



Reaching Out with Nurturing Love to All God's People



November 29, 2015
First Sunday of Re-Discovering Advent
10:00 a.m. Worship

***First time here?** We are happy to have you visit with us today and hope that your worship experience is blessed. Please pick up a free visitor bag in the narthex. All are invited for coffee and fellowship in Bowen Hall after the service.*

***Children with you?** Activity materials for young worshippers are in the entry way. Child care (2-3yrs) and Sunday School are provided during the service. Infants with a parent may enjoy our quiet room while listening to the service.*

***Assistance needed?** The ushers have large print bulletins and hearing devices for you.*

CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

**One asterisk signifies the congregation stands if able.*

Throughout the service the bold type is spoken by the congregation

PRELUDE *“The God of Abraham Praise Improvised”* *by G. Winston Cassler*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Please sign the red friendship pad and pass it along for the whole pew to sign.

MOMENT FOR MISSION: *Alternative Gift Market* *Nita Pinney*

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING – Hope

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promises I have made.

To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls: In you, O God, we trust.

The one who is coming will show us the path of steadfast love and faithfulness.

Teach us your ways, O God of our salvation.

We light this candle in the sure hope that God’s promises will endure.

(light the first Advent candle)

We will live in the light of hope as we await the coming of the Lord!

INTROIT *“The People Who Walked in Darkness”* *by Sally Ann Morris*

**CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)*

Are we ready on this first Sunday in Advent?

Christ comes again in glory!

Are we ready?

Revive us, O Lord, Let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Are we ready?

Ready for the coming of Christ Jesus with his promises?

Are we ready?

Revive us, O Lord, Let Us Worship God!

**HYMN #82* *“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”* *by Rowland H. Prichard, 1830*

**CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER (responsively)* *Eddie Seamans*

Because it is so hard to wait, it is not easy to live through Advent's days.

Let us watch and see what God does during this time.

God waits for us to turn from our old ways to find the right paths;

Let us approach the One who waits - for us!

It is never easy for us to confess our sins, Waiting God.

There are the hurts we have caused to our families and friends,
which we would like to forget.

There are those who seem impossible to love, so we don't try.

There are people who live on the edge of our society, and we ignore their cries for help. **Forgive us, God who comes near to us. When we have lost our way, show us yours. Lead us in humility. Teach us your truth, so we might be able to keep your Word, revealed to us in Jesus Christ our Savior.** *(Silent confessions)*

**WORDS OF AFFIRMATION (responsively) (Hebrews 10:22)*

God does not remember our sins, but does remember the promises which have been made to us.

God does not shame us, but lifts us to new life. Lead us in your hope, O God, and teach us your love. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Alleluia! Amen.

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE*

#581

Gloria Patri

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

“Evening Song”

by Robert Schumann

**DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Please be seated)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (in unison) Hymn #458 (Verse 2)

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear.

And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 25: 1-10

This is the Word of the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM

“In the Beginning”

arr. David Huntsinger

Duet: Deborah Baker & Bill Morgan

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Jeremiah 33: 14-16

This is the Word of the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON:

“Watch, Wait, and Wonder, Together”

Rev. Dr Cynthia Alloway

**HYMN*

“The Days are Coming, Said the Lord”

CAROL 8.6.8.6 D (“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”) Lyrics by Carolyn Gillette

“The days are coming,” said the Lord to people beaten down,

“The days are coming in this world when justice will abound.

My people, you will sing and dance, and hope will blossom forth,

For I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up on the earth.”

O God, you sent the prophets here to people long oppressed;
You told your children, filled with fear, that one day they'd be blessed.
You said to cities lost, destroyed by violence, sin or war,
That they would soon receive the joy that they were longing for.

You promised justice in the land to those who were enslaved;
You said that one day, by your hand, your cities would be saved.
As sure as dawn would turn to day and as the sun would set,
Your children there could trust your way; you were not finished yet.

The days are coming, loving Lord, to sing of Jesus' birth;
Yet cries for justice still are heard throughout this sinful earth.
In Advent, may we work and wait, do justice, share and pray,
And so prepare to celebrate your joyful, coming day.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE (responsively)

God of hope, who brought love into this world,
be the love that dwells between us.

God of hope, who brought peace into this world,
be the peace that dwells between us.

God of hope, who brought joy into this world,
be the joy that dwells between us.

God of hope, the rock we stand upon,
be the center, the focus of our lives now in this Advent Season.

(The Lord's Prayer) Amen. CHORAL RESPONSE

*HYMN#104 "O Lord How Shall I meet You" by Melchior Teschner, 1614

*BENEDICTION

Please be seated for the Congregational Meeting directly after the service.

Liturgist: Linda Burille



*Flowers are given by Fred Recknagel
in celebration of the birthday of
his lovely wife, Jeanne.*

Presbyterian Church of the Roses
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The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Alloway, *Pastor*
Barbara McElroy, *Director of Music*
Althea Wright, *Accompanist*
Cindy Larson, *Business Administrator*
Ruth Canniff, *Administrative Assistant*
Susan Jenkins, *Rosebud Preschool Director*
Eddie Seamans, *Director of Youth Activities*
Email: office@churchroses.org
For more information visit
www.churchoftheroses.org
Music & Video License numbers:
CCLI#1153510 & CVLI#503696701



PRAYER REQUESTS

Please include in your prayers

Those mourning the loss of a friend or family member

- ❖ Please pray for Julie Bright's family as they mourn her father's passing.
- ❖ Please pray for the family of Steve Cairns who passed away on October 3rd.

Please pray for those facing health issues

John Baker	Jim Chestnut*	Alan Reil
Judy Bello	The Conley Family *	Pamela Sage
Dan Boland (<i>Kathryn Fenner's friend</i>)	(* <i>Friends of the Fenners</i>)	Carole Somer
Cindy Goede	Chris Hilen	Jim Mason
Krissy Healy	Ron Kram	
Sam Imbimbo	Marie Patchin	
	Albert Reil	

Those serving in our military

Sgt. David A. Dickens, USAF Jason Morse, US Navy Jason Imbimbo, Coast Guard Lt. Ian Alloway Culver, Lt. Col. David Trowbridge, M.D. is stationed at the Joint Air Force Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska and serves as a Cardiologist with the Alaska Native Medical Center.

Victims of the Valley Fire are in need of household items.

Some are still living in tents. Here is a sampling of the items you can drop off at the church: Laundry detergent and paper towels, clothes racks, winter coats, men's lg, xl and xxl, women's lg, xl; men's work boots sizes 8-12, women's winter shoes 8-10, furniture for new homes, kitchenware, appliances, food, tarps, canopies, camp stoves, bbqs, lanterns, bungees, shovels, rakes, rope, cleaning supplies, rain gear, diapers.

You are invited to share your creches/nativity scenes again this year to be put on display during Advent. Please bring to the church office starting now and label with your name so they can be returned to you after Christmas.

Thank you for the overwhelming response to the request for sleeping bags for the homeless! We can use gloves and hats but no longer need sleeping bags.

Four Church choirs will perform

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

"ONE INCREDIBLE MOMENT"

by Tom Fettke & Max Lucado

DEC. 18th 7:30 pm at Bethlehem Lutheran

DEC. 19th 7:30 pm at First United Methodist

DEC. 20th 3:00 pm at Church of the Roses

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sundays

ALTERNATIVE & FREE TRADE GIFT MARKET DEC. 6th and 13th, 11 am -1 pm

ADULT FORUM 11:30 am

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS 4TH Sundays in the library after church

KERYGMA BIBLE STUDY 8:15 am "*Amos and Hosea*" **NOT MEETING IN DECEMBER**

MUSIC MEMORY WORKSHOP 9:00 am *Learn the Ukulele! in Sunday School Rm.*

WORSHIP 10 am

Mondays

SENIOR EXERCISE 10 am *in the Rose Rm.*

PW EVENING BIBLE STUDY 3rd Mondays at 7 pm

Tuesdays

PW WOMEN 3rd Tues: Bible Study at 10:30 am & Salad Potluck Lunch at 12:15 pm.

Wednesdays

SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS 4-6 pm, Dec. 2nd *Warmth, encouragement, and much-needed hope during the holiday season.*

GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT GROUP 4-6 pm *Help and encouragement after the loss of a spouse, child, family member, or friend to death, dementia or separation.*

CULTURAL LITERACY RELIGIONS 7 pm Dec. 2nd , resumes in January.

Everything the well-educated person should know. Experience the breadth and depth of the world's religions from all angles—historical, theological, and cultural. A Great Courses Video class with Prof. Berkson of Hamline Univ.

Thursdays

CULTURAL LITERACY RELIGIONS 9:00 am on Dec. 3, Dec. 10, January

BELLS PRACTICE 6 pm *All are welcome!* CHOIR PRACTICE 7:30 pm *Welcome!*

BOOK CLUB 3rd Thursdays at 3:30 pm Dec. 17 – *The Snow Child* by Lowyn Ivey

FAVORITE FILM SERIES 4th Thursdays at 2 pm: **NO FILMS IN NOV. OR DEC.**

Fridays

Noon Hour of Prayer & Encouragement: Meditative music and readings. Join us!



Christmas is coming and that means that you once again have the opportunity to help make Christmas bright for needy children and their families. This year the Deacons' are pleased to increase our number of families served. **The Christmas Food and Gift Basket Program** will provide gifts for the **children of 80 families** from Catholic Charities. Those families will also receive food baskets.

The Deacons invite the congregation to participate. You can:

1. **BUY GIFTS. LOOK** for the **GIVING TREE** in Bowen Hall **after the worship** service **TODAY**. If you prefer you can provide the money and Deacons will purchase the gifts for you.
2. Volunteer to help **ORGANIZE FOOD BASKETS** on Thursday, Dec. 10th.
3. Volunteer to help **DELIVER** the **FOOD BASKETS** on Saturday, Dec. 12th.

Catholic Charities requests that gifts be left **unwrapped**. Selected families will be invited to visit a "gift shop" where they can choose what the children really need.

This year the need is greater than ever. Please plan to come to the **GIVING TREE after church TODAY, in Bowen Hall** and sign-up to participate in this wonderful program.



The Giving Tree

In Bowen Hall
Sunday
after church
Nov. 22, 29 & Dec. 6

**Pick an ornament.
Buy a gift for a needy child.**



**CHURCH OF
THE ROSES**

**ALTERNATIVE
CHRISTMAS**

DECEMBER 6 & 13
Equal Exchange Market

**HONOR YOUR LOVED ONES
WITH GIFTS THAT HELP PEOPLE IN NEED**

Attractive cards to announce your gift.