shall



val - leys shall be ex - alt - ed, the
flowers of the field they per - ish, like
feed his flock like a shep - herd, the

lof - ty hills brought low; make straight all the crook - ed
grass our works de - cay, the power and pomp of
lambs he'll gent - ly hold; to pas - tures of peace he'll

pla - ces where the Lord our God may go!
na - tions shall pass like a dream a - way;
lead them, and bring them safe to his fold.

Words: James Lewis Milligan (1876-1961), alt. Music: *Ascension*, Henry Hugh Bancroft (1904-1988). Copyright © 1938, H. Hugh Bancroft.

DISMISSAL

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE | “Be Prepared” by Elton John (b.1948) and Tim Rice (b.1963)

**God loves you.
No exceptions.**
The Episcopal Church Welcomes You.

