

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE FOR ORGAN

Prélude sur l'Introit de l'Épiphanie

Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

GREETING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: May the peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

PEALING OF THE BELL AND SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

*Everlasting God, who brought the nations to your light:
Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the nations;
through him who is the true light and the bright morning star,
Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.*

CHORAL INTROIT

O Light of Nations, Fill the Earth

Lee H. Bristol, 1962

O Light of Nations, fill the earth; our faith and hope and love renew.
Come, lead the peoples to your peace, as stars once led the way to you.

-Ruth Duck, 1989

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Arise, shine, for your light has come,

People: and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Pastor: Nations shall come to your light

People: and rulers to the brightness of your rising.

Pastor: Jesus said, I am the light of the world,

People: whoever follows me will not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.

Pastor: Let us worship God.

✦ HYMN 151

We Three Kings of Orient Are

Kings of Orient

✦ PRAYER OF THE DAY

CALL TO CONFESSION

✦ *please stand as you are able*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all. We confess that our sin and pride dim the brightness of your light. We turn away from those in need and remain content with the way things are. Forgive us, we pray.

Silent prayers of confession are offered.

In your mercy, cleanse us and fill us once again with your Spirit, that forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON (*sung by the choir*)

plainsong; arr. Janet Hall (1923-2004)

Kyrie eleison. *Lord, have mercy.*
Christe eleison. *Christ, have mercy.*
Kyrie eleison. *Lord, have mercy.*

-5th/6th century Greek

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

✦ GLORIA PATRI

Ronald A. Nelson, 1986

Glo-ry to God the Cre - a - tor, and to the Christ, and to the Ho - ly
Spir - it: as it was in the be - gin-ning, is now, and
will be for ev - er. A - men. A - men.

-3rd/4th century Latin; transl.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children age 4 through 5th grade are dismissed to the Westminster Room for enrichment activities.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Tess Rafferty, *lay reader*

HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14
(Pew Bible, page 533)

At the conclusion of each reading:

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12
(Pew Bible, New Testament, page 2)

SERMON

“A Tale of Two Kings”

Rev. Love

THE RESPONSE

✦ HYMN (see back page)

No One Slept When Christ Was Born

Aberystwyth

✦ LITANY FOR EPIPHANY

Pastor: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God, Alleluia!

People: Shout to the Lord, all the earth, Alleluia!

Pastor: With joy let us pray to our Savior, the Son of God who became one of us, saying:

People: The grace of God be with us all.

Pastor: O Christ, let your gospel shine in every place where the Word of life is not yet received. Draw the whole creation to yourself, so that your salvation may be known through all the earth.

People: The grace of God be with us all.

Pastor: O Christ, Savior and Lord, extend your church to every place. Make it a place of welcome for people of every race and tongue.

People: The grace of God be with us all.

Pastor: O Christ, Ruler of rulers, direct the work and thoughts of the leaders of nations that they may seek justice, and further peace and freedom for all.

People: The grace of God be with us all.

Pastor: O Christ, Master of all, support of the weak and comfort of the afflicted, strengthen the tempted, and raise the fallen. Watch over the lonely and those in danger. Give hope to the despairing and sustain the faith of the persecuted.

People: The grace of God be with us all.

(pause for silence)

God of endless light, you sent a star – rising from darkness, guiding seekers and sages, overwhelming us with joy. Let the splendor of your dawning light grow in us and in all the world until the whole creation shines with your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

(Please visit ryepc.com/give/ or scan the QR Code on the back cover to give online.)

ANTHEM FOR SOLO VOICES, CHOIR, AND ORGAN

In the Bleak Midwinter

Harold Darke, 1911

Susan Chassagnoux, soprano; Philip Pacelli, tenor

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan.

Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone.

Snow had fallen snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak midwinter long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain.

Heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.

In the bleak midwinter, a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ.

Enough for him, whom cherubim worship night and day,

a breast full of milk, and a manger full of hay.

Enough for him whom angels fall down before, the ox and ass and camel, which adore.

What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise man, I would do my part, yet what I can I give him: Give my heart.

-Christina Rossetti, c. 1872

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION AND THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

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

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, God of majesty and splendor. By your power, you created all that is, making a universe out of chaos, and ruling over all things in love. Throughout the ages, you called your people to love and serve you, and to be your light among the nations. When we failed you, you did not fail us, but sent prophets to call us back to your ways.

We praise you that in the fullness of time, you revealed your love by sending your Son Jesus to be the Light of the World. He came to heal our brokenness and to set before us the ways of justice and peace.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

Robert Powell, 1976

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord, God of pow-er and might, heav-en and
earth are full of 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. _____

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a melody with various note values including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. There are three measures of triplets marked with a '3' and a bracket. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

-Isaiah 6:3b, Revelation 4:8, and Psalm 118:25-26

You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord. He was born to dwell among us, full of grace and truth; in him we have seen your glory. Baptized by John in the Jordan, he lived for you, spoke your truth, showed your love, and gave himself for others. In his death on the cross, he overcame death. Rising from the tomb, he raised us to eternal life and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising as we await the day of his coming.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, that we may be one with all who share this feast, united in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

Illumine our hearts, O God, with the radiance of Christ's presence, that our lives may show forth his love in this weary world. Teach us to befriend the lost, to serve the poor, to reconcile our enemies, and to love our neighbors. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory, and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND POURING OF THE CUP

AGNUS DEI *(sung by the choir)*

John L. Bell (b. 1949)

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:
miserere nobis.

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world:
Have mercy on us.*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi:
dona nobis pacem.

*Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world:
Grant us peace.*

-based on John 1:29

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*Please come forward to receive communion by intinction: take a piece of bread and dip it in a cup.
Wine is in the ceramic cups and grape juice is in the silver chalices.
Gluten-free wafers are available at the station in front of the lectern.*

MUSIC FOR ORGAN

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

*The hymn to which this tune is set is printed in the hymnal at no. 827, O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright.
Note words in the second stanza that relate to Communion.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Loving and gracious God, from east and west, from north and south, you have welcomed us at your table, called us your beloved, and fed us by your generous hand. Transform us to be your light in the world, and strengthen us by your Spirit, so that we may serve you and all our neighbors with great joy. Amen.

THE SENDING FORTH

✦ HYMN 141

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

Personent hodie

✦ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE FOR ORGAN *(All are invited into the chancel to listen to the postlude.)*

Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern

Mark Sedio (b. 1954)

We conclude worship with an exuberant setting of the chorale printed in the hymnal at no. 827.

FOLLOWING WORSHIP

*Coffee Hour will be held in the Assembly Room following worship.
(The Assembly Room can be found by exiting the front right doors.)*

Welcome to Rye Presbyterian Church

General Information

If you are a guest today, we welcome you and hope you are enriched and inspired by this time of worship. To learn more about the ongoing life of the church, please go to ryepc.com/im-new/ and fill out the welcome form online.

If you or a family member need to step out of the sanctuary during worship, please feel free to do so. There is live audio from the service in the narthex at the back of the sanctuary and live video in the church library.

Children and Childcare

Our team of dedicated staff and volunteers is available to care for children 3 months to 3 years old while parents attend worship services. Childcare can be found on the first floor of the Education Wing.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Anne A. Halloin at ahalloin@ryepc.com.

To help children feel welcomed and engaged during worship, Rainbow Bags – filled with crayons, books, and coloring pages – are located in boxes at each sanctuary entrance door.

Please return Rainbow Bags following worship.

Hearing Assistance

The sanctuary is equipped with an induction loop assistive listening system. To access the system, please switch your hearing aid setting to “T” (telephone).

Grace Notes Newsletter

Pick up one of our full-color monthly church newsletters, available at every sanctuary entrance: includes photos, updates, articles, and devotions from pastors. It is also available digitally through email, along with our website’s resources page at ryepc.com/grace-notes-newsletter/.

Participants in Today’s Service

Soraya Holzer, *crucifer*

Edward Avery, Carl Friedrich, Gary Gibson, and Fallys Ngalauka, *ushers*

Sally Adler, Sam Altenberger, Edward Avery, Carl Friedrich,

Gary Gibson, and Fallys Ngalauka, *communion servers*

DEDICATIONS

In Memoriam

Russell Gehrett, December 21, 2025

TODAY

Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 11:15 a.m. – Chapel

THIS WEEK

Monday, January 5

9:00 a.m. Monday Morning Bible Study – Zoom

Tuesday, January 6

1:00 p.m. Women's Discipleship – Library/Zoom

Wednesday, January 7

10:00 a.m. Chapel Yoga – Chapel

5:30 p.m. Middle School Connection – Youth Rooms

7:00 p.m. Mission & Outreach Committee – Library/Zoom

Thursday, January 8

10:00 a.m. Thrift Shop

Friday, January 8

10:30 a.m. Rye Women's Interfaith – Westminster Room

Saturday, January 10

9:30 a.m. New Officer Training – Westminster Room

12:00 p.m. Officer Retreat – Assembly Room

Sunday, January 11

8:45 a.m. Moms' Bible Study – Conference Room

9:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Warm-Up – Sanctuary

11:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Chapel

5:00 p.m. Confirmation Class – Westminster Room

7:00 p.m. Evening Service – Chapel

8:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study – Library

GENERAL NOTICES

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

There's no Sunday School today, January 4.

Instead, enrichment activities will be available in the Westminster Room.

Sunday School for children age 4 through 5th grade is held Sunday mornings during worship. To register your child, please visit the registration page on our website, or scan the QR Code. ryepc.com/ministries/sunday-school-registration/



MONDAY MORNING BIBLE DISCUSSION

Upcoming Meetings on Mondays, January 5, 12, and 26, at 9:00 a.m., via Zoom

A new year is upon us, and we are newly into the Gospel of Matthew and the Sermon on the Mount – Jesus' keynote address. All are welcome to join this weekly discussion. If you'd like to be on the email reminder list, contact Dan Love at dlove@ryepc.com.

MOMS' BIBLE STUDY

Sundays, resuming today, from 8:45 - 9:45 a.m., in the Conference Room

This group is for moms with young children who are looking for support, encouragement, and fellowship with other moms. Childcare is available! If you'd like to be on the email list, or to learn more, please contact Madison Walsh at madisonlichliterwalsh@gmail.com.

WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP GROUP

Tuesdays, resuming January 6, from 1:00 - 2:25 p.m., in the Library

Please join us in the RPC library on Tuesdays from 1:00-2:25 for book study and discipleship. Feel free to jump in anytime! We're reading *Life Lessons from John: When God Became Man*, by Max Lucado.

All are welcome! Please let either Courtney Bennett (courtneybennett910@gmail.com) or Alicia Baldwin (alicia.baldwin@verizon.net) know so we can add you to our email list.

CHAPEL YOGA

Wednesdays, resuming January 7, from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m., in the Chapel

Cari Pattison is a certified yoga instructor (RYT 200), and is offering a Level 1 Vinyasa flow class on Wednesday mornings. Weaving a bit of scripture into the basic class structure, the class gives us an opportunity to stretch and strengthen our bodies, breathe into a posture of prayer, and deepen our relationship with God. Bring a mat if you have one; mats are also available to borrow, along with other props. All are welcome, including beginners! To RSVP, or to learn more, email cpattison@ryepc.com.

THRIFT SHOP

Thursdays, resuming January 8, from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

For more information on donations, please check the church website.

You can also email the shop at RyeThrift10580@gmail.com.

MEN'S SUNDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Upcoming Meetings on Sundays, January 11 and 25, at 8:00 p.m., in the Library and via Zoom

We invite you to join and participate in our ongoing fellowship and conversation. We are wrapping up our work through the stories of Genesis, and planning our next move. To learn more, and to be on the email reminder list, contact Dan Love at dlove@ryepc.com.

RYE YMCA COMMUNITY UPDATE ON THE ALL SOULS PROJECT

Sunday, January 11, following worship., in the Westminster Room

Rye YMCA CEO Sabrina Murphy will meet with interested RPC members on Sunday, January 11, following worship, to share the Y's plans for a full-day, licensed child care center at the former All Souls Church in Port Chester. The meeting will be held in the Westminster Room.

Previously owned by Rye Presbyterian Church, the All Souls building was sold to the Rye Y in July of this year after extensive talks around our mutual goal of providing affordable child care in Port Chester, a child care desert. The Rye Y is a highly-regarded provider of child care programs and has developed plans to fully renovate the building to serve up to 103 infants and young children.

Join us to learn more about this exciting project!

COMING HOME 2026

Coming Home is an expression of our long-standing Prison Ministry at Rye Presbyterian Church. We seek to empower those who are returning to the community following incarceration.

Congregants can serve as dinner cooks and hosts, volunteer as mentors, or join in our weekly Thursday night dinners in the Westminster Room - making a real difference in the lives of formerly incarcerated persons. If you're interested in serving in any of these roles, or finding out more information, stay tuned for our forthcoming orientation session in January (date TBD). Our program begins in earnest on Thursday evening, February 12, and will conclude with graduation on Sunday, June 7.

For more information, or to better understand the philosophy of this ministry, please contact our RPC Coming Home Liaison and Dinner Coordinator Douglas Carey, or Pastor Cari Pattison, Minister Liaison to Mission and Outreach. You may reach out to Doug via email at poningoeearthcare@gmail.com, or by phone at 914-565-6748. Cari may be reached at cpattison@ryepc.com or 914-967-0842 x14.

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP

CRAWFORD CHAPEL ✦ WINTER

RPC's Crawford Chapel is adjacent to the Sanctuary



JANUARY 11, 2026, AT 7:00 P.M.

Evening Prayer and Baptism Renewal



FEBRUARY 1, 2026, AT 7:00 P.M.

These monthly services, each approximately 40 minutes in duration, provide an opportunity to worship at the close of the day.

The intimacy of the chapel, coupled with its warm acoustics and decorative flexibility, enables clarity and resonance in the sung and spoken word.

Activities will be available for children
in Pre-K through 3rd Grade in the Library

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Isaiah 11:1-10, Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19, and Matthew 3:1-12.



COLOR ^{IN} THE WORDS

PREPARE

THE WAY *of the*

LORD



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O Light of Nations, Fill the Earth

Text: Ruth Duck Music: Lee H. Bristol

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Music © 1969 Theodore Presser, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Kyrie eleison

Music arr. Janet Hall

Music arr. © 1980 Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved.

Gloria Patri: Glory to God the Creator

Music: Ronald A. Nelson

Music © 1986 The United Church of Christ. All rights reserved.

No One Slept When Christ Was Born

Text: Thomas H. Troeger

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In the Bleak Midwinter

Music: Harold Darke

Music © 1993 Galaxy Music Corporation, a division of ECS Publishing.

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Sanctus and Benedictus: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Music: Robert Powell

Music © 1985 The Church Pension Fund. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Agnus Dei

Music: John L. Bell

Music © 1989 WGRG, c/o The Iona Community (admin. in North America by GIA Publications, Inc.).

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Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern

Music: Mark Sedio

Music © 1996 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

No One Slept When Christ Was Born

Aberystwyth



1. No one slept when Christ was born: Jo-seph made a bed of hay.
2. What in us will Christ a - wake? Jo-seph's ten-der-ness and care?
3. For the pre - lude to our peace is dis-turb-ance of the heart.



Mar - y, from her la - bor worn, still found strength to nurse and pray.
Will it be the hope and ache stir - ring Mar - y's heart to prayer?
All its thoughts that nev - er cease, all that love and hate im - part



Shep-herds woke and left their sheep. Ma - gi trav-eled through the night.
Will it be the Ma - gi's quest or the ty - rant's schemes and lies?
are re-vealed at Je - sus' birth, tum-bling forth thro' what we do,



Her-od nev - er fell a - sleep, stew - ing in his rage and spite.
Or the joy of shep-herds blest by the an - them of the skies?
ei-ther curs-ing life and earth or re - mak - ing them a - new.



CHURCH STAFF

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Alonso Osorio, *Sunday Sexton*

Haniel Neves, *Knock Intern in Sacred Music*



*We are a Stephen Ministry church that offers a one-on-one caring ministry to those in need.
If you need assistance from your pastors, deacons, or a Stephen Minister, please call at (914) 967-0842.*

*If you are experiencing an acute crisis, you can call or text 988
and you'll connect with a mental health professional through the National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.*



GIVING AT RPC

Online donation options are available on our giving page,
ryepc.com/give/, and through the QR code.

Contact Maida Robinson at mrobinson@ryepc.com with any questions.
Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the church.

