

# Peace

*Silent night, holy night,  
all is calm, all is bright*



**Second Sunday in Advent**

**Baptism**

**Communion**

Interim Pastor: Rev. Jessica Malek

Substitute Organist: Richard Christen

Worship Assistant: Lou Mastro

Audio & Visual Support: Alannah Bailey/Dona Lewandowski

 **Prelude**

 **Welcome & Announcements**

 **Advent Reading** Jennifer Hayek, Julie Green & Kathy Walker  
Lighting of the second candle: Peace

**Called by God**

**Call to Worship** (*Worship Assistant*)

**Leader:** Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for you have looked favorably upon your people.

**People:** **You have raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David.**

**Leader:** By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us.

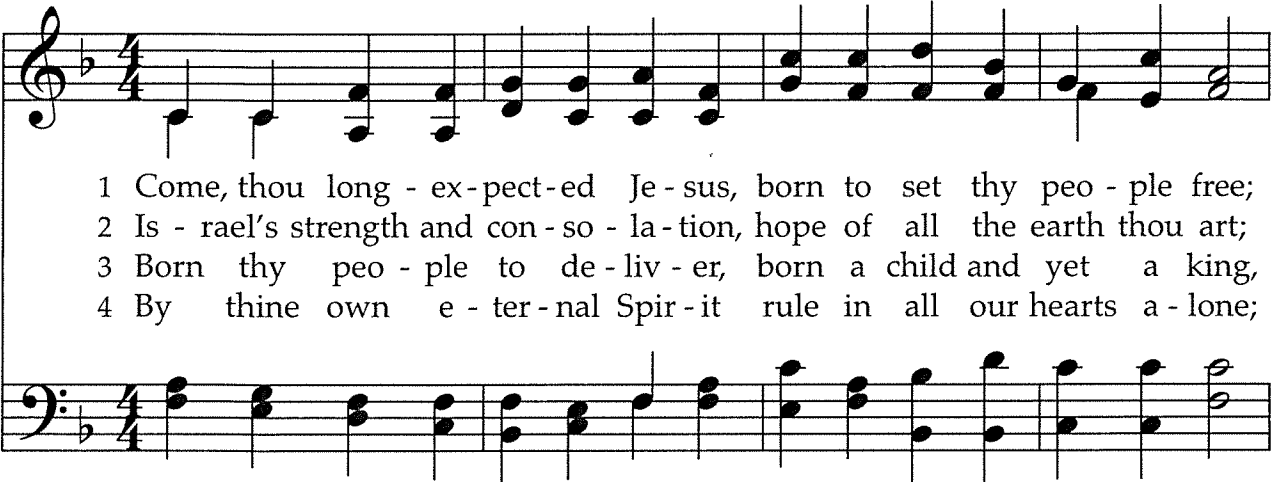
**People:** **To give light to those who sit in darkness and guide our feet into the way of peace.**

**Leader:** Let us worship God!

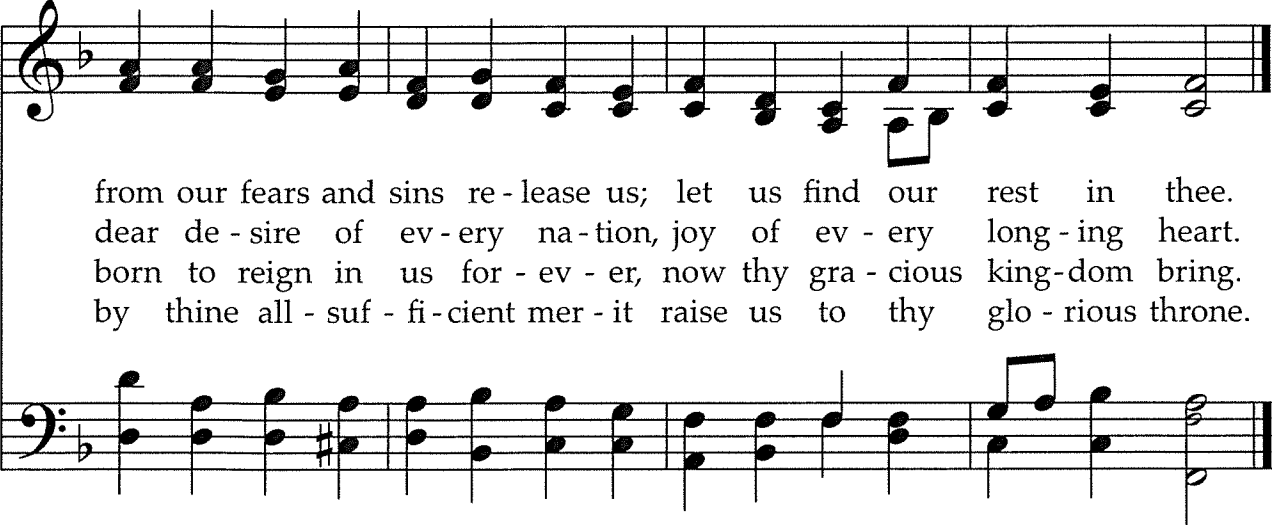
 **Hymn** "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

JESUS CHRIST: ADVENT

## 83 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;  
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;  
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,  
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1744  
MUSIC: Witt's *Psalmodia Sacra*, 1715, alt.

STUTTGART  
8.7.8.7  
(alternate tune: HYFRYDOL, 82)

## Forgiven by God



### **Call to Confession** *(Worship Assistant)*

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners, Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another.



### **Prayer of Confession** *(All)*

God of abounding grace, have mercy upon us. Our valleys are deep when we are encompassed with care. Our mountains are high when our burdens are heavy. We grope in the maze of our tangled alliances and reap the pain of bad choices and ignorant gambles. You promised that all flesh shall see your salvation. Show us the straight path and the smooth way that leads us to your righteousness, through Jesus Christ, who is the way.



### **Silent Confession** *(A time of silence will be observed for personal confession.)*



### **Assurance of Pardon**

Hear the good news! Who is in the position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.



### **Gloria Patri Hymn***(All)*

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. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. A-men. A-men. A-men. A-men. A-men. A-men. Amen.

## Upheld by Christ



### **Prayers of the People -** *Sharing Joys, Concerns and Thanksgivings*



## **The Lord's Prayer** (*debts & debtors*)

**Our Father, who is 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.**

**Taught by Christ**



## **Children's Sermon**



## **Scripture Readings**

### **Old Testament Reading:      Isaiah 11:1-10**

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. <sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>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; <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup>Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. <sup>6</sup>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. <sup>7</sup>The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. <sup>8</sup>The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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.

### **Gospel Reading                  Matthew 3:1-12**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, <sup>2</sup>"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." <sup>3</sup>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.”<sup>4</sup> Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey.<sup>5</sup> Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan,<sup>6</sup> and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.<sup>7</sup> 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?<sup>8</sup> Bear fruit worthy of repentance.<sup>9</sup> 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.<sup>10</sup> 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.<sup>11</sup> “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.<sup>12</sup> 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.”

This is the word of the Lord  
Thanks be to God

 **Sermon**                      “Prepare the Way of the Lord”

 **Hymn**                              “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

### Responding to the Word

 **Affirmation of Faith**                                              *Apostle's Creed (Modern English)*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

 **Committing Our Lives, Gifts and Talents**

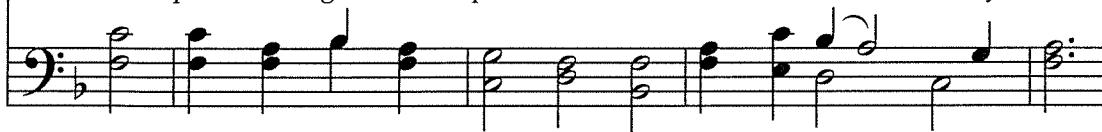
## Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming 129



1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung,  
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I have in mind;  
 3 This flower, whose fra-grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the air,



of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing, by faith - ful proph - ets sung.  
 with Mar - y we be - hold it, the vir - gin moth - er kind.  
 dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the dark-ness ev - ery-where.



It came, a flower - et bright, a - mid the cold of  
 To show God's love a - right she bore for us a  
 En - fleshed, yet ver - y God, from sin and death he



win - ter, when half spent was the night.  
 Sav - ior, when half spent was the night.  
 saves us and light - ens ev - ery load.



Although the early copies of this 15th-century German text include many more stanzas than are printed here, this simpler, shorter form has much to commend it. This early 17th-century harmonization of the traditional chorale melody invites and rewards singing in parts.



## Offertory



## Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessing flow;  
 Praise God all creatures here below;  
 Praise God above the heavenly host,  
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.



## Prayer of Dedication

Blessed are you, God of all creation; through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom. Amen.

## The Sacrament of Baptism

Aleyah Natalie Takil

## The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper



## Invitation



## Great Prayer of Thanksgiving



## Breaking Bread & Lifting the Cup



## Communion of the People

*(Please come forward to receive Communion. If you need to have Communion brought to you, please let someone know and remain seated.)*



## Sharing the Peace of God

**Pastor:** Be kind to one another, and tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. The peace of Christ be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

*(You are invited to remain in your pew and wave to those around you as a sign of peace and reconciliation.)*

(Please remain standing for the Closing Hymn)

## Sent Out by The Spirit

 **Hymn**      “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

 **Charge and Benediction**

 **Congregational Response**      *"Go Tell It on a Mountain"*  
**Go tell it on a mountain, over the hills and everywhere. Go tell it on the Mountain that Jesus Christ is born! (Repeat)**

 **Postlude**

### **\* Welcome \***

We welcome you in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Please fill out the Welcome Card in the pew and put it in the collection plate. We want to know you were here! Guests and visitors are invited to sign our Vestibule Guest Book. If you are interested in becoming a member of this Church, please call (732) 257-6353 and speak with the church secretary for further information. Make sure to "like" our page at [www.facebook.com/FPCSayreville](http://www.facebook.com/FPCSayreville), and check out our website at [www.FPCSayreville.org](http://www.FPCSayreville.org)! Donations can be made to the website.

**Weekly Attendance for 11/26/22: In-house – 26; Virtual – 35**

## 96 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery life from sin; make  
 3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our  
 4 Stretch forth your hand; our health re - store, and



nounc - es that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
 straight the way for God with - in, and let us all our  
 ref - uge and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we  
 make us rise to fall no more. O let your face up -



for he brings glad ti - dings of the King of kings!  
 hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.  
 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.  
 on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.

This hymn shows how once-unconnected parts can work together. The text about John the Baptist was written in Latin in the 18th century and translated into English in the 19th century. Similarly, the 17th-century melody was adapted to its present form in the 19th century.

## **\* Prayer List \***

Manona Smith  
The people of Tikrit, Iraq  
Howard Merritt  
Prudy DeLap  
Beth DePinto  
Rosalie Ilardi  
Kim Barone  
Iris Koval  
Joe & Marilyn Zakrzewski  
Stacia Drotar  
Charlie & Mary Gilkie  
The Wigall Family  
Christine Brower  
Donna Ghobrial  
Gordon Cook  
Ira Saltzman  
Debbie Huneke Craine  
Billy & Joey Unkel & Family  
The Baker Family  
Barbara Busch

Marge Bender  
Ken Adams & Snoops  
The Laikowski/Merritt Crew  
Roxanne Parks  
Charles Anim  
Irene & John Holthausen  
Millie Boley  
The family of Barbara Cortes  
Gene Lewandowski  
Joyce Kupsch  
Jennifer Martin  
Liz Kennedy  
Richard & Jean Smithers  
The family of Ed Krogstad  
Jorge Barreiro & Family  
Penelope Haney  
Kim Mather  
Michael Anderson  
Paris Swisher

**Our Calendar of Events can be found on our website [FPCSayreville.org](http://FPCSayreville.org)**

|                 |              |                                   |
|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| Monday, 12/5    | 6:00pm       | Office Open                       |
|                 | 7:00pm       | Cub Scouts (Sunday School area)   |
| Tuesday, 12/6   | 7:00pm       | Scouts (Sunday School area)       |
|                 |              | Cub Scouts (hall)                 |
| Wednesday, 12/7 | 7:00pm       | AA (hall)                         |
| Thursday, 12/8  | 6:00pm       | Office Open                       |
|                 |              | Brownies (Hall)                   |
|                 | 7:00pm       | Boy Scouts (Sunday School area)   |
| Sunday, 12/11   | 9:15am       | Sunday School (meet in Sanctuary) |
|                 | 9:30-11:30pm | Office Open                       |
|                 | 10:30am      | Third Sunday in Advent            |
|                 | 1-3pm        | Ghana Church Sanctuary            |

## **\*\* Announcements \*\***

**For Sale: 13 Gallons of Benjamin Moore Exterior Stain.** One gallon new unopened cans in mahogany (5 cans); salamander (4 cans); silver gray (4 cans). \$20 per gallon can. See or call GarySpsychalski at (908) 421-5244.

**Food Pantry:** As the Deacons prepare for the Holiday season and their Thanksgiving and Christmas food basket distribution, they are asking for donations of the following items: yams, mashed potatoes, rice side dishes, Mayo, coffee, tea, oatmeal, any snacks that will last through Christmas, cans of stew, chili, icing, cake mix, canned fruit (not fruit cocktail), any pie filling or crusts, pasta sauce. **Please NO more pasta or soup!**

**\*\* We need to restock our pantry for the Christmas baskets, so please let the office know if you are able to donate a ham, turkey or lassagna. \*\***

Also, if you know of anyone in need of a basket, please let either Jen Braun or the office know, so we can make arrangements.

As always though, ANY non-perishable items are welcome. Our food pantry is available throughout the year for any community member in need.

Donations can always be dropped off either under the back staircase by the C.E. Door, or by arranging drop-off with the office for perishable/frozen items.

**Pastoral Care Emergencies:** If you have a pastoral care emergency, please call (732) 403-4160. This is a dedicated phone line for emergencies. You can also contact Rev. Malek by emailing her at [revjessicamalek@gmail.com](mailto:revjessicamalek@gmail.com). This is a confidential email that is read only by the pastor.

We ask that ALL FOOD PANTRY requests be made by contacting the office, and NOT on the emergency phone.

**General Church Information:** The office is now open Monday and Thursday evenings, from 6-8pm, and Sunday mornings from 9:30-11:30am. BUT PLEASE CALL before you head down because days/hours are fluid due to personal circumstances. Emails and phone messages will also be checked each weeknight that the office is closed as well. You can reach the office by using the church's email [churchoffice172@optimum.net](mailto:churchoffice172@optimum.net), or by calling the office at (732) 257-6353.

## **\*\* Online Giving \*\***

We are pleased to announce that we are now registered for on-line giving through the Presbyterian Foundation and Vanco Giving Solutions, on our website [FPCSayreville.org](http://FPCSayreville.org)! Simply click on the "Give Now" button, and you will be directed to our giving page. Once there, create a profile and you can then make a one-time donation or schedule auto-payments monthly, weekly, etc. to major church accounts.

You can also donate through the app "Give Plus". Download the app, enter the church zip code of 08872, and click on our church. You can make either a onetime donation or set up recurring donations, depending on which you prefer.

You can also scan the following code with your smartphone camera to be connected to our giving page.



## Christmas Poinsettias

The Deacons are selling Christmas Poinsettias to decorate the Sanctuary this Christmas Season. ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE DEACONS' FUND.

6" Bloom Poinsettias .....\$10.00

Contact: Jill Thaisz  
Jthaisz78@yahoo.com  
Cell (732) 841-0468

Orders must be in by December 18, 2022.  
Make checks to First Presbyterian Church Sayreville

PLEASE PRINT

\_\_\_\_\_ Total Number of plants

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

IN HONOR OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_