



EPWORTH REHOBOTH BEACH

Worship Order, Announcements & Prayers

Epworth.faith

Sunday, December 3, 2023



Welcome to Epworth Worship
Sunday 10 am
in-person and online

10 am [Blended Worship Order](#)
[Calendar](#) & [Announcements](#)
Prayer List
[Staff & Leadership](#)

*VISION: Explore Faith,
Embrace Community*

*MISSION: Inviting, Belonging,
Connecting, Caring*

All Means All

As a [Reconciling Ministries Network](#) congregation, we welcome all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, to share their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.



19285 Holland Glade Rd.
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971
302-227-7743 Epworth.faith



CALL HIS NAME JESUS

Shawn Craig, 1996 / Praise Team

An angel came down to a virgin
with a heav'nly word.

The name of a beautiful promise
for a fallen world.

You will give birth to a son,
the child of the most Holy One.

*And they will call Him Wonderful, Counselor,
Prince of Peace, Everlasting Father.*

*But one name will stand high
above all the rest: Jesus, Jesus.*

*There's only one name
ev'ry tongue shall confess:
Jesus, call his name Jesus.*

There's no other name that can save us,
no other name.

No other lord can redeem us; He's the only way.

For a child has been given for us,
a gift from the Father above. {Chorus}

Salvation, healing and grace
in the name above all names.

Call his name Jesus, call his name Jesus.
Jesus, Jesus, Jesus, Jesus...

WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

16th c English melody, Arr. Cathy Mocklebust

©2003 Choristers Guild / Epworth Bell Choir

What child is this who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?

*This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring Him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.*

Why lies He in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christians, fear, for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading. {Refrain}

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come peasant, king, to own Him;
the King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone Him. {Refrain}

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

JESUS COME, BE BORN ANEW

An Advent Hymn for a Hurting World

Mark Gruber-Lebowitz, 2023 / J. G. Warner's *Choralbuch*, 1815

**Jesus come, be born anew
for a world adrift from You.**

**Call our hearts to watch and pray
for a righteous Christmas Day.**

**Now our journey has begun
to Your manger, blessed One.**

**We await Your birth this year
midst a time of dread and fear.**

**On our streets, as bullets fly,
in the crossfire young ones die.**

**Come to shatter hearts of stone;
Arm us with Your love alone.**

Nations battle over land;

Bombs are dropped, revenge is planned.

Soldiers and civilians fall,

Your beloved, one and all.

**Christ our brother, Prince of Peace,
bid all warring madness cease.**

**Words as well are weaponized
to defame and demonize**

race or creed that's not our own;

Love unlike the kind we've known.

In Your coming, let us find

You in all of humankind.

Now Your Advent people call:

"Be reborn within us all.

Live in all we strive to do,

waging peace to honor You.

Make us partners in the birth

of Your kin-dom here on earth!"

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Waiting for Hope: This morning we light the first Advent candle—the candle that traditionally stands for hope. We want to hope. But it's hard. The world around us is desperate for the bare minimum—for knowing where the next meal is coming from, for assurance that our democracy will hold, for peace.

We are a practical people—a realistic people. We know what we're up against. We know not to set ourselves up for disappointment.

And yet, our faith calls us to a radical, shocking, unrealistic, and reckless hope. A hope for more.

More than enough—abundance!

More than stability—thriving!

More than a ceasefire—true and lasting justice and peace!

This morning we light this fragile flame as we wait for a hope that seems out of reach, trusting in a God who promises to be within our reach. Always.

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Come, Emmanuel

Come and speak to us, come and renew us,
come and live through us, Emmanuel.

Grace to implore us, ever before us,
come and restore us, Emmanuel.

Come, Emmanuel; come, Emmanuel.

Come, Emmanuel; come, Emmanuel.

Kid's Time

Joy Gordy-Stith

Announcements

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

Lesson: *Isaiah 64:1-9*

Scott Button, reader

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence— as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence.

From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways.

But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself, we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.

We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name or attempts to take hold of you, for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

May this scripture inspire us all...

§ to walk in the way that leads to life.

A Prayer for Advent

Joseph M. Martin, 2009

Chancel Choir

Veni, veni, Emmanuel. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Veni, veni, Emmanuel. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Deliver us from doubt and fear.

Grant us joy and peace.

Restore our hope, redeem our hearts.

Let our sorrows cease.

Let all our bitterness and hate

surrender to your loving way,

O veni, veni, come, Emmanuel.

Veni, veni, Emmanuel. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Veni, veni, Emmanuel. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

Our longing hearts are waiting Lord,
waiting in the night.

Let all the clouds of sin and shame
give way to truth and light.

Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease.

Fill all the world with joy and peace.

O veni, veni, come, Emmanuel.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Come, O come, Emmanuel.

Prayer

Scott Button

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

French Carol / Arr. Kathleen Wissinger

Epworth Bell Choir

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in His hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
in the body and the blood;
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.

Prayer of Confession / Words of Assurance

The Great Thanksgiving

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.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to You,
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth...

...And so, with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed are those who come
in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

...as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died; Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

...Through your Son, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory are Yours, Almighty God,
now and forever. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Spoken

~Music During Communion~

O Magnum Mysterium

Tomás Luis de Victoria, 1572

Chancel Choir

**O great mystery, and wonderful sacrament,
that animals should see the newborn Lord,
lying in a manger! O blessed virgin,
whose womb was worthy to bear
the Lord Jesus Christ. Alleluia!**

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

GIVE THIS CHRISTMAS AWAY

Matthew West & Sam Mizell ©2009 Simple Tense Songs
Praise Team

**What if I told you, you had the pow'r
to give someone hope
beyond their wildest dreams?
What if I told you it's right there
in your hands, in your hands?
It's hard to imagine how something
so small can make all the difference,
Tear down the tallest wall.**

*What if December looked different this
year?*

*What if we all just give this Christmas
away?*

*If there's love in your heart,
don't let it stay there.*

*Give this Christmas away,
and your life will be changed
by the gift you receive
when you give this Christmas away.*

**It's feeding the hungry, serving the poor.
It's telling the orphan,
"You're not forgotten anymore."
It's doing what love does,
even when no one's watching you.**

*Give this Christmas away.
If there's love in your heart,*

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*don't let it stay there.
Give this Christmas away,
and your life will be changed
by the gift you receive
when you give this Christmas away.*

For God so loved the world
that he gave us all His Son,
So we could be His hands, His feet,
His love, His love.

What if I told you,
you had the pow'r to give someone hope
far beyond their wildest dreams?
What if December looked diff'rent this
year?

*Yeah, what if we all
just give this Christmas away?
If there's love in your heart,
don't let it stay there.
Give this Christmas away,
and your life will be changed
by the gift you receive
When you give this Christmas away.
Give this Christmas away.
You have the power, just give it away.
Give Christmas away.
Give it away.
Give Christmas away.*

For God so loved the world
that he gave us all His Son,
So we could be His hands, His feet,
His love, His love.

What if I told you,
you had the pow'r to give someone hope
far beyond their wildest dreams?
What if December looked diff'rent this year?

*Yeah, what if we all
just give this Christmas away?
If there's love in your heart,
don't let it stay there.
Give this Christmas away,
and your life will be changed
by the gift you receive
When you give this Christmas away.
Give this Christmas away.
You have the power, just give it away.
Give Christmas away.
Give it away.
Give Christmas away.*

Joys and Concerns for your prayers this Week of December 3, 2023

Sympathy

To family and friends of Donna Hitchens who passed away Tuesday, November 21.

CONCERNS:

People in conflict of Israel and Gaza Strip

People of Ukraine

Deaf People of Ukraine

Cody Arbuthnot

David Bendekovits

Cathy Benson

Jason Bezman

Brad Bingaman

Annabelle Boire

Diaz Bonville

Andy Brangenberg moved to PAM

The Browning Family

Diane Bruce

Tim Bush

Judy Buchanan

Miles Carhartt

Sylvia Clair

Kris Coch

Lou Ann Daniels

Max Dick

Jeanne Drake

Jennifer Eden Family

David Caffier

Sylvie Drew

Andrea Esarey

Dorothy Fedorka

Carol Fehrenbach

Darlene Ford

Marion Ford

Michael Frome

LeAnne Funk

Tom Groff

Jim Handy

Susan Hargrave

Elizabeth Hart Family

Joan Heckel

Kathy Hill

Ray Hilt

Barb Hoffman

Mickey Hoffman

Carolyn Horn

Lorraine Hudson

Deb Hunt

Carol Davis Garber

Janet Idema

Kara

Ted Kerwin

Chole Kincaid Kream

Nancy Lathbury

David & Sue Laverty

Duncan Leet

Cary Lewis

Tyler Lewis

Robert Lewis

Lorretta Mahan

Jerry Mahon

Ryan Martin

Steve Meadors

Jack Mears

Missy Merring

Brenda Milbourne

Laura Miller

Payton Miller

Joy Mitchell

Karen Mitchell

Ann Paulen

Ron Paxton

Leslie Petty

Glenn Pierce

Bruce Powell

Annette Predeaux

Presley

Constance Quillen

Barbara Simpson

Joanne Smith

John Riley Spillane

Vernon Redding

Charlie Reynolds

Carl Richards

Beth Rinker

Betty Robbins

Sandy Roca

Caitlyn Roche

Wilmarie Rodriguez

Sandi Russell

Dorothy & John Sadler

Irene & Tom Saffrit

Mark Saunders

Ed Scarborough

Dianne Shearon

Susan Shollenberger

Linda Simms

Henry Simpson

Michael & Anna Skiles

Fred and Sharyn Smith

Ray Sonderfan

Rob Socorso

Paul Streit

Scott Strickler

Michael Stugard

Mark Thompson

Beth Toney

Renee Toney

Susanne Truitt

Harvey and Peggy Waltersdorf

Amy Wall

Wanda Walton-Hummel

Tim Weschler

Michael Wills, Sr

Carol Wine

Dan Wine

Jack Witmer

Denise Wolfe

Charlotte Woods

Claire Worrall

Susan Yates
Jean Young

More Names on Back of Paper

Continued Prayers for those in Assisted Living,
Homebound, Hospice or in Long Term Care

Donna Blomquist, The Moorings
Ann Chambers, The Moorings
Leon Cromer, Harbor Health
Carolyn Robinson-Brandywine
Linda Rooney
Quinn Smith
Elaine Trexler

Servicemen/Women:

Michael Sakurai Wills, US Army Ft. Jackson, Alaska
Hailye Wilson, USCG Key West
Luke Wilson, USCG Key West
Zeb Wilson, Travis AFB
Jacob Hudson, Quantico
Andrew Hudson, UT ROTC
Michael Stugard -Depoloyed

College Students

Autumn Reynolds-Cedar Crest College
Kristina Alexander, UD
Cole Thomas Juliano, Elon
Wade Stout-
Alex Tamburello, Delaware College of Art and Design
Thomas Vyas, Delaware Tech
Griffin Barrows, Marist

Epworth Ministry Organization



Staff & Leadership

Church Office: 302-227-7743 (plus extension)

Lead Pastor: [Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith](#) (x102)

Pastor of Community & Communication:

[Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith](#) (x103)

Minister of Music: [Doug Yetter](#) (x106)

Caring Minister: [Mickie McManamon](#) (x104)

Belonging Minister: [Gwen Osborne](#) (x108)

Youth Minister: [Joy Gordy-Stith](#)

Minister to Deaf and Hard of Hearing: [Sandy Roca](#)

Preschool Director: [Betsy Plowman](#) (x107)

Administrative Assistant: [Barbara Kurtz](#) (x100)

Bookkeeper: [Darlene Ford](#) (x105)

Scheduling/Rentals & DOVs: [Susan Jimenez](#)

Facilities Manager: [John Hilt](#)

Cemetery Superintendent: [Jay Stevenson](#)

Governing Board Chair—Linda Kauffman

Lay Leader—Todd Popham

Finance Chair—David Hagelin

Staff-Parish Relations Chair—Sandy Pierce

Board of Trustees Chair—Bunny Maher

Inviting Leadership Team

(Inclusive Ministries, Food Ministries, Ecumenical/Interfaith, Social Justice)

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith and Bob Joynson

Belonging Leadership Team

(Small Groups, New Members/Belongings, Sunday School, Youth & Adult Groups)

Gwen Osborne, Linda BenderHilt, Loretta Mahan, Cathie Lewis and Teri Moore

Connecting Leadership Team

(Worship, Music, Arts)

Doug Yetter and Murray Archibald

Caring Leadership Team

(Missions, Pastoral Care Team, Care Ministries)

Mickie McManamon, Dee Speck and Holly Reynolds

Attendance last weekend, November 26, 2023

10:00	Livestream	ASL	SS	Total
236	246	8	16	482

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