



EPWORTH REHOBOTH BEACH

Worship Order, Announcements & Prayers
Epworth.faith

Sunday, December 7, 2025

Psalm 72
**AND JUSTICE
FOR ALL**
December 7, 2025

JESUS &
HUMAN
DIGNITY



Welcome to Epworth Worship
Sunday 9:50 am
in-person and online

9:50 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 ~

He Has Come for Us

Jason Ingram & Meredith Andrews ©2010 Sony / ATV Publishing
Praise Team

God rest ye merry, gentlefolk,
let nothing you dismay.

Remember Christ our Savior
was born on Christmas day
to save us all from Satan's pow'r
when we were gone astray.

Oh, tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy.

Oh, tidings of comfort and joy.

He has come for us, this Jesus,

He is hope for humankind.

*He has come for us, the Messiah,
born to give us life.*

From God, Creator of us all,
a blessed angel came,
and unto certain shepherds
brought tidings of the same:
how that in Bethlehem was born
the Son of God by name.

Oh, tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy.

Oh, tidings of comfort and joy. *{Repeat Chorus}*

All the angels sing,
"Hallelujah! Jesus Christ is born!"

All the children sing,
"Hallelujah! He is Christ the Lord!"

He has come for us, this Jesus,

He's the hope for humankind.

*He has come for us, the Messiah,
born to give / us life.*

All the angels sing, "Hallelujah!
Jesus Christ is born!"

All the children sing,
"Hallelujah! He is Christ the Lord!"

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

Based on the poem "Christmas Bells" - Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 1863
Additional Music and Lyrics by Mark Hall & Dale Oliver
Praise Team / Chancel Choir

I heard the bells on Christmas day,
their old familiar carols play.
And mild and sweet their songs repeat
of peace on earth, good will to all.

And the bells are ringing, "Peace on earth!"

Like a choir they're singing, "Peace on earth!"

In my heart I hear them,

"Peace on earth, goodwill to all."

And in despair I bowed my head.
"There is no peace on earth," I said.
"For hate is strong, and mocks the song
of peace on earth, goodwill to all.

But the bells are ringing, "Peace on earth!"

Like a choir they're singing, "Peace on earth!"

Does anybody hear them?

"Peace on earth, goodwill to all."

Then rang the bells more loud and deep:
"God is not dead, nor does God sleep."

[peace on earth, peace on earth.]
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail,
with peace on earth, goodwill to all!"

Then ringing, singing on its way,
the world revolved from night to day.
A voice, a chime, a chance sublime
of peace on earth, goodwill to all.

And the bells, they're ringing, "Peace on earth!"
Like a choir they're singing, "Peace on earth!"
And with our hearts we'll hear them,
"Peace, peace on earth, goodwill to all."

Do you hear the bells, they're ringing,
"Peace on earth!"
Like the angels singing! "Peace on earth!"
Open up your hearts and hear them,
"Peace, peace on earth, goodwill to all.
Peace on earth, peace on earth.
Peace on earth, goodwill to all."

Welcome Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Announcements Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

Glory (Let There Be Peace)

Matt Maber, Rachel Taylor Popadic, & Chris Stevens

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Praise Team

**One star burns in the darkness,
shines with the promise: Emmanuel.**

**One child born in the stillness,
living within us: Emmanuel.**

We're singing glory, glory;
let there be peace, let there be peace.
Singing glory, glory;
let there be peace, let it start in me.

**One voice speaks for the voiceless,
hope for the hopeless: Emmanuel.**

**One love bring us together,
now and forever: Emmanuel. {Repeat Chorus}**

Do not be afraid,

His love is strong enough to save us.

Nothing stands in the way,

His love is strong enough to lead us. {Repeat section}
{Repeat Chorus twice}

TAG: Let there be peace, let it start in me.

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

We dream God's dream, of a world at peace
Where enemies are reconciled, and children play in safety;
Where the poor and powerless find justice.

We remember God's promise of a Ruler of Peace,
Filled with the Spirit of God, of wisdom and understanding,
Of counsel and might, of justice and faithfulness.

Hear the words of the psalmist...

Lesson: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 Laurie Kuebler, reader

Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to a king's son.

May he judge your people with righteousness
and your poor with justice.

May the mountains yield prosperity for the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
May he defend the cause of the poor of the people,
give deliverance to the needy,
and crush the oppressor.
May he live while the sun endures
and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.
May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass,
like showers that water the earth.
In his days may righteousness flourish
and peace abound, until the moon is no more.
Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
who alone does wondrous things.
Blessed be his glorious name forever;
may his glory fill the whole earth.

Amen and Amen.

May this scripture inspire us all...

§ to walk in the way that leads to life.

Dear God,

As we journey down this Advent road,
grant us the courage to make peace.
Peace in our hearts,
Peace in our homes,
Peace in our communities. Amen.

Bring Peace

Congregational Hymn

**We pray for peace, God, in our streets,
where neighbors fear to travel.
Let gunfire end, our ways amend,
let violence unravel.**

*Bring peace to every mind,
and heal all wounded humankind.
Bring peace to every heart,
as people of one Maker.*

Kid's Time

People of Promise

Joseph M. Martin, 2009

Chancel Choir Anthem

**People arise! Prepare the way!
Let your music greet the day.
Let all the earth break forth with singing.
Let all the mountains and valleys start ringing.
People arise and share the news:
"Christ the King is coming soon!"**

**People arise and wake the dawn!
Shout for joy! Break forth in song!
Prophets foretold the wondrous story.
Angels will tell of His infinite glory.
People arise and share the news:
"Christ the King is coming soon!"**

**Hark, a thrilling voice is sounding.
"Christ is nigh," it seems to say.
Cast away the works of darkness,
O ye children of the day!
Honor, glory, might and blessing,
praise the coming of the Son.**

**People rise, your Light has come.
Come all people, arise! Arise!
People arise! People arise! People of promise, arise!**

People arise and greet the morn!
Soon a Savior will be born.
He is the Hope of every nation.
All in Him shall find salvation.

People arise and share the news:
"Christ the King is coming soon!"
People arise! People of promise, arise!

Prayer for Our Pastor Laurie Kuebler

Sermon Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

View the Present Through the Promise

Thomas H. Troeger, 1994 / Traditional Welsh melody

Congregational Hymn

**View the present through the promise,
Christ will come again.**

**Trust despite the deepening darkness,
Christ will come again.**

**Lift the world above its grieving
through Your watching and believing
in the hope past hope's conceiving:
Christ will come again.**

**Probe the present with the promise,
Christ will come again.**

**Let Your daily actions witness,
Christ will come again.**

**Let Your loving and Your giving
and Your justice and forgiving
be a sign to all the living:
Christ will come again.**

**Match the present to the promise,
Christ will come again.**

**Make this hope Your guiding premise,
Christ will come again.**

**Pattern all Your calculating
and the world you are creating
to the advent you are waiting:
Christ will come again.**

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,

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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.**

*And now with the confidence of the Children of God,
let us speak the prayer Christ taught us:*

The Lord's Prayer

Spoken

Music during Communion:

A Little Child Will Come to Lead Us

Don Besig and Nancy Price, 1992

Chancel Choir

A little child will come to lead us;

the prophets have foretold.

A little child will come to lead us;

A miracle will unfold.

**One cold and wintery evening a star will shine above,
and a little child will come to lead us with His love.**

O Come, O come Emmanuel.

The promise of your advent we retell.

We need the joy and peace you will bring,

and long to hear the song the angels sing.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel;

Come live with us that we may know you well.

A little child will come to lead us;

the world awaits that night.

A little child will come to lead us

and darkness will turn to light!

The joyful alleluias will ring in heaven above;

and a little child will come to lead us with His love,

with His love.

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith

Light of the World

Lauren Daigle, Paul Duncan, & Paul Mabury

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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...

{Chorus 2x}

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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
Nov. 30, 2025 - Jan. 4, 2026

Jesus & Human Dignity
Advent-Christmas Series



Joys and Concerns for your prayers this Week of December 7, 2025

SYMPATHY

CONCERNS

Those impacted by shootings
People in conflict of Israel and Gaza Strip
People of Ukraine
Deaf People of Ukraine
Arletta
Marie Ahern
Zach & Emma Anderson
Matias Baker
*Cathy Benson
Michael Bedard
*Jeff Bond
Brint and Lynne
Brooke and Ralph
*Tim Bush
Dave
David Caffier
Sr. Christine Carrigg
*Rob Cline
Donna and Bill Crnkovich
Renee Downs
*Jane Drapper
*Jennifer Eden Family
Carilyle Erich
Deb Ferlitto and Mother
Coleson Alexander Fillmore
Marion Ford
Carol Anne Fowler
Sterling Green
*Tom Groff
Toni Groff
Jerich Hasieber
Kathy Hertley
Martha Kallaher
Mark Gruber-Lebowitz
*Jimmy/Linda Hess
Ray Hilt
Connie Ann Holms-Tatom
*George Leet
*Donna Lipscomb
Logan
Bob Luedel
Janis Lunn
*Loretta Mahan
Patrick Mahan
Donald Mahon
Jerry Mahon
*Stephanie Manos
Larry Mazzoni
Sean and Adrienne McCullough
Kaitlyn McCutcheon
Mo Madden
*Marv Malone
Bob Mazur
Josh Mikalowski
*Dotti Outland
*Ron Paxton
*Sandy & Glenn Pierce
Quinn Family

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*Janene Riley-Spillane-Surgery
*Bill Robbins
Bill Roche
Emmalea Ruff
John Ruff
*John Sadler
Jean Safrit
*Irene & Tom Safrit
*Carl Schloegel
*Loretta Smith
Owen Thompson
Beth Toney
Rene Toney
Steven Trantum
Lee Ann Walling
Peggy Waltersdorf
Hudson Walton
Donald Walton
*Deb Weber
*Suzanne Weidner
Wendy
*Tim Whaley
*Tina Whaley
Michael Wills, Sr
*Lynne Wilmer
*Carol Woodcock
*Charlotte Woods
*Claire Worrall
*Tom Worrall
*Michelle Yates
*Linda Miniscako & Jeanne Drake
Don Ziegler

***Church Members**

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

*Jean Young Palliative Care
Melba Bengston, Hospice @ Home
*Ann Chambers, The Moorings
Leon Cromer, Harbor Health
Ken Gilson- Hospice Vermont
*Nancy Hecker Hospice Salisbury
*Debra Leiss -Hospice Home
Gary Ralph, Polaris Milford
*Linda Rooney
Fred and Sharyn Smith
Quinn Smith
Elaine Trexler
*Janet Yabroff

Servicemen/Women:

Michael Sakurai Wills, US Army Ft. Jackson, Alaska
Hailye Wilson, USCG Mobile, AL
Luke Wilson, USCG Pascagoula, MS
Zeb Wilson, Travis AFB, CA
Jacob Hudson, USMC Camp Pendleton, CA
Andrew Hudson, US Army, Ft. Bliss, TX

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, UD

Noah Ryan, Delaware Tech

*Thomas Vyas, UD

Griffin Barrows, Marist

Grant Barrows, UNC Charlotte

Hunter Zhang, UD

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)

Bookkeeper: [Bryan Warner](#) (x105)

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—[Tom Lewis](#)

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

Inviting Leadership Team

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

[Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith](#) and [Mike Tyler](#)

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](#)