

HYMN: *“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”*

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 you, O Israel.

O come, O Wisdom from on high, embracing all things far and nigh: in strength and beauty come and stay; teach us your will and guide our way. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times you gave the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Most merciful god, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN #239: *“Hark, The Glad Sound!”*

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



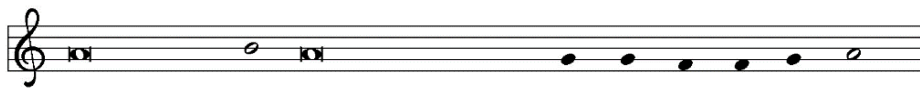
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: *Isaiah 7:10-16*

An Israelite and Aramean military coalition presented a serious threat to King Ahaz of Judah. In response, Ahaz decided to secure his throne and kingdom by seeking Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign that is the only source of true safety: Immanuel, God is with us!

(See back page for Reading)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

SECOND READING: *Romans 1:1-7*

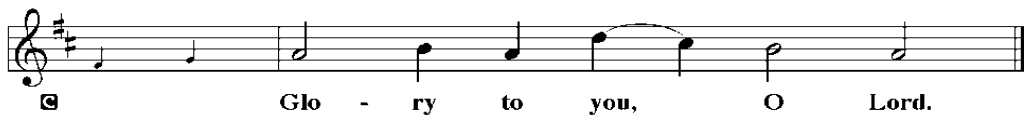
Most of the Christians in Rome do not know Paul. In this letter's opening he introduces himself as an apostle divinely appointed to spread God's gospel. The gospel's content is the promised coming of Christ, and Paul's mission is to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations, including his Roman audience.

(See back page for Reading)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

CHOIR HYMN: "Every Valley" (by Joseph Martin)

P The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 1st chapter.



GOSPEL: *Matthew 1:18-25*

Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."

(See back page for Reading)

P The gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY #254: *“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”*

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN #241: *“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

- P** Let us pray. God of all creation,
- C** all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 and ever. **Amen.**

COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us thy peace, grant us thy peace.

After all have communed:

P Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN #259: *"Fling Wide the Door"*

SENDING

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

WELCOME TO RESURRECTION!

Christmas Poinsettias: If you would like to purchase a poinsettia to adorn the sanctuary at Christmas, please pick up a form in the narthex (or see last week's email) and return it with payment to the office (or place in the offering plate). Plants are \$20 each. Forms are due today!

Children's Chapel: Our Children's Chapel meets during the 10:00 a.m. service utilizing StoryMakers NYC zines. We read the story and retell it by playing all the parts, putting ourselves in the narrative and responding with creativity through art! We finish with prayer and a snack and head back to church just in time for communion. Please encourage and invite your friends or family with kids to join us.

Christmas Eve Services

6:00 - Family Candlelight Service with youth performing (*Nativity in a Bag*)

9:00 Traditional Candlelight Service

Youth Fundraiser: From now until December 25, choose an envelope from our wooden board outside, fill it with the dollar amount provided on the envelope, then put the entire envelope (with cash or check) in the offering. If all 140 envelopes are filled, we will raise \$10,000 for our student trip to Japan in 2026.

New Members: If you are interested in becoming a member of Resurrection, please contact Susan in the church office at 714.962.5005, or at office@lcrhb.org. We will be receiving new members early in the new year.

End-of-Year Giving: Now is a great time to consider a year-end gift to LCR! If you have a Mandatory Minimum Disbursement from an IRA or a 401K, stocks, bonds or other investments, please consider giving to our church to help us continue our work for God in Huntington Beach and beyond. Information on LCR's stock account can be found in the narthex or from Susan in the office.

2025 Giving: Please make sure that all donations to be credited for 2025 are in the office no later than Sunday, December 28.

Navigation Center: We will be serving lunch at the Navigation Center on Christmas Eve, from 11-1 (set up will begin at 10:30); we invite you to join us as we help in making this a festive time for the residents.

Monday Morning Bible Study: Bible study meets each Monday at 10:00 in T. Hall. We are studying the Gospel of Matthew. Everyone is invited.