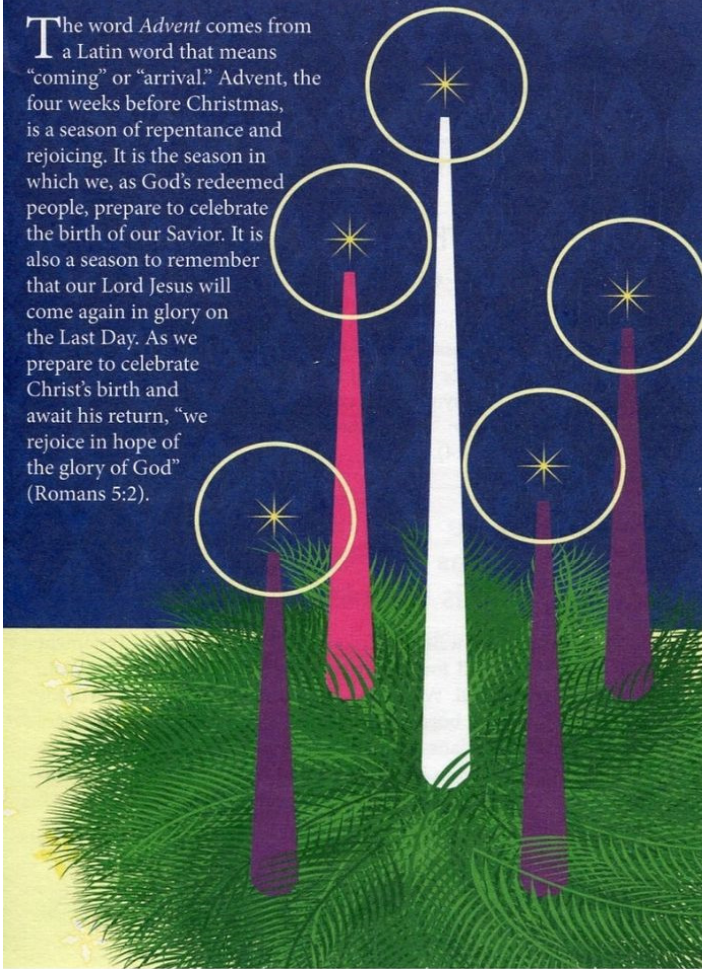


ADVENT

The word *Advent* comes from a Latin word that means "coming" or "arrival." Advent, the four weeks before Christmas, is a season of repentance and rejoicing. It is the season in which we, as God's redeemed people, prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior. It is also a season to remember that our Lord Jesus will come again in glory on the Last Day. As we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth and await his return, "we rejoice in hope of the glory of God" (Romans 5:2).



Church of the Master



Repent, for the kingdom of heaven
is at hand. - Matthew 3:2

God was coming to live among his people. John the Baptist was sent to prepare the way of the Lord. John proclaimed "a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins" (Luke 3:3). During Advent we confess our sins, acknowledging that we need the Savior born in Bethlehem. In humble repentance we prepare to welcome the Lamb of God, the Lamb who came to die on the cross as the sacrifice for the sins of the world.

The Lord reigns,
let the earth rejoice. - Psalm 97:1

During this season, at home and in church, we light candles on Advent wreaths to mark the passing weeks. The candle for the third Sunday of Advent is often a pink or rose color to represent our joyful anticipation of Christ's birth. Its symbolism comes from the Scripture reading appointed for that day: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice" (Philippians 4:4).

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has visited and redeemed
his people. - Luke 1:68

Our Advent season of waiting lasts only four weeks. The Old Testament people of God waited for centuries for the coming of the Messiah, the Redeemer of Israel. When the time was right, "God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law" (Galatians 4:4-5). During Advent, we, too, wait for the fulfillment of Jesus' promise, "Surely I am coming soon" (Revelation 22:20). As God's redeemed people, we offer up our Advent prayer, "Come, Lord Jesus!"



THE CHURCH OF THE MASTER

Reformed Church in America

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(646-321-2380) therevlaw@aol.com

WWW.COTMBRONX.ORG

*As we gather to worship on this second Sunday of Advent,
know that you're each sincerely welcomed.*

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025

11:00 AM

Silent Preparation for Worship

*During this time of Advent, God, show me how to be a messenger
of the Messiah's coming, as John the Baptist was. Amen.*

Welcome

** Hymn of Praise #181 - "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"*

** Call to Worship: (responsively)*

In Advent, we celebrate the coming of the Promised One, the One in whom dwells the spirit of God.

THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM AND UNDERSTANDING.

The spirit of counsel and might.

THE SPIRIT OF KNOWLEDGE AND AWE.

Let us bear witness to your fulfillment of this promise in Jesus, by letting the spirit that was in him be in us also. Prepare the way! The promise is come!

THE LION SHALL DWELL WITH THE LAMB!

Prepare the way! The old with the young!

A SMALL CHILD SHALL TEACH US TO STAND!

Prepare the way! Make the paths straight!

EARTH SHALL FILL HER DEEP VALLEYS!

Prepare the way! Break dark walls of hate!

MOUNTAINS SHALL FALL TO THEIR KNEES! THE WAY IS APPROACHING.

SERVANTS, KEEP WATCH. SOON WE SHALL SEE THE SALVATION OF GOD.

** Prayer of Praise and Adoration*

** Confession of Faith - Apostles' Creed (#622 in hymnal), page 5 on this PDF*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

LORD CHRIST, IN LOVE, YOU CAME TO A STABLE IN BETHLEHEM TO BECOME ONE WITH US. IN LOVE YOU WALKED THE PLAINS AND HILLS OF GALILEE AND JUDEA TO TEACH US HOW TO LIVE. IN LOVE YOU WERE NAILED ON A CROSS ON CALVARY TO BEAR AWAY OUR SIN. IN LOVE YOU ROSE FROM A TOMB IN JOSEPH'S GARDEN TO DEFEAT DEATH'S POWER OVER US. IN LOVE YOU ASCENDED BEYOND THE CLOUDS TO BE OUR REIGNING LORD. YOU CAME TO LOVE US YOURSELF SO THAT WE NEED NEVER FEEL UNLOVED, DESERTED, ALONE, CONDEMNED. WE CONFESS OUR WILLINGNESS TO BE LOVED, BUT ALSO OUR RELUCTANCE TO LOVE. WE CONFESS OUR READINESS TO ACCEPT YOUR FORGIVING LOVE, BUT ALSO OUR REFUSAL TO FORGIVE. WE CONFESS OUR EAGERNESS TO GRASP YOUR OFFER OF REDEEMING LOVE, BUT ALSO OUR RESISTANCE TO FOLLOW YOU WITHOUT QUESTION. IN THIS ADVENT TIME, FORGIVE US OUR FAILURE TO RESPOND AS WE SHOULD. COME TO US ANEW, AND BY YOUR GRACE, ASSIST US TO RECEIVE YOU WITH JOY, AS THE SHEPHERDS; WITH GRATITUDE, AS SIMEON; WITH OBEDIENCE, AS MARY; WITH LOVE. AS YOU HAVE LOVED US. EVEN SO, COME LORD JESUS. AMEN

Announcements

- * *Hymn of Preparation #319 - "Blessed Assurance"*

Advent Theme: "The Blessing Advent Brings to the Church and the World!"

Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-10 (vv.1-3,4-6,8-10);

Romans 15:4-13 (vv.4-6,7-9,11-13)

Sermon- "Advent Brings to the Church and the World Blessings of Peace and Goodwill on Earth!"

- * *Doxology (#39)*

- * *Blessing of Our Tithes and Offerings*

- * *Prayer*

Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion

Lord's Prayer

- * *Closing Hymn #321 - "It Is Well with My Soul"*

- * *Choral Benediction: "Shalom to You" (congregation)*

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.

In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

- *Benediction (Pastor)*

- * Please stand if able

Church of the Master Ministries

| | | |
|------------------|---------------|--|
| Sunday | 11:00 AM | Worship Service (Holy Communion celebrated on the 1 st Sunday of each month) |
| | 12:00 PM | "Hour of Prayer Power" in Hahn Hall. |
| Monday | 5:00-9:00 PM | Bushiken Karate |
| Tuesday: | 6:45 PM | Bible Study Fellowship (Men's Group) - contact Ed Bungert, zajdml@optimum.net |
| Wednesday | 7:00 PM | Online Bible study: Contact Ron Rivera for info on joining |
| | 5:00-9:00PM | Bushiken Karate |
| Thursday | 7:30 PM | Women's Alcoholic Anonymous |
| Saturday | 12:00 noon | Online Bible study: Contact Ron Rivera for info on joining |
| | 9:30AM-1:00PM | Bushiken Karate |

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

“Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer”

The Prayer List

Our prayers reflect a wonderful and whole-hearted commitment to intercessory prayer by this congregation. Each name will remain on the prayer list for 3 weeks.

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

Prayers for Those with Special Needs:

Diane * Elena Caldera * Anne Dowling * Jerry Kemps * Jane Maze * Donald Zuvich

Prayers for Those Who Are Ill or have Medical Concerns:

Kevin Martz * Carole Mahon * Pat * Elder Alistair Sealy * Francesca * Mike * Rev. Liz Brantum * Frank Font * Sharon Alexander * Rosa Stewart * Terry Mahon * Carol & Wally Cintron * Gene Peterson * Damon Hayden * Janet (friend of Mahon family) * Beverly Morrison * Patti Zeig * Rev. Singletary * Connie * Loretta Byrd & Wendy * Diante * Allen Ford * Alice & Alex Rivera * Arlene 'Auntie' Mayers *

Prayers for Those Dealing with Turmoil or Family Difficulties:

Donny & Carolyn Rosemond * Nancy & Gene Peterson * Barbara * Jay Escobar & family * Sharon Alexander * Damon & Alex and family * Wintress * Kiera & Avery & Martz family * Tyler, Nicole & Jackson * All caregivers * everyone battling addictions

Prayers For Those Seeking Direction/Needing God's Presence in Their Lives:

Zachariah Bungert * Ed & Marnie Reidy and their sons * Elvis Frias Sr. & Theresa * Diante Stinson * Corey Streeter * young adults

Prayers for Those Seeking Employment:

Zachariah Bungert

Prayers for World Concerns:

Concerns for job security for Federal workers * An end to the war between Russia & Ukraine and the Middle East conflict * An end to all the violence * Peace and healing in our community and the nation * All first responders * Our country's safety * The future of our churches * The President and his administration * Pastor Sohail Latif and his congregation in Pakistan * Worldwide conflicts * Sean Buckley & Katie Mahon and all active duty members & their families

Prayers for the families & friends of those who have died:

Rev. Dr. Patricia A. Sealy, Pastor of Mott Haven Reformed Church

PRAYERS FOR THE GROWTH OF CHURCH OF THE MASTER:

Lord, please send people through our doors with whom we can share the love and saving grace of Jesus Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Consistory meeting – next Sunday, December 14th.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, Dec. 24th at 7:30PM

CHURCH OF THE MASTER MISSION STATEMENT

We are a Christ-centered community church united in prayer and loving Christian fellowship, Bible teaching and preaching Christ crucified,

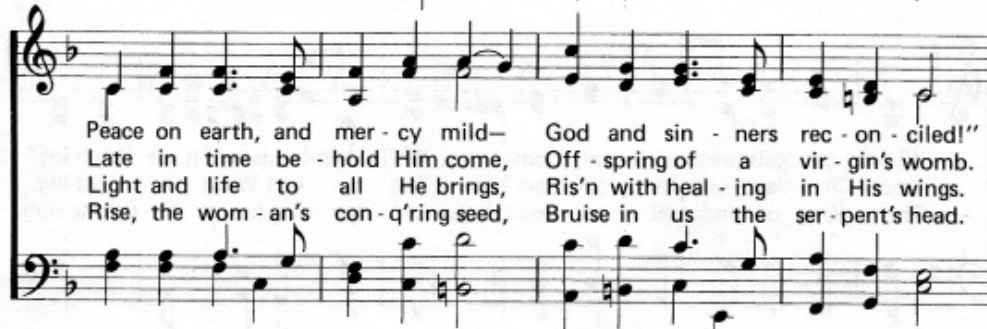
181 — Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

CHARLES WESLEY

FELIX MENDELSSOHN



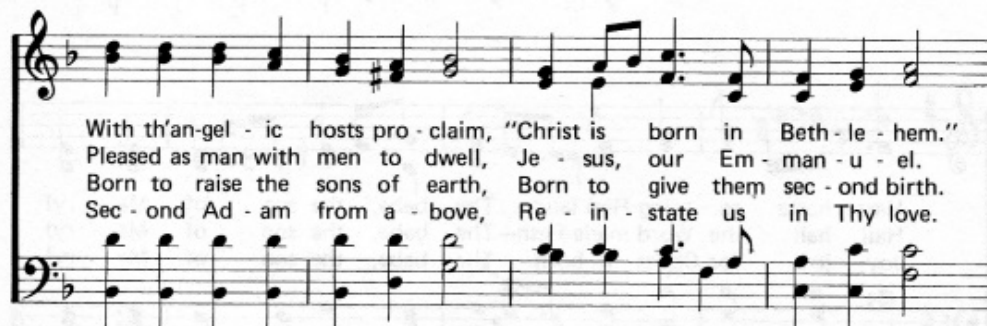
1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King;
 2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord:
 3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-eous-ness!
 4. Come, De - sire of Na - tions, come! Fix in us Thy hum - ble home;



Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild— God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.
 Rise, the wom - an's con - q'ring seed, Bruise in us the ser - pent's head.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see, Hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty!
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die;
 Ad - am's like-ness now ef - face, Stamp Thine im - age in its place:



With th'an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem."
 Pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.
 Sec - ond Ad - am from a - bove, Re - in - state us in Thy love.

Tune: MENDELSSOHN



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King!"

The Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

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

Blessed Assurance — 319

FANNY J. CROSBY

PHOEBE P. KNAPP

1. Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! O what a fore-taste of
 2. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light! Vi-sions of rap-ture now
 3. Per-fect sub-mis-sion—all is at rest, I in my Sav-ior am

glo-ry di-vine! Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God,
 burst on my sight; An-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove
 hap-py and blest; Watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove,

CHORUS
 Born of His Spir-it, washed in His blood.
 Ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love. This is my sto-ry,
 Filled with His good-ness, lost in His love.

this is my song, Prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long; This is my

sto-ry, this is my song, Prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

ASSURANCE AND TRUST

Isaiah 11:1-10 (vv. 1-3, 4-6, 8-10)
Romans 15: 4-13 (vv. 4-6, 7-9, 11-13)

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

² 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.

³ 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;

⁴ 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.

⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶ 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.

⁷ The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸ The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹ 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.

¹⁰ 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.

⁴ For 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. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ 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, ⁹ and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess ^[a] you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name";

¹⁰ and again he says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

¹¹ and again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him";

¹² and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope." ¹³ 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.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Meaning of the Sacrament,
The Invitation
Communion Prayer

The Lord be with you

AND ALSO WITH YOU

Lift up your hearts!

WE LIFT THEM UP TO THE LORD

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

FOR IT IS HOLY AND RIGHT TO DO SO

Holy and right it is, and our joyful duty to give thanks to you at all times and in all places, O Lord our Creator, almighty and everlasting God! You created heaven with all its hosts and the earth with all its plenty. You have given us life and being, and preserve us by your providence. But you have shown us the fullness of your love in sending into the world your Son, Jesus Christ, the eternal Word, made flesh for us and for our salvation. For the precious gift of this mighty Savior who has reconciled us to you we praise and bless you, O God. With your whole Church on earth and with all the company of heaven we worship and adore your glorious name.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, LORD GOD OF HOSTS! HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY, HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST! BLESSED IS HE THAT COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD, HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!

(A short period of silence and the prayer continues)

Sharing the Bread & Sharing the Cup

Thanksgiving after Communion

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

AND ALL THAT IS WITHIN ME, BLESS GOD'S HOLY NAME

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

AND FORGET NOT ALL GOD'S BENEFITS

who forgives all your iniquity,

WHO HEALS ALL YOUR DISEASES

who redeems your life from the Pit,

WHO CROWNS YOU WITH STEADFAST LOVE AND MERCY

The Lord is merciful and gracious,

SLOW TO ANGER AND ABOUNDING IN STEADFAST LOVE

God does not deal with us according to our sins,

NOR REQUITE US ACCORDING TO OUR INIQUITIES

for as the heavens are high above the earth,

SO GREAT IS GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE TOWARD THOSE WHO FEAR HIM

as far as the east is from the west,

SO FAR DOES GOD REMOVE OUR

TRANSGRESSIONS FROM US

as a father pities his children,

SO THE LORD PITIES THOSE WHO FEAR HIM

God did not spare His only son, but gave him up for us all,

and will also give us all things with Him.

THEREFORE SHALL MY MOUTH AND HEART SHOW FORTH THE PRAISE OF THE LORD, FROM THIS TIME FORTH FOREVERMORE. AMEN.

It Is Well with My Soul — 321

HORATIO G. SPAFFORD

PHILIP P. BLISS



1. When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way, When sor - rows like
2. Tho Sa - tan should buf-fet, tho tri - als should come, Let this blest as -
3. My sin— O the bliss of this glo - ri - ous tho't— My sin, not in
4. And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolled



sea - bil - lows roll— What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
sur - ance con - trol, That Christ hath re - gard - ed my help - less es - tate
part, but the whole, Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more:
back as a scroll: The trump shall re - sound and the Lord shall de - scend,



CHORUS

It is well, it is well with my soul. -
And hath shed His own blood for my soul. It is well
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! It is well
"E - ven so"— it is well with my soul.



with my soul, with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.



ASSURANCE AND TRUST