

PRELUDE O Come, O Come, Emmanuel arr. Lloyd Larson
Steve Rose, saxophone

***CONGREGATIONAL CALL TO WORSHIP** Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming ES IST EIN ROS'

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming as men of old have sung.
It came a floweret bright,
Amid the cold of winter when half spent was the night.
Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind:
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love aright
She bore to men a Savior when half spent was the night.
This Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death He saves us and lightens every load.

***INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER** Marie Sumerel, Deacon

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** Marie Sumerel

WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES Trey Davis

Thank you for choosing to worship with us at The Ridge today! If you are visiting, please fill out one of the green cards on the back of the pew and place it in the offering plate at the end of the service. We're so glad to have you here, and we're grateful to know of your presence with us.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Hope Evanna Edward

Prepare the way of the Lord. We light this candle in hope, the hope of our coming Savior, Jesus.

Prepare, then, the way of the Lord.

THE PLACING OF THE CRISMONS

***HYMN 203** While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks CHRISTMAS

MORNING PRAYER Trey Davis

ANTHEM English Advent Carol arr. Patrick Liebergen

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 7:13-17; Romans 8:22-31 Marie Sumerel

LEADER: These are the scriptures of God for the people of Christ.

PEOPLE: May the Spirit grant us understanding.

SERMON God with Us? Trey Davis

RESPONSE from Mark 13:24-33 Phil Kirk

But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light,

And the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory.

He will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

When you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates.

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of God will not pass away.

But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.

Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come.

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT 176** Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus HYFRYDOL

During this hymn, we invite you to reflect upon your relationship with God and your commitment to Christian service. If you would like to make a commitment to Christ or to become a member of Ridge Road Baptist Church, we invite you to come forward to speak with a pastor.

***PASTORAL BLESSING** Trey Davis

As we go out into the world, we look for opportunities to share our blessings with others. If you would like to contribute to the ministry here at Ridge Road Baptist Church, offering plates are available on the altar up front for your gifts.

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** Emmanuel McGEE

Emmanuel, Emmanuel,
His name is called Emmanuel;
God with us, revealed in us:
His name is called Emmanuel.

POSTLUDE There's a Song in the Air CHRISTMAS SONG

*please stand as you are able

We welcome Steve Rose to the Ridge, and thank him for sharing his music with us today.

Foushee Prayer Requests & Praises:

Pray for the relationships that we continue to cultivate with internationals and Japanese in Kanazawa.

Continue to pray for Megumi Kindergarten at Kanazawa Baptist as it struggles with enrollment. Pray specifically that ten new students will enroll for the youngest class to begin in April.

Pray for preparations for Advent and Christmas. As Christmas approaches, new faces are often drawn to learn more about the Christian faith in both the Japanese and English services.

Thank you for joining us for the Week of Prayer for CBF Global Missions this month! We are blessed by your prayers and offerings that support CBF ministries around the world.



Our December missions project is Washington Elementary School's *Holiday Magic* program! This program allows the community to come together to make the holidays brighter for students from families experiencing financial hardships. Participating kids have provided their Christmas wish lists. Simply sign up for the gifts you would like to provide, label your **unwrapped** gifts with the student's id number, and bring them to the church office by **Sunday, December 10th**. If you prefer to donate money, please do so by **Sunday, December 3rd** so a Ridge Road Missions Elf can purchase gifts on your behalf. Let's spread some Christmas cheer!

Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F4CABAA22ABF49-46046248-holiday#/>

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Church Members:

Mary Carraway	Phil Dickens
Sharon Donnal	Betty Duke
Bob & Jane Edwards	Martha Flynn
Patricia Lynn	Linda Pleasants
Helen Pevette	Vic Rackley

Family and Friends:

Linda Creech (mother of Paige Kay)
Joel & Allison Cresimore
Linda DeSchreiver (niece of Jane Edwards)
Virginia Herran (sister of Jo Cresimore)
John & Jennifer LeMay (daughter and son-in-law of Jo Cresimore)
Ashley Lynn (niece of Patricia Lynn)
Marygena Lynn (sister-in-law of Patricia Lynn)
Martha Marcom (cousin of Patricia Lynn)
Tommy Jenkins (former member)
Patti Lingafelt (former member)
Deb Johnson

DEACON OF THE DAY

Today.....Marie Sumerel
Next Week (Dec. 10).....Liz Peacock

GIVING

Easy, Secure **Online Giving** is available on our website at www.rrbch.com. Convenient **Mobile Giving** is also available by scanning this QR code or downloading the FREE **EasyTithe** app on your smart device.



To receive our weekly digital newsletter, please email lmcoy@rrbch.com. It's the quickest and easiest way for us to let you know about all of different things going on here at the Ridge.



SUNDAY, December 3, 2023



Pastor
Dr. Trey Davis
tdavis@rrbch.com

Minister of Music
Kerry Johnson
kjohnson@rrbch.com

Office Administrator
Lois McCoy
lmccoy@rrbch.com

2011 Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27607

Church 919.787.4423
Dial-A-Prayer 919.787.8823

www.rrbch.com

Hearing assistance devices available from usher
Services are available on YouTube