

**Rochester Christian Reformed Church**  
**ORDER OF WORSHIP**  
**December 7 – 10:00 AM**  
**Second Sunday of Advent**

Prelude

*Fantasia on Greensleeves*  
*Adeste Fidelis*

R. Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)  
Charles Ives (1874-1954)

Preparing to Worship

"I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope." (*Psalm 130:5*)

Sung Call to Worship

Song

"Wait for the Lord"  
First time - clarinetist plays  
Second time - worship musicians sing  
Third time - congregation sings (remaining seated)

#480

Moment of Silent Reflection

Advent Candle Lighting

*The second candle is lit.*

Reader: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

**ALL: We are waiting for the light to grow—waiting for God to restore us and forgive us.**

Reader: In the faintest glimmers of dawning light, we wait for God's bright glory.

**ALL: We are waiting for the light to grow—waiting for God to restore and forgive us.**

Reader: As the light grows in our lives, we remember how God has cared for us, and we remember the words of the psalmist:

Minister: I am listening. What is God's message?

The Lord's message is peace for God's people, for God's faithful,  
if only they renounce their folly.

Saving help is near for those who fear God,  
and glory will dwell in our land.

Faithful love and loyalty join together,  
saving justice and peace embrace.

Loyalty will spring up from the earth,  
and justice will lean down from heaven.

The Lord will give prosperity, and our soil will yield its harvest.

Justice will walk before God, treading out a path.

(adapted from *Psalm 85:8-13, The Message*)

Reader: The candle we light today recalls the light of God's promised salvation. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

**ALL: We are waiting for the light to grow—waiting for God to restore and forgive us.**

\* Welcome and Greeting from God

Prayer of Confession

Silent Prayer

Leader: Let us pray together.

**ALL: Come, Lord Jesus; forgive us and restore us.**

**Come, Lord Jesus; guide us and deliver us.**

**Come Lord Jesus; teach us and renew us.**

**Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.**

Song "Come, Lord Jesus"

Come, Lord Jesus. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come, Lord Jesus; come, and be born in our hearts.

Come, O Prince of Peace. Come, O Prince of Peace.

Come, O Prince of Peace; come, and be born in our hearts.

Come, Immanuel. Come, Immanuel.

Come, Immanuel; come, and be born in our hearts.

\* Advent Hymn "Lord, You Have Lavished on Your Land"  
(This is based on *Psalms 85*, which is also used in today's candle-lighting litany.)

#65

\* Assurance of Pardon (*Titus 3:4-6*)

\* The Peace

Minister: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**ALL: And also with you.**

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: (*Judges 4:1-24*)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

Proclamation "No Glory for Men" — Song of Deborah

Prayer of Application

\* Hymn "My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout" # 69

Advent Prayer

Offertory

"From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required."  
*Luke 12:48b*

\* Hymn "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" #56

\* God's Blessing, affirmed by congregational **"Amen"**

Postlude *Noël Suisse* L.C. Daquin (1694-1772)

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**"Dead Heroes and the Living God: The Songs of Women in the Old Testament"**  
**Advent Series 2025**

Advent is a season to remember what we're missing: We are waiting for the return of Jesus our savior. This Advent, we will travel deep into the Old Testament to recover some of this holy longing.

The birth of Jesus is accompanied by four canticles in the Gospel of Luke—the Songs of Mary, Zechariah, Simeon, and the Angels. But where did these songs come from? And what questions, exactly, are they answering? Long before Luke recorded these canticles, there were the songs of women in the Old Testament—the Songs of Miriam, Deborah, Hannah, and the Song of Songs.

In our Advent sermon series, we will explore how these Old Testament songs gave the Jewish people a specific vocabulary and practices of hope for a messiah and how we, too, can pick up these songs of hope and longing as we wait for Jesus in this season of Advent.  
- Pastor Steven Rodriguez

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***Leading Us in Worship Today:***

Minister: Rev. Steven Rodriguez

Organist: Ryan Chan

Liturgist: Reba Veenje

Worship Band: Jan Cooper, Jackie Fenton, Chris Hall, John Singleton,  
Jeff Harp, Anna Rose Vande Brake, Kaniyah Cooper, Sue Bratt Cok

Advent Candle Lighting: Falvo Family

Congregational Song Leader: Jeff Harp

Children's Message: Tim Vande Brake

Offertory Deacon: Ben Cooper

Advent Prayer: Bethany Miller

Resources for Worship:

"Welcoming the Light" by James Hart Brumm and "Advent Confession and Assurance," *Reformed Worship* Sept.

2012 "Come, Lord Jesus" is from *Sing! A New Creation*, #103

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