



EPWORTH REHOBOTH BEACH

Worship Order, Announcements & Prayers

Epworth.faith

Sunday, December 08, 2024



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



~ *We Gather in Worship* ~

Christ is Come

*Michael Weaver, ©2004 Open Worship Music, Inc.
Praise Team*

The word of the prophets, centuries old,
the birth of Messiah has been long foretold.
That unto you, now unto you Christ is come.

*Let all creation sing. God's own Son,
oh, hail the newborn King.
The Word made flesh
now dwells among us. Christ is come!*

Those born in darkness have seen a great Light.
The Redeemer of our hearts has been born this night!
That unto you, now unto you Christ is come.

{Repeat Chorus}

Prince of Peace, Yeshua, Messiah, Son of Man,
Holy One, King of kings,
Lord of lords, the Great I Am,
Comforter, Counselor, Author and Finisher,
Divine Truth Revealer, Deliverer, Healer,
You are God!
Jesus, You are God! Christ is come. *{Repeat Chorus}*

TAG: Christ is come!

God is On the Move

*Cliff Williams, Ian Eskelin, Mikey Howard, & Tony Wood ©2015
Wordspring Music
Chancel Choir / Praise Team*

Anytime a heart turns from darkness to light,
anytime temptation comes
and someone stands to fight,
anytime somebody lives to serve and not be served,
I know, I know, I know, I know:

*God is on the move, on the move, Hallelujah!
God is on the move in many mighty ways.
God is on the move, on the move, Hallelujah!
God is on the move, on the move today.*

Anytime in weakness someone falls upon their knees
or dares to speak the truth that sets us free,
anytime the choice is made to stand upon the Word,
I know, I know, I know, I know: *{Repeat Chorus}*

I see a generation standing on the truth.
In each and ev'ry nation, God is on the move.

Anytime the gospel stirs a searching soul,
and someone says, "Send me. Here I go."
I know, I know, I know, I know:
{Repeat Chorus twice}

I see a generation standing on the truth.
In each and ev'ry nation, God is on the move.

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Vicky Gordy-Stith

Give This Christmas Away

*Matthew West & Sam Mizell ©2009 Simple Tense Songs
Praise Team / Chancel Choir*

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

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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,
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 different 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.*

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Making Way for Peace: This morning we light the second Advent candle—the candle that traditionally stands for peace. We ache for peace. Peace in our world. Peace our family. Peace in our hearts. And yet, there seems to be so much that stands in the way of that peace.

We know that peace will not happen accidentally. It must be an investment and worked towards intentionally. Barriers that stand in the way of peace must be systematically deconstructed to pave the way for a peace that lasts, a peace with justice.

The ancient teachings of our faith recognize that the way must be prepared. The playing field must be leveled. And it all starts with a brave voice. A voice willing to cry out even in the midst of the wilderness.

This morning, we light this tenacious flame as we commit to the work ahead, trusting that with God's help we might make a way. A way for peace.

Come, Emmanuel

Once mercy found us, still you astound us,
hold and surround us, Emmanuel.

Living inside us, faithful to guide us,
cover and hide us, Emmanuel.

Come, Emmanuel; come, Emmanuel.

Come, Emmanuel; come, Emmanuel

Kid's Time

Announcements

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

Blessed Be the God of Israel

Michael Perry, 1973 / Hal H. Hopson, 1983

Blessed be the God of Israel,
who comes to set us free,
who visits and redeems us and grants us liberty.
The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release.
God shall fulfill the promise
to bring our people peace.

Now from the house of David
a child of grace is given.
A Savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven.
Before Him goes the herald, forerunner in the way,
the prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.

On prisoners of darkness the sun begins to rise,
the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes,
to guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace.
O bless our God and Savior
with songs that never cease!

Prayers of the People

Scott Button

You are the God in whom we take refuge:
We pray for all who have been cast off,
cast into the darkness of the sea.

You are the God in whom we take refuge:
We pray for all who walk in darkness,
mourning for family and longing for home.

You are the God in whom we take refuge:
We pray for those oppressed by conflict,
refused safe passage and the refuge they need.

You are the God in whom we take refuge:
We pray for victims of violence,
those confined in refugee camps,
downcast souls, disquieted by questions,
we refuse to be silent.

You are the God in whom we take refuge.
Be our hope and our help
as we seek to provide the answers
of welcome and hospitality,
of peace and justice for all. **Amen.**

And now we sing the prayer that Christ taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

Sung Responsively

Lesson: *Luke 1:68-79*

Kathryn Burgwin, reader

“Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his child David, as he spoke through

the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors and has remembered his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness in his presence all our days.

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. Because of the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to shine upon those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.”
May this scripture inspire us all...

§ to walk in the way that leads to life.

When Will Messiah Come?

*Joseph M. Martin – from Journey of Promises
Chancel Choir Anthem*

Almighty God, we cry to You;
when will Messiah come?
When will You wipe our tears away?
When will Messiah come?
Spirit of truth, we call unto You;
when will Messiah come?
When will our sorrow turn to joy?
When will Messiah come?

O come, O come Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel.
O come, O come Emmanuel.
O come, come, come Emmanuel.

Lord of the promise, hear our plea;
when will Messiah come?
When will we greet Emmanuel?
When will Messiah come?
When will we greet Emmanuel?
When will Messiah come?

Prayer for Our Pastor Kathryn Burgwin

Sermon Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

15th Century Plainsong / harmonized by Thomas Helmore, 1854

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel shall come to Thee, O Israel.

O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree,
an ensign of thy people be;
the captives from their prison free
and conquer death's deep mystery. *{Refrain}*

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
our spirits by Thy justice here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadows put to flight. *{Refrain}*

O come, Desire of nations bind
all peoples in one heart and mind.
From dust Thou brought us forth to life;
deliver us from earthly strife. *{Refrain}*

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Light of the World

Lauren Daigle, Paul Duncan, & Paul Mabury

©2013 Sony ATV Timber Publishing

Praise Team / Chancel Choir

The world waits for a miracle,
the heart longs for a little bit of hope,
O come, o come, Emmanuel.

A child prays for peace on earth,
and she's callin' out from a sea of hurt,
O come, o come, Emmanuel.

And can you hear the angels singing...

Glo-o-ry to the light of the world.

Glo-o-ry the light of the world is here.

The drought breaks with the tears of a mother,
a baby's cry is the sound of love,
come down, come down, Emmanuel.

He is the song for the suffering,
He is Messiah, the Prince of Peace has come,
He has come, Emmanuel, oh...

Glo-o-ry to the light of the world.

Glo-o-ry to the light of the world.

Glo-o-ry to the light of the world.

Glo-o-ry to the light of the world.

For all who wait, for all who hunger,
for all who've prayed, for all who wonder.

Behold your King, behold Messiah,
Emmanuel, Emmanuel.

Glo-o-ry to the light of the world.

Glo-o-ry to the light of the world.

Glo-o-ry to the light of the world.

Behold your King, behold Messiah,
Emmanuel, Emmanuel.

The world waits for a miracle,
the heart longs for a little bit of hope,
O come, o come, Emmanuel.

Annual Worship Theme September 2024—August 2025

Hospitality
[Hebrews 13:2](#)



Joys and Concerns for your prayers this Week of December 8, 2024

SYMPATHY

CONCERNS

All those effected by the devastation of hurricanes

People in conflict of Israel and Gaza Strip

People of Ukraine

Deaf People of Ukraine

Nicole Anderson

Zach & Emma Anderson

Cody Angstadt

Joey Augustine

*Michael Beigay

James Belknap

David Bendekovits

*Cathy Benson

Linda Bingnear

Gary Bodmer

Robert Bodner

*Janine Bond

*Jeff Bond

*Andy Brangenberg

Sue Brenton

Diane Bruce

*Tim Bush

David Caffier

Colson Cleaver

Mary Jane Colgan

Ian Cooper

Angela Cregar

*Ruth Ann Curley

Laurene Dalpezzo

Karen Donahoe

*Jane Drapper

Alan Dzilak

Mya Douglas

Ginny Downs

Ayva Dudley

*Jennifer Eden Family

Blaine Fasnacht

*Roni Fiedler

Finn

Marion Ford

Luna and Nathan Franco

Dayna Fuller

Fran Garside

Linda Fink Gregory

Dayna Faller

Ezra Groff

*Tom Groff

Mark Gruber-Lebowitz

*Clella Harp

Linda Hartlove

Dahlia Hill

Kathy Hill

Ray Hilt

Barb Hoffman

Connie Hoffman

Mickey Hoffman

Kate Howells

Wayne Hudson

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Bonnie Hudson
Lorraine Hudson
Eric Johnson
*Sandra Kennedy
Matthew Kenworthy
Mary Ellen King
Martha Kotch
*Charles LoPresto
*Loretta Mahan
Donald Mahon
Jerry Mahon
Sean and Adrienne McCullough
Kaitlyn McCutcheon
Patrick McManamon
*Jan and Marv Malone
*Frances Mason
Bob Mazur
Michie Mader
Karen Monahan
Aviana Aurora Montano
Jack O'Day
*Bob Paulen
*Ron Paxton
*Sandy & Glenn Pierce
Richard Pioli
*Dan Potts
*Annette Predeaux
Constance Quillen
Frank Quillen
Frank Riley-Spillane
Beth Rinker
Pete Roche
*Gary Ralph
Jana Raup
Judy Reich
*Bill Robbins
*Alyse Rogers
John Ruff
*John Sadler
*Irene & Tom Safrit
*Carl Schloegel
*Fred and Sharyn Smith
*Loretta Smith
Ron Soltes
Ray Sonderfan
Steve
*Scott Strickler, moved to Texas
*Cheryl Tarlecky
*Mark Thompson
Ryan Talumello
Dean Tibbetts
Mike Tibbetts
Mike & Erin Tibets
Rene Toney
Nancy Trinkley
*Susanne Truitt
Becky Vye and Family
Lee Ann Walling
*Peggy Waltersdorf
Hudson Walton
Donald Walton
Debbie Webber
*Tina Whaley
Michael Wills, Sr
*Carol Woodcock
*Charlotte Woods

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*Claire Worrall
*Michelle Yates
*Jean Young

***Church Members**

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
*Dan Wine
*Janet Yabroff
Jamie Bradley

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

College/Grad Students

*Autumn Reynolds-Grad Student Cedar Crest College
*Kristina Alexander, Grad Student Western Governor's U
Callie Juliano, U Conn
Cole Thomas Juliano, Elon
Noah Ryan, Delaware Tech
*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](#)

Office Manager: [Tammy Zhang](#) (x100)

Facilities Manager: [John Hilt](#)

Kitchen Sexton: [Maureen Knesel](#)

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

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—[Dee Speck](#)

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

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](#)