

from  
humbug  
to hallelujah!

December 24, 2024  
5:00 pm

It's a popular, not so subtle, reminder:  
JESUS IS THE REASON FOR THE SEASON  
On this anniversary of Jesus' birth, we ask:  
What is the reason for Jesus?

As we remember: God the Son obeyed the will of His Father  
and became God in a human being: Jesus—"Yahweh saves"  
to defeat sin and death for all humankind of all time.

The greatest gift of all time.



## PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

### “O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL”

O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him born the king of angels:

*(Refrain)*

O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God... in...the...highest: *(Refrain)*

## THE CANDLES OF THE ADVENT WREATH

**Pastor:** In the name of Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we gather to celebrate the birth of the One who is the light of the world.

**People:** ***We are here to worship God and His Son Jesus Christ, born this night in Bethlehem of Judea.***

*(The first candle is lit)*

**Pastor:** We light the candle of hope to remind us of the promises made by all the prophets that God would raise up a Savior for His people Israel and through Him bless all the nations.

**People:** ***Let the heavens and the earth rejoice. Our Lord has come.***

### “NOW SING WE, NOW REJOICE”

Now sing we, now rejoice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;  
He from whom joy streameth Poor in a manger lies;  
Not so brightly beameth The sun in yonder skies.  
Thou my Savior art! Thou my Savior art!

Now through His Son doth shine The Father's grace divine.  
Death was reigning o'er us Through sin and vanity  
Till He opened for us A bright eternity.  
May we praise Him there! May we praise Him there!

*(The second candle is lit)*

Pastor: We light the candle of peace to remind us that the Prince of Peace comes to enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

**People: Let the heavens and the earth rejoice. Our Lord has come.**

*(The third candle is lit)*

Pastor: We light the candle of joy to remind us that the Lord has made known his salvation and that grace is poured out upon us.

**People: Let the heavens and the earth rejoice. Our Lord has come.**

### **“JOY TO THE WORLD”**

Joy to the world, the Lord has come, Let earth receive her King!

Let ev’ry heart prepare Him room,

And heav’n and nature sing, And heav’n and nature sing,

And heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing!

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations prove

The glories of His righteousness

And wonders of His love, And wonders of His love,

And wonders, wonders of His love.

*(The fourth candle is lit)*

Pastor: We light the candle of love to remind us that God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him might have eternal life.

**People: Let the heavens and the earth rejoice. Our Lord has come.**

*(The center, white, fifth candle is lit)*

Pastor: We light the Christ candle and celebrate! Rejoice! The light of the world is born this night....

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness – on them a light has shined.

**People: “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.”**

## **THE STORY OF CHRISTMAS**

Leader: Isaiah had foretold His birth when he said, “Behold a virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call Him Emmanuel.”

**“OH COME, O COME, EMANNUEL”**

Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Oh, come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind;  
Oh, bid our sad divisions cease, And be yourself our King of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Leader: We read the fulfillment of these words many years later from Luke: “And everyone went to his own town to register. So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem, the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.”

**“O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM”**

O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary and gathered all above  
While mortals sleep the angels keep  
their watch of wond'ring love  
O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth  
And praises sing to God the King and peace to all the earth.

Leader: And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.

**People: An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.**

Leader: But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.

**People: This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”**

Leader: Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel,  
praising God and saying,

**People: “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his  
favor rests.”**

### **CHRISTMAS ANGELS MEDLEY**

Angels from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Once you sang creation's story;  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
Come and worship,  
Come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn king.

Shepherds in the fields abiding,  
Watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing,  
Yonder shines the infant light.  
Come and worship,  
Come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn king.



Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echoing their joyous strains.  
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo;  
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn king.  
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo;  
Glo—ria in excelsis Deo.



Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn king;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled.”  
Joyful, all ye nations rise;  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With angelic hosts proclaim,  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn king.”

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of  
Peace!  
Hail the sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise each child of earth,  
Born to give us second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn king.”

**MESSAGE:**

**“FROM HUMBUG TO HALLELUJAH”**

**Pastor D. R. Hilken**

**SHARING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

**“SILENT NIGHT”**

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing, Alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from your holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

**A CHRISTMAS BENEDICTION**

**THE POSTLUDE**

**“Gloria in Excelsis Deo”**  
by Antonio Vivaldi

## REDEEMER BY THE SEA ~ "A PLACE TO KNOW AND BE KNOWN"

We are honored to recognize our niche in God's Kingdom work. Here we will faithfully worship and teach in alignment with God's Word and we're a small enough fellowship where you can know and be known by most of the people around you if that's your desire. Here you will be missed if you're gone and prayed for when you have needs. You are welcome to contact the office ([kay@redeemerbythesea.org](mailto:kay@redeemerbythesea.org)) or Pastor D directly ([dhilken@redeemerbythesea.org](mailto:dhilken@redeemerbythesea.org)).

### Sunday Worship Services

8:30 Traditional Worship

10:15 Contemporary worship

with Sunday School for kids PreK-5<sup>th</sup> grade

Nursery for children 0-3 years available during both services

#### UPCOMING EVENTS: [www.RedeemerbytheSea.org](http://www.RedeemerbytheSea.org)

Jan. 4 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am	Men's Fellowship Breakfast
Jan. 5 <sup>th</sup>		Speaker Artis Purins, Latvian Missionary from Lutheran Hour Ministries
Jan. 11 <sup>th</sup>	9:00am	Christmas Undecorating
Jan. 11 <sup>th</sup>		Holy Hackers
Jan. 14 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am	LWM – Serving RBTS Preschool Staff & Students
Jan. 17 <sup>th</sup>	5:30pm	Women's Friday Fellowship

**OFFERINGS:** Visitors: please consider yourselves our guests and do not feel obligated to participate in the offering. In faithful obedience and joyful response to God's grace in our lives, we humbly and gratefully bring our tithes (a regular first portion percentage of our income) and offerings (gifts over and above our tithes for other kingdom work). You may deposit your envelope, check, or cash in the box next to the exit; give online with your phone using the QR code at right, or text "GIVE" to 442-222-2448. All these options are on our website: [www.redeemerbythesea.org/donate/](http://www.redeemerbythesea.org/donate/)

