



John the Baptist preaching in the desert, Jesus Mafa

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 8, 2019 | 9:15 & 11:15 AM

You Are Welcome

A Little About St. Paul & the Redeemer

What Kind of Church Is This?

St. Paul & the Redeemer is a community that seeks to mirror the radical hospitality practiced by Jesus, holding together a progressive outlook and a rootedness in the Christian faith. We are woven of different races, economic statuses, cultural backgrounds, faith backgrounds, gender identities, and sexual orientations, and we are strengthened and enriched by each person's story and voice. SPR honors both faith and doubt, bringing together our highest hopes and our deepest fears.

SPR Anti-Racism Vision Statement

To mirror the radical hospitality practiced by Jesus and be true to our baptismal covenant, we strive to become a beloved community that reflects on our own racial identities and recognizes racism and privilege in our church and society; works for justice by building relationships and sustained efforts to heal, reconcile, and seek Christ in each other; and acts to interrupt and dismantle white supremacist structures, transforming ourselves and our church to become a living embodiment of justice and peace.

Let's Get Connected

Fill out one of these cards, which you can find in the backs of the chairs and drop it in the offering basket or give it to a member of the clergy.

OR

Stop by the Welcome Table, which is near the west entrance to the church.

AND

Check-in and follow SPR on social media: [facebook.com/sprchicago](https://www.facebook.com/sprchicago) and [@sprchicago](https://twitter.com/sprchicago)



Let's Get Connected

Your Name(s) _____

Your Email (please print clearly) _____

Your Preferred Phone Number
() _____

Mobile Landline

Your Mailing Address _____

Over →

Children's Formation

Nursery, 9:00a-12:30p | Professionally staffed nursery care is available during the services for children ages 0-4. The nursery is down the southwest stairs. Changing tables are in the downstairs restrooms and the nursery.

Children's Chapel, 9:30a-9:45a | During the sermon at the 9:15 service, children from **preschool to second grade** are invited to a special liturgy in the children's chapel, featuring songs and a Bible story.

Godly Play 10:20a-11:05a | All children and parents are invited to join for an intergenerational formation on Advent **today at 10:20am** in the parish hall, led by Director of Children's Formation, Cynthia Bagrowski (bagrowski@sprchicago.org).

Some Helpful Things to Know Today

Can I receive communion?

Yes. Everyone, without exception, is invited to receive communion.

When am I supposed to stand?

At any point in the service, it's perfectly fine for you to remain seated as you're comfortable. We do have customary times when we stand or kneel; these are indicated by the italicized instructions throughout the service. There are also times when it is customary to cross ourselves, and if you wish to do so, the + indicates that.

Are children welcome here?

Yes. Children are invited to participate actively in the service. Also, coloring pages, crayons, and books are at the entrances to the church. Nursery care is available.

Where are the restrooms?

There are single-user, gender-neutral restrooms down the southwest stairs and also through the northeast door of the sanctuary.

How do I find my way around?

Feel free to ask anyone to guide you! You can also pick up a building map at the Welcome Table, near the west entrance to the church.

Is there wheelchair accessibility?

Yes. An accessible restroom is through the northeast door of the sanctuary. There is an elevator which gives access to the first floor, lower level, and parish hall. Everyone is invited to remain seated at any point during the service, as needed.

How about hearing assistance?

We can help there, too. Hearing-assistance devices are available from the ushers.

Youth Formation

Youth Formation, 10:20-11:05am | In Youth Formation, we gather for 45 minutes to enjoy donuts and discussion. We've pondered questions like "Is God male?"; "Did God write the Bible?"; and "What is the real meaning of Christmas?"

Youth Group, 5-7pm | Today, **December 8**, youth in grades 6-12 are invited to attend youth group from 5-7pm. Youth are invited to join at any time during the year. To learn more about volunteering with SPR youth, contact director of youth formation Liz Koerner (koerner@sprchicago.org).

High School Small Group | This small group is open to all high school youth, grades 9-12. Sign-up required. We will meet at Liz's apartment. Please email Liz at koerner@sprchicago.org for details.

Cover Image: JESUS MAFA. John the Baptist preaching in the desert, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48386> [retrieved December 3, 2019]. Original source: <http://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr> (contact page: <https://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr/contact>).

THE WORD OF GOD

Throughout the bulletin, the congregation is to say all **bolded** text aloud.

Prelude

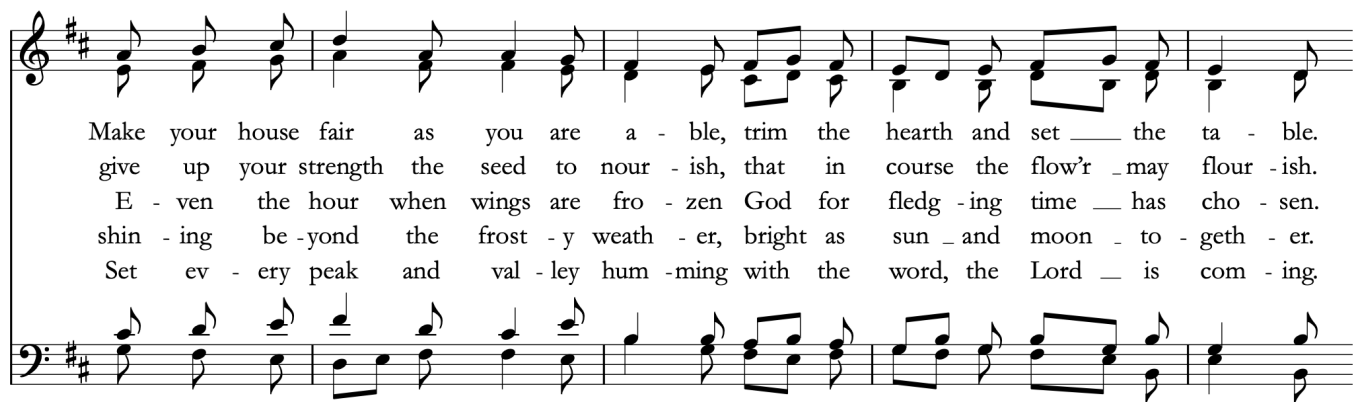
Partita on "Comfort, Comfort Ye" - Johann Pachelbel

Entrance Hymn

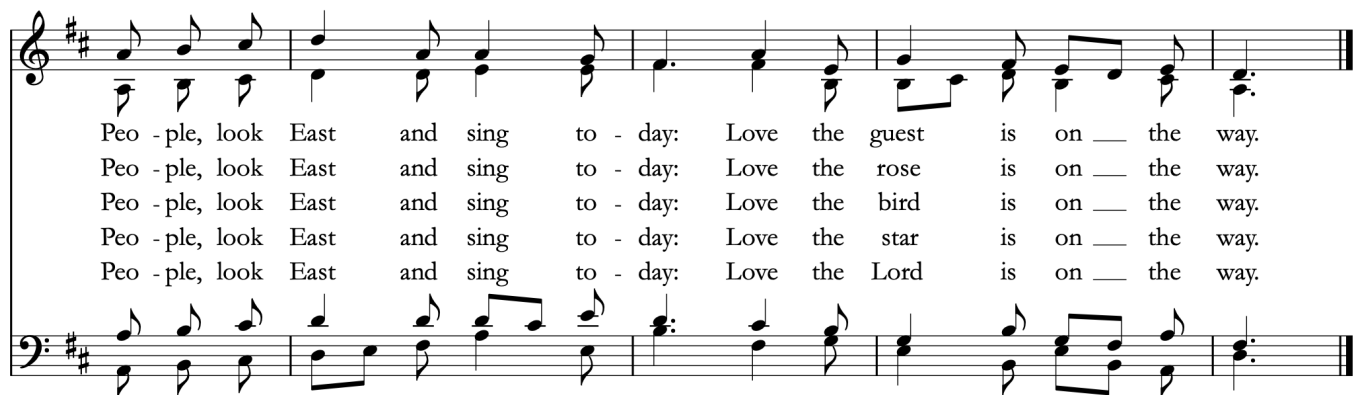
When the bell rings, please stand as able and sing.



1. Peo - ple, look East. The time is near of the crown - ing of ___ the year.
2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is plant - ed there:
3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled.
4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim,
5. An - gels, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life ___ to earth.



Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the hearth and set ___ the ta - ble.
give up your strength the seed to nour - ish, that in course the flow'r _ may flour - ish.
E - ven the hour when wings are fro - zen God for fledg - ing time ___ has cho - sen.
shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er, bright as sun _ and moon - to - geth - er.
Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming with the word, the Lord ___ is com - ing.



Peo - ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the guest is on ___ the way.
Peo - ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the rose is on ___ the way.
Peo - ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the bird is on ___ the way.
Peo - ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the star is on ___ the way.
Peo - ple, look East and sing to - day: Love the Lord is on ___ the way.

Wonder, Love, and Praise #724 "People, look east"

Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965) Music: Besançon Carol, arr. John L. Hooker (b. 1944)

Words © 1957 Eleanor Farjeon; Reprinted by permission of Harold Ober Associates, Inc.

Arr. © 1997 John L. Hooker

Welcome

+ Blessed are you, holy and living One.
You come to your people and set them free.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Members of the congregation will be invited forward to light the Advent wreath.

Blessed are you, Holy God, just and true,
to you be praise and glory for ever!
Of old you spoke by the mouth of your prophets,
but in our days you speak through your Son,
whom you have appointed the heir of all things.
Grant us your people to walk in his light,
that we may be found ready and watching
when he comes again in glory;
for you are our light and our salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

Source: The Promise of His Glory: Services and Prayers for the Season from All Saints to Candlemas, Church House Publishing, 1993

All sing three times.

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

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

*The Hymnal 1982, Service Music #102 The Holy Eucharist, Holy God: Trisagion
Music: Ver. Hymnal 1982, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924)*

The Collect of the Day

God be with you.
And also with you.

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.

Please be seated.

The Lessons

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
Thanks be to God.

The choir introduces the refrain, which all repeat together. The choir sings the verses. The people join in singing the Refrain where indicated.

Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19

Refrain:



He shall have pi - ty on the low - ly and poor, and shall re - deem their lives from op - pres - sion.

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. **Refrain**

He shall defend the needy among the people;
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another. **Refrain**

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**

Antiphon text by Howard E. Galley, Jr. © Albert Rockenstein, used by permission.
Music: Plainsong Tone I.1

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as able.

The choir introduces each line of the chant, which the people then repeat.

Cantor/Choir then All **Fine**

Christ is com-ing: pre - pare the way. Christ is com-ing: pre - pare the way.

Cantor/Choir then All **D.C.**

Christ is com - ing. Christ is com - ing.

"Christ is coming: prepare the way"

Words & Music: Edward V. Bonnemere (1921-1996), adapt. *Advent Jazz Vespers II*, © Amity Music Corporation, 1475 Gaylord Terrace, Teaneck, NJ 07666. All rights reserved.

At the + below, you are invited to trace a cross over your forehead, your mouth, and over your heart.

+ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Matthew 3:1-12

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.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Children's Chapel (@ 9:15 only)

Children in preschool to second grade are invited to their own liturgy in the chapel. They will return at the peace.
Please be seated.

The Sermon

Today's Preacher: The Rev. KJ Oh, *Assistant Priest*

Apostles' Creed

Let us confess the faith of the church.

All stand as able.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body +,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Almighty God, fill the earth with your glory and our hearts with awe at the coming of the Christ. May this Advent season be one of preparation and growth amidst the chaos of the world.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Defender of the Poor, uproot oppression and want from the lives of your children in all parts of the world. We pray especially for our siblings in Haiti and Zimbabwe, who are facing crises of extreme food insecurity, and for our neighbors here in Chicago who lack adequate food and shelter as we face the frigid season ahead.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Holy Lord, rain righteousness and prosperity upon your Church. Grant that all of your faithful embody a spirit of wisdom and understanding, so that we may become models of peace and equity in all of the places where we reside.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Righteous King, create in our secular governments an insatiable thirst for justice and a profound aversion to hurtful and destructive ways, so that all of your creation can flourish.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for all those suffering in body, mind, or spirit, and for those experiencing troubles or losses. Continue to support and comfort them, Lord, especially **Anna** Braucher, **Mary** Johnson (friend of Mary Naftzger), **Willie C.** Spraggins (aunt of Jo Ann Roberts), **Sally** Wolcott and her family, **Eli** Taylor (brother-in-law of Cheryl Vanorsby), **Rock** Sehr, **William** Starnes, Jr. (brother of Pam Anderson), **Cheryl** Vanorsby, A. **Henry** Randall, Jr. (grandfather of Evan Randall), **Sophie** Dillard (granddaughter of Robert and Sheila Bator),

Naomi Haynes, **George** Whitley, **Sean** Knight (son of Shirley Knight), **Tim** Sehr, **William** Starnes (father of Pam Anderson), **Jewel** Starnes (mother of Pam Anderson), **Leatrice** Mowatt, **Katherine** Beetle Broadway (family of Tonsgards), **Bronwen** O'Wrill (sister of Persis Berlekamp), **Chris** Wiley (cousin of Camille Long), and **Barbara** Brown (sister of Crystal Plummer).

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We celebrate and offer thanksgiving for the lives of our ancestors and all of our beloved dead. We ask that you hold them safe in your eternal care, especially **Donald** Spalding (12/2/2019, friend of Naomi Haynes), **Taura** (friend of Twila Jones), **Curtis** Burrell Jr. (12/8/2017, father of Joy Towns), **Eddeane** Walker (12/8, mother of Wendy Williams), **Phyllis** Michael Roberts (12/10, sister of Naomi Haynes) and **Mary** O'Dowd (12/14, grandmother of Maureen Jesuthasan).

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We humbly ask that you bless **David** Farris (12/8), **Josefina** Kitson (12/9), **Bill** Olmsted (12/9), **Jenny** Jeck (12/10), **August** Pereira (12/10), **Edia** Chipman (12/11), **Helen** Johnson (12/11), **David** Daniels (12/13), **Char** Jones-Foster (12/13), and **Nisse** Danforth (12/14), who are celebrating birthdays this week.

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

I invite you to offer your own prayers and thanksgivings, ending each with "Lord, in your mercy."

Almighty God, to whom our needs are known before we ask: Help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not, or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayers written by Twila Jones.

Requests for prayers can be sent to Barnabas Pusnur at pusnur@sprchicago.org.

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins to God.

All bow or kneel as able.

**God of all mercy,
we confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

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

Amen.

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

All greet one another and return to their seats.

Some announcements will be given, but there's much more to find out in the front and back pages of this bulletin.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory

Sung by the choir.

How bright appears the Morning Star,
with mercy beaming from afar;
the host of heaven rejoices;
O righteous Branch, O Jesse's Rod!
Thou Son of Man and Son of God!
We, too, will lift our voices:
Jesus, Jesus!
Holy, holy, yet most lowly,
draw thou near us;
great Emmanuel, come and hear us.

Though circled by the hosts on high,
he deigned to cast a pitying eye
upon his helpless creature;
the whole creation's Head and Lord,
by highest seraphim adored,
assumed our very nature;
Jesus, grant us,
through thy merit, to inherit
thy salvation;
hear, O hear our supplication.

Rejoice, ye heavens; thou earth, reply;
with praise, ye sinners, fill the sky,
for this his Incarnation.
Incarnate God, put forth thy power,
ride on, ride on, great Conqueror,
till all know thy salvation.
Amen, amen!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise be given
evermore, by earth and heaven.

Words: William Mercer (1811-1873); after Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608)

Music: *Wie schön leuchtet*, melody att. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The Great Thanksgiving

All stand as the offering is brought to the altar.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, 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 he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his 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:

All sing.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord, God of power and
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san-na in the high - est.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

Music: from *Eucharist of the Soul*, Lena McLin (b. 1928)

© 1972 General Words and Music Co., San Diego, CA.

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 the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, 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 Lord 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 he 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,

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

The Book of Common Prayer, 1979. Eucharistic Prayer B

All sing.



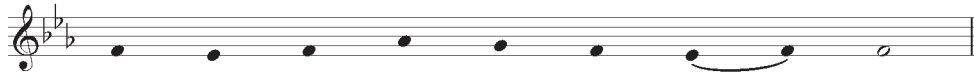
1 Re - deem - er of the na - tions, come;
 2 From hu - man will you do not spring,
 3 You came forth from the e - ter - nal God,
 4 With God the Fa - ther you are one,
 5 Your cra - dle shines with glo - ry's light;
 6 All praise, O un - be - got - ten God,



1 re - veal your - self in vir - gin birth,
 2 but from the Spi - rit of our God;
 3 and you re - turned to that same source.
 4 and one with us in hu - man flesh.
 5 its splen - dor pierc - es all our gloom.
 6 all praise to you, e - ter - nal Word,



1 the birth which a - ges all a - dore,
 2 O Word of God, come; take our flesh
 3 You suf - fered death and har - rowed hell,
 4 Oh, fill our weak and dy - ing frame
 5 Our faith re - flects those ra - diant beams;
 6 all praise, life - giv - ing Spi - rit, praise,



1 a won - drous birth, be - fit - ting God.
 2 and grow as child in Ma - ry's womb.
 3 and reigned once more from God's high throne.
 4 with god - ly strength which nev - er fails.
 5 no night shall o - ver - come it now.
 6 all glo - ry to our God Tri - une.

The Hymnal 1982 #55 "Redeemer of the nations, come"

Words: Att. to Ambrose of Milan (340-397); tr. Charles P. Price (1920-1999)

Music: *Veni Redemptor gentium*, LM, plainsong, Mode 1, Einsiedeln MS., 12th cent.; acc. David Hurd (b. 1950), Copyright © 1984 David Hurd.

All sing.

Introduction



1 O day of peace that dim - ly shines through all our
 2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb, nor shall the



hopes and prayers and dreams, guide us to jus - tice, truth, and
 fierce de - vour the small; as beasts and cat - tle calm - ly



love, de - liv - ered from our self - ish schemes. May swords of
graze, a lit - tle child shall lead them all. Then en - e -

hate fall from our hands, our hearts from en - vy find re -
mies shall learn to love, all crea - tures find their true ac -

lease, till by God's grace our war - ring world shall see Christ's
cord; the hope of peace shall be ful - filled, for all the

1 *Interlude*

prom - ised reign of peace.
earth shall know the (Lord.)

Final Ending

Lord.

The Hymnal 1982 #597 "O day of peace that dimly shines"

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944), copyright © 1982 Carl P. Daw, Jr.

Music: *Jerusalem*, LMD, Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918) arr. Jane Wyatt (b. 1934), arr. Copyright © 1977 Robertson Publications. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Sending Forth

Please stand.

Let us pray.

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 Lord. Amen.

The Presider blesses the people. You are invited to cross yourself as the Presider traces a cross over the congregation.

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Book of Occasional Services, Advent blessing, p. 9

All sing.



1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er



saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,



mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry



ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell her that her sins I cov - er,
let the val - leys rise to meet him
and all flesh shall see the to - ken



and her war - fare now is o - ver.
and the hills bow down to greet him.
that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

The Hymnal 1982 #67 "Comfort, comfort ye my people"

Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.

Music: *Psalm 42, 87. 87. 77. 88*, melody and bass Claude Goudimel (1514-1572); harm. *Hymnal 1982*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Savior of the Nations, Come - arr. Johann Pachelbel

COMING UP

Imagining Our Future 2020 Stewardship Campaign

Every household at SPR is encouraged to make a financial pledge to the church for 2020. Help imagine our future and ensure the long-term health of the parish! Pick up a pledge card in the narthex (foyer), or pledge online at sprchicago.org/giving.

Coming Up: Adult Formation

Join us for Adult Formation on Sundays at 10:20am in the parish hall.

December 8: Godly Play for All

This will be an intergenerational formation with Director of Children's Formation Cynthia Bagrowski. Advent wreath supplies will be available.

Advent Bake Sale

The SPR Advent bake sale will be on **Sunday, December 15**. Everyone is invited to contribute homemade baked treats. If you don't bake, consider helping with pricing, wrapping, or staffing the table. All proceeds will go to support the arts at Shoemith Elementary School. Sign up in the narthex or at sprchicago.org/bake-sale. Please come to buy goodies!

Youth Group Christmas Party

On **Sunday, December 15, from 5 to 7pm** youth in grades 6-12 are invited to join us for a white elephant gift exchange party.

Bird Photo Purchase

The current art show in the chapel will end on **December 15** so that people who buy the artwork can have it before Christmas. The bird photos can be bought for \$50 each, with proceeds going to the SPR Food Pantry. If you would like to buy one of the remaining photos, please see Tom Irving or Jim Wright, and pick it up from the chapel on December 15. For more information, contact Jim Wright (jimphotoguy1@gmail.com).

Children's Christmas Pageant Schedule

Thursday, December 12, 5:30pm: Chat about pageant roles during fellowship after Christmas caroling

Sunday, December 15, after 9:15am service/Godly Play: Pageant script hand-out/roles finalized (Byllesby Room)

Thursday, December 19, from 5:30-7pm: Pageant dress rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Sunday, December 22, after 9:15am service: Optional brush-up rehearsal (only kids with lines, who would like help)

Tuesday, December 24, 4pm: Call time for the Christmas Eve pageant

Any questions, volunteering, requests should be directed to Gretchen Eng (eng@sprchicago.org). Please write her with your child/ren's age(s) and name(s) if you would like to participate!

SPR Caroling

You are invited to join SPR caroling on **Thursday, December 12 at 5:30pm**. Kids and parents head out into the neighborhood to bring Christmas cheer to our neighbors. They'll come back to the church for pizza and cookies. For more information, please contact Gretchen Eng (eng@sprchicago.org).

Kids' Cookie Exchange Party

Parents with small kids, come join us for a cookie exchange on **Saturday, December 7 from 2 to 4pm**, at the Hoover-Daniel house. Bring a batch of cookies to share. Contact: Megg Hoover (margarethoover@hotmail.com).

December Ordinations

Jaime Briceño and Brenda Kilpatrick will be ordained to the Sacred Order of Deacons and Shawn Evelyn will be ordained to the Sacred Order of Priests on **Saturday, December 14, at 11:00am** at St. James Cathedral (65 E. Huron). All are invited to attend.

Christmas Ornaments from Haiti on Sale

Jwaye Nwel (Merry Christmas)! On **Sunday, December 15**, after each service, you are invited to shop for Christmas ornaments hand-beaded by women artisans from St. Patrick's, our partner church in Haiti. By purchasing these beautiful items, you will support the artists in their efforts to develop sustainable employment and empower them to invest in their communities.

Longest Night Service with 'The Many'

The holidays are not always joyful. On **Friday, December 20 at 7pm** in the sanctuary, join us for a Christmas service featuring music by indie-folk-gospel band The Many. This service will provide space for grief, lament and hope.

SPR Groups and Programs

Please consider joining one of these groups or programs. New participants are always welcome.

Bible Study: Every Thursday, 10-11am in the Byllesby Room. Contact: Kerstin Wellbery (kara.kerstin@gmail.com).

Open Kitchen: The Sunday before the third Monday of each month, 12:30pm in the Kitchen. Contact: Fran Spaltro (pambasilea@gmail.com).

Fiber Arts: Every second Sunday of the month at 12:30pm in the Byllesby Room. Contact: Rebecca Luttrell (southsideknitter@gmail.com).

Arts Committee: Every second Sunday of the month, 12:30pm in the Chapel. Contact: Jim Wright (jimphotoguy1@gmail.com).

20s & 30s Group: Monthly for fellowship. Contact: Julia McMillan (mcmillan013@gmail.com).

50s & Better Group: Monthly for fellowship. Contact: Sheila Bator (sbator@aol.com).

SPR Choirs: All experience levels and newcomers welcome.

St. Nicholas Choir (Kindergarten-2nd grade): Thursday Rehearsal 6-6:30pm. Contact: Gretchen Eng (eng@sprchicago.org).

SPR Choristers (3rd Grade and above): Thursday rehearsal 6-7:30pm. Contact: Christian Clough (clough@sprchicago.org).

Teen & Adult Choirs: Thursday rehearsal 7-8:40pm. Contact Christian Clough (clough@sprchicago.org).

Today's Ministers

Presider

Catherine Healy

Preacher

KJ Oh

Deacon

Jack Seymour

Music Leader

Joseph Burgio

Acolytes

9:15: Mahrhotal Rosier

Subdeacon

11:15: Mel Parks

Lectors

9:15: Eva Nielsen, John Adewoye

11:15: Nicholas Bellomy, Rahsaan Morris

Prayer Reader

9:15: Steve Heyman

11:15: Twila Jones

Children's Chapel Leaders

Cynthia Bagrowski, Gretchen Eng

Chalice Ministers

9:15: Padmaragam Vundi, Fran Spaltro, John Omoworare, Connie Bonbrest

11:15: Jim Wright, William Jackson, Caroline Oldstone-Jackson, Tamara Laville

Healing Prayer Leaders

9:15: Michelle Dassinger, Joshua Daniel

11:15: Toni Daniels, Vinita Wright

Ushers

9:15: Micah Prochaska, Vincent Johnson

11:15: Wanda Austin-Wingood, Mary Naftzger

Vestry Greeter

9:15: Kate Baldwin

11:15:

Altar Guild

9:15: Michelle Dassinger

11:15: Pamela Anderson

Linen Washer

Janet Underwood

Communion Bread Baker

Kate Benson

Vestry

Wardens

Romonda McKinney Bumpus
romonda.mckinney@gmail.com

Kirk Bagrowski
kbagrows@gmail.com

Treasurer

Doug Hoffman
treasurer@sprchicago.org

Clerk

Twila Jones

Vestry Class of 2020

Micah Prochaska
Hollis Walker
Sally Wolcott

Vestry Class of 2021

Robert Nordling
Robin Charleston
Kate Baldwin

Vestry Class of 2022

Jeffrey Stackert
Kerstin Wellbery
Jared Beverly

Staff

Rector

The Rev. Catherine E. Healy (healy@sprchicago.org)

Director of Music

Christian M. Clough (clough@sprchicago.org)

Associate Minister for Ministry & Mission

Barnabas E. Pusnur (pusnur@sprchicago.org)

Assistant Priest

The Rev. KJ Oh (oh@sprchicago.org)

Deacon

The Rev. Jack Seymour (jack_seymour2000@yahoo.com)

Priest Associate

The Rev. Roger Ferlo (roger.ferlo@gmail.com)

Deacon Associate

The Rev. Shawn Evelyn

Director of Children's Formation

Cynthia Bagrowski (bagrowski@sprchicago.org)

Director of Youth Formation

Liz Koerner (koerner@sprchicago.org)

Children's Music Assistant

Gretchen R. Eng (eng@sprchicago.org)

Sexton

Lukasz Jedrzejewski (lukasz@sprchicago.org)

Nursery Staff

Jessica Steele, Virginia Woodard

Staff Singers

Bridget Skaggs, Luther Lewis III, Angela Yu



St. Paul & the Redeemer

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