



# ECHOES

Drawing near to God to  
make and equip disciples  
and to live as faithful  
followers of Christ.

THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

DECEMBER 2020

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## From The Rector

Rev. Catherine Tatem

### Rejoice

It feels good to be part of something new right now; at this time, we start the new year in the life of the church. In the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> centuries, Advent was a time of baptismal preparation, marked by fasting and prayer. Baptism would take place on Epiphany, January 6, of each year. Part of Advent waiting, then, involves repenting of our sins and turning back to Jesus, with a special twist. These four Sundays leading up to Christmas are a time of waiting and **joyful** expectation. We are waiting for the Christ child to be born, and we are waiting for him to return. Advent is joyful because we await our Savior! Advent is joyful because in repenting, we turn back to life with Jesus, shedding those things which weigh us down along the way.

Our fervent Advent prayer is “Maranatha,” come, Lord Jesus, and is the prayer of the early Church after Christ’s resurrection. We are joined together as Christians past and present in this powerful cycle of prayer and waiting. How is it that we will wait?

Many families choose to mark the Advent season with some special traditions. Read daily prayers from the Prayer Book, Forward Day be Day, or an Advent devotional; there are many choices. It is customary to have an Advent wreath in your home and to light the candles during the season. Advent wreaths became part of church tradition in Germany in the year 1839.

The original wreath had twenty red candles and four white candles; red for each day, and white for each Sunday leading up to Christmas. Today we count down with purple or blue candles, and one rose candle on our brief respite from the serious nature of our Advent preparations.

Rejoice, we say, rejoice!

The greenery on the wreath represents everlasting life, the circle that God’s love for us is never ending. In addition to counting the days, the candles signify the light of Christ, ever growing in our life and hearts; the first light, a flicker, then a stronger light each week until, finally, we see the bright white candle of Christmas, of Christ. May it be so in our lives as well as in our worship.

Immanuel means “God with us,” and just as important as preparing for baby Jesus is to rejoice that Jesus is with us even now. “O come, O come, Immanuel” is a meaningful hymn for our Advent time; the words are words of exile – “who mourn with lonely exile here,” – and hope – “until the Son of God appear.” Rejoice! Rejoice!

As our pandemic “exile” rages, whisper, sing, or shout:

*Maranatha! Immanuel!  
Rejoice!*

In Christ,  
Catherine+



## Vestry Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the monthly Vestry meeting can be found posted on the bulletin board outside the office.

## Seasons Greeting: Say "Yes"!

If you stepped out of your comfort zone this year at Redeemer and said "Yes!" when asked to serve in some capacity, be thankful. Reflect on the experience and 95% of the time you will conclude you got more out of it than you put into it. The remaining 5% of the time might mean you didn't give it your best shot and are feeling a bit guilty about it! I don't know. I've read that saying "No" when asked to serve others is a way to avoid the unfamiliar or the possibility of failure. Could be, but it is nice to set aside some time just for yourself to do whatever you want, right? There's nothing wrong with that, but birthdays, anniversaries and holidays do give us time to reflect...and take stock of things.

I read somewhere that "Today you're a boy catching frogs in the marsh or a girl catching fireflies at dusk and tomorrow you're an old man or old woman listening to stories told by other old men or old women." What happens between those two bookends of life is the opportunity we're given. It seems timeless, but

it's not, so we need to listen up and think hourglass.

The pandemic has been a jangling wake-up call that has gotten our attention in a big way, though thankfully a vaccine(s) is coming. Another less jolting but nonetheless serious wake-up call is what we recall about our life between the bookends. What a wonderful gift we've been given in the form of the Church of the Redeemer. Hope springs eternal here no matter what and it's an absolute foundation of rock we can stand on, count on and share with others...plus, there's plenty of room for all here!

Think about what we can do for ourselves and for others at Redeemer and rejoice this holiday season and beyond. With Mother Catherine at the helm and each of us front and center, it truly makes for a fulfilling Thanksgiving and Merry, Merry Christmas!

-Bill Heizer  
Senior Warden



### United Ministries Coat Drive

United Ministries is collecting coats for its annual coat giveaway until Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. You may bring them to the Administrative Building, 606 Pendleton Street, 8am – 5pm Mon – Thurs. and from 8am – noon on Fridays.

They are collecting:  
men's and women's all weather coats – lots of large sizes; good, clean children's coats; men's gloves and hats.

**Many thanks for your help.**



## Church Email address...

The parish administrator email has been selectively returning emails back to the sender.

If you have experience this issue, please accept our apologies.

We are working on the problem.

To reach the Sue without a technical issue please use the email address:  
[corgsc29605@gmail.com](mailto:corgsc29605@gmail.com).

## Samaritan House

We are collecting **Canned Tomatoes** for Samaritan House this month.

Your generosity in providing food for others is greatly appreciated!!!  
 Thank you!



## Finance Committee

The Finance Committee will meet via Zoom on **MONDAY**, December 14, 2020, the second Monday of the month

Financial Corner through OCT 31, 2020	
Total Tithes & Offerings	
Budget	\$ 224,991
Actual	\$ 203,803
Difference	\$ (21,188)
Faith Offering (Included in above)	
Budget	\$ 13,342
Actual	\$ 6,670
Difference	\$ (6,672)
Questions? Contact the treasurer or wardens.	

Be sure to use **AMAZON SMILE** and let Redeemer benefit from your online purchases.

Use this link to register:

[Smile.Amazon.com/ch/57-0347692](https://www.amazon.com/ch/57-0347692)

And Support Redeemer as your charity of choice!



120 Mauldin Road  
 Greenville, S.C. 29605  
 864.277.4562

Sue Bannio, *Parish Administrator*  
 Lori Hawkins, *Director of Youth & Family Ministries*  
 Sue Bannio, *Bookkeeper*

Gabriel Santamaria, *Sexton*

## Vestry Members

**Rev. Catherine Tatem - Rector**

Bill Heizer (2021) - *Senior Warden*  
 Jason Houston (2020) - *Junior Warden*  
 Annette Burdette (2022) - *Worship*  
 Dinah Johnson (2021) - *Pastoral Care*  
 Robin Mill (2022) - *Outreach & ARCUM*  
 Jason Houston (2020) - *Buildings & Grounds*  
 Rebekah Webb (2021) - *Finance*  
 Daniel McCullough (2022) - *Communications*  
 Katie Broderick (2020) - *Christian Ed*  
 Debbie Bauer (2020) - *Stewardship*  
 Greg Brown (2022) - *Membership*  
 Bill Heizer (2021) - *Fellowship*  
 Judy Planck (2020) - *Worship*  
 Rebekah Webb - *Treasurer*  
[rwebb5476@gmail.com](mailto:rwebb5476@gmail.com)  
 Stephany Austell *Clerk*

***The Vestry meets the third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.***

*Minutes are posted on the bulletin board outside the Parish Administrator's office.*

## Echoes

Is a monthly newsletter of The Church of the Redeemer,  
 Deadline for submissions is the 22nd of each month.

Submit written info to the church office,  
 email to Sue Bannio – [parishadmin@corgsc.org](mailto:parishadmin@corgsc.org)

## Christian Education

It is the most wonderful time of year! Have you already decorated for Christmas? You do not have to look far to see Christmas trees twinkling in windows and inflatables scattered throughout the neighborhood. We can all agree that this year everyone could use some sparkly lights and extra cheer.

Does this mean we are skipping Advent and going straight to Christmas? I don't think so. I think it means we are getting ready. We are getting ready for the most magnificent gift, the baby Jesus born to us all!

Just imagine, the virgin Mary nine months pregnant and Joseph taking the long journey through the desert to get to a town just to be counted. They finally reach the town with dusty tired feet, hungry, thirsty, wanting nothing more than to lay their heads down and rest, but there is no room for them anywhere. They continue on and finally come to a barn with a cow and some sheep, and I'm sure there were some smells (no smells that any very pregnant woman wants to ever be around much less have to sleep near!) Joseph gathers up some hay and makes a place for them to rest. It is a clear and quiet night, other than the occasional moo or baa. They too are all waiting though they do not yet fully understand why.

My prayer for all of us is to find the moments of quiet each day and to live fully in the waiting of the season of Advent. The waiting can look like many things: decorating the tree, lighting the Advent wreath, watching your favorite Christmas movie you've seen a hundred times, enjoying a cup of hot chocolate or coffee in the quiet or chaos of the moment. There is much Joy and Peace in the waiting, and you don't have to look extremely hard or far to find it. He was given to each of us long ago and remains with us always. May His light shine even brighter in us this Advent and Christmas.

God's Peace and Blessings,

Lori Hawkins

lhredeemer@gmail.com

864-360-5845

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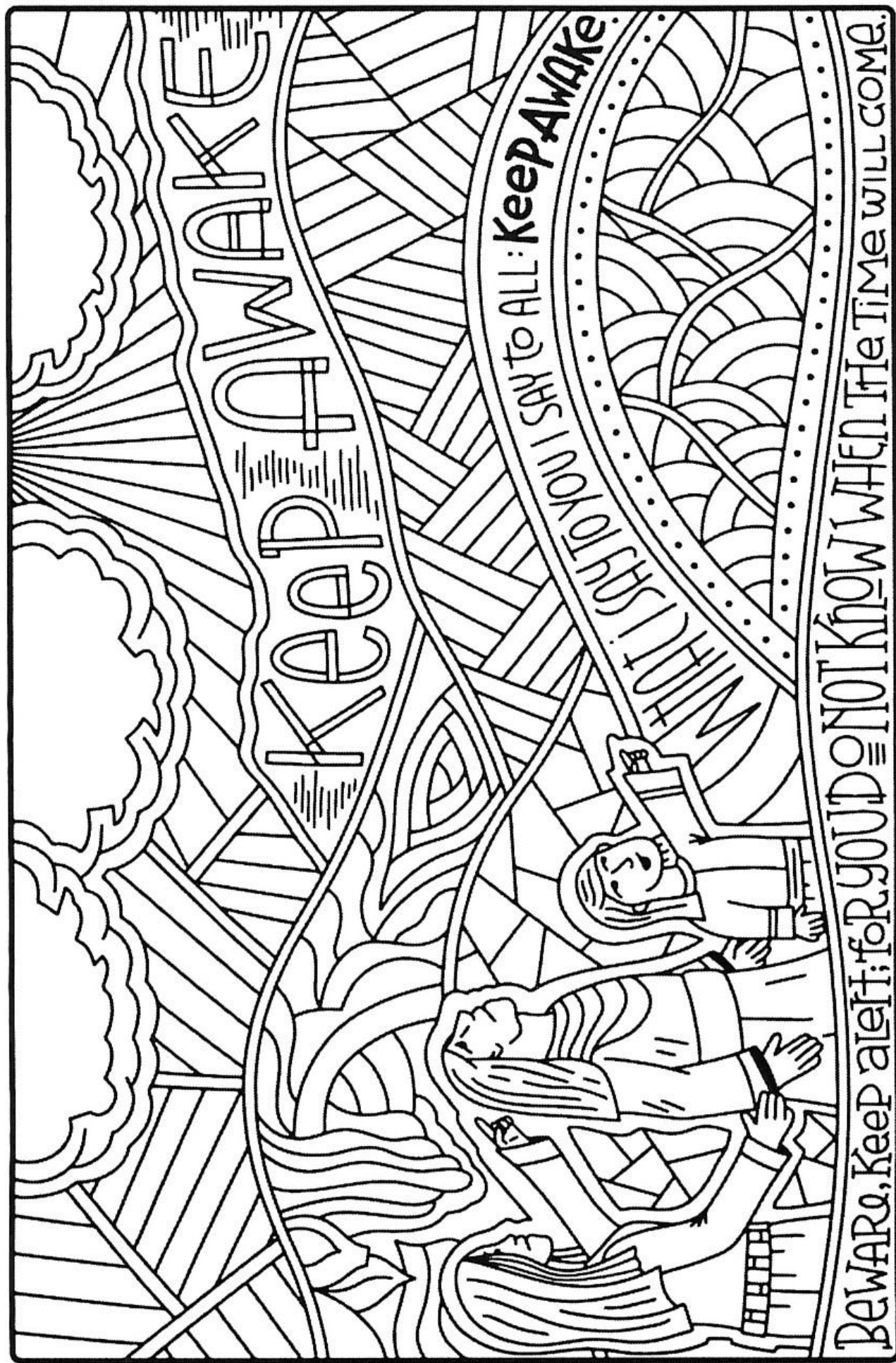
### Reverse Advent Calendar

We are creating "Reverse Advent Calendars" by collecting food items to restock, especially important after the holiday rush. Choose your own favorites (all non-perishable staples) or use this list as a guide. Collect each day or in bulk. Any size collection will be appreciated.

Dec 1	package of oatmeal	Dec. 13	bag of rice
Dec 2	peanut butter	Dec. 14	canned tomatoes
Dec. 3	boxed potatoes	Dec. 15	package of pasta
Dec. 4	macaroni and cheese	Dec. 16	spaghetti sauce
Dec. 5	canned peaches or pears	Dec. 17	chicken noodle soup
Dec. 6	applesauce	Dec. 18	tomato soup
Dec. 7	canned sweet potatoes	Dec. 19	jar of jelly or Nutella
Dec. 8	boxed cake mix and icing	Dec. 20	canned mixed fruit
Dec. 9	boxed brownie or cookie mix	Dec. 21	canned corn
Dec. 10	bag of dry beans	Dec. 22	canned green beans
Dec. 11	box of crackers	Dec. 23	box of cereal
Dec. 12	canned tuna	Dec. 24	buyers delight (you choose!)

We encourage you to bring your gifts to our Christmas Eve services or drop off anytime in the food collection bins in the Narthex. All items will be delivered shortly after Christmas to Samaritan House. Questions? Contact Lori.





Did you know that coloring with crayons improves the dexterity of your fingers and strengthens your hands?  
Enjoy this fun advent coloring page. Color this page and send a photo to Lori at Redeemer.

## Worship Update

We are worshipping inside! At this time, a maximum of 60 people may meet inside for worship services: 48 in the nave and 12 in the transept, and the doors in between are open, creating a large, open space.

Attendees are doing a great job in adjusting to new pew configurations, social distancing, and wearing masks. We will continue to monitor the rate of Covid-19 positive tests and other health indicators in order to provide as safe an environment as we can.

Please remember to sign up in order to attend so that we consecrate enough bread and do not exceed our occupancy guidelines. Sign up via Sign-Up Genius from Redeemer's website: [www.corgsc.org](http://www.corgsc.org). You may sign up here to be an usher or lector; we are in need of these volunteers each week. Many thanks for your generous ministries to the church.

## Kindness Matters

One of our neighbors wants her 7 year old grandson's heart to be kind. She baked some delicious muffins and had him deliver them to various neighbors. Mac came to our door with some muffins and sweetly but emphatically said he was practicing kindness. We firmly believe that random acts of kindness are so inspiring to our world.

We were so impressed by his enthusiasm and kind little heart.

- Annette Burdette

**Our beautiful Thanksgiving Altar.  
Thank you to everyone who contributed.**



Photo by David Poleski



Photo by Louise Heizer



Photo by David Poleski



## Join us for CHRISTMAS SERVICES

**Christmas EVE**

**Thursday, December 24**

**11:00 am Service with Holy Eucharist**

**6:00 pm Service with Holy Eucharist**

**Christmas Morning**

**Friday, December 25**

**Facebook Live**

**Christmas with Rev. Catherine**



Thanks to your generosity, \$300.00 was collected for the Thanksgiving baskets!

This allows us to reach three families in our congregation to be sure they have a lovely Thanksgiving dinner, and a gift card allowing them to make additional purchases to stock their pantries. Redeemer's love and compassion for one another comes shining through again!

Thanks, too, to Mother Catherine, Robin Mill, Stephanie Austell, and Sue Bannio for assisting with this project.

May we all have a blessed Advent and Christmas. Stay healthy and let me know if the church can assist you in any way.

Dinah Johnson  
Pastoral Care

## Transportation



There have been requests from time to time for parishioner transportation needs (attend the Sunday and Wednesday church services, pick up prescriptions, doctor office visits, to and from hospital or doctor's office for treatments).

Pastoral Care is looking for both those individuals who have such needs, which would normally be short term, but could be long term and those who could provide transportation to fill such needs.

If you feel that this might be a ministry that could help you or the Lord is calling you to help with, please contact one of the following:

**Carol Hallman** (Transportation coordinator -  
864.244.0867, [cphallman@yahoo.com](mailto:cphallman@yahoo.com))

**Greg Brown** (Pastoral Care Leader –  
864.346.9124: cell/text,

## Samaritan House

Samaritan House has seen a marked increase in clients in the last few weeks. We are steadily approaching the 150 mark, with many elderly clients. We have seen several clients recovering from COVID-19 and many more who are unemployed or underemployed.

Please keep Samaritan House in your prayers. We are ever thankful to The Church of the Redeemer for providing monthly financial assistance and for our Director, Steve Fior.

We are presently in need of help on Tuesday mornings to do some heavy lifting and packing of the food that comes from Harvest Hope.

To help, drop by

**2723 Augusta  
St. Greenville**

on Tuesdays  
at 9:30am.





**ALL ARE  
WELCOME!**

**WHEN: 4:00PM-6:00 PM, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2020**

**WHERE: OUTSIDE ON REDEEMER GROUNDS**

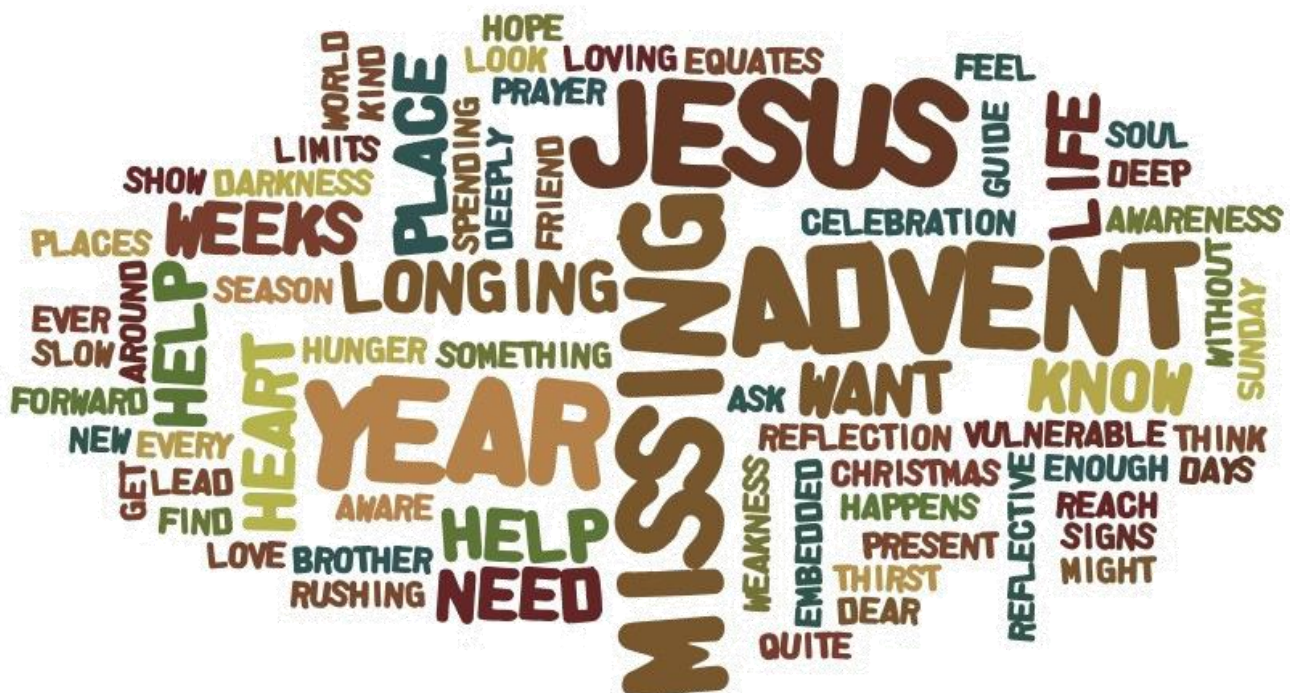
## PARTY PLAN:

## DECORATE THE GROUNDS

## REFRESHMENTS & CAROLING TO FOLLOW

## TO SIGN UP:

- ◆ **Select an area to decorate on the drawing in the Narthex & Sign your name**
- ◆ **Bring decorations with you on Dec. 13 that you can leave at the Church until January 1, 2021 – no inflatables.**
- ◆ **The Church will provide music and refreshments**
- ◆ **Bring your best masked smiles and safe practices**
- ◆ **Wear warm Christmas attire**







## Advent Religious Education

All the youth of Redeemer will be celebrating Advent and Christmas in the church with us. There will be no separate youth Christian education classes so that they can enjoy and be part of the worship services each week.

### **Join us in December for our ADVENT on-line bible study!**

A special study during Advent for all adults in our parish community.

We will Zoom together every Wednesdays of Advent starting at 6:30pm for Evening prayer. Advent Bible study will immediately follow.

Everyone is welcome!

To receive the zoom link email Rev. Catherine Tatem: [revctatem@gmail.com](mailto:revctatem@gmail.com)



## **The Year in Review**

We are coming to the end of 2020. To say it was an unusual year is the understatement of the decade. There was such an interruption of our weekly participation in worshipping the Lord. No touching, no hugging, no face to face meetings. Be sure to wipe down an area you may have touched and wash your hands frequently! Don't forget to wear a mask!

WOW!! All of these new things going on!

But, The Church of the Redeemer met this challenge beautifully!

The first step was recording Morning Prayer to be shown on our website or on You Tube. This is available every Sunday.

After the Bishop allowed more people to be in attendance at Sunday services, we began having Holy Eucharist. The pews have stickers to show how many people can sit there. There are also some pews that are blocked off. We are now up to 48 people in the church with another 12 in the transept. It is necessary to reserve a seat before Sunday using Sign Up Genius or calling the church office (277-4562).

There are other opportunities to stay connected. There is Adult Christian Education, Evening Prayer, and Bible study on Zoom. These are offered on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 6:30. If you wish to participate, email Rev. Catherine to receive the Zoom link ([revctatem@gmail.com](mailto:revctatem@gmail.com)).

We are looking forward to the time we can be back together~~smiling, touching, and hugging.

Stay safe and wear a mask!!

Love y'all!!

Judy Planck



## December Readings

Date	1st Reading	Psalms	2nd Reading	Gospel
Dec. 6	<i>Isaiah 40:1-11</i>	<i>Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13</i>	<i>2 Peter 3:8-15a</i>	<i>Mark 1:1-8</i>
Dec 13	<i>Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11</i>	<i>Psalms 126</i>	<i>1 Thessalonians 5:16-24</i>	<i>John 1:6-8, 19-28</i>
Dec 20	<i>2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16</i>	<i>Psalms 89:1-4, 19-26</i>	<i>Romans 16:25-27</i>	<i>Luke 1:26-38</i>
Dec. 27	<i>Isaiah 61:10-62:3</i>	<i>Psalms 147:13-21</i>	<i>Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7</i>	<i>John 1:1-18</i>

## Server Schedule

Date	Time	Lector 1	Lector 2	Altar Guild
Dec. 6	9:30 AM	Youth Reader	Wallace Lightsey	Stephany Austell Debbie Price Janet Poleski
Dec 13	9:30 AM	Youth Reader	Bill Lee	Judy Planck Stephany Austell Tracy Butchko
Dec 20	9:30 AM	Youth Reader	Katie Houston	Margie Hankinson Debbie Price Judy Derrick
Dec. 25	11:00 AM	Youth Reader	Judy Planck	Margie Hankinson Cindy Wilson Judy Planck
Dec. 25	6:00 PM	Youth Reader	Robin Mill	Margie Hankinson Judy Derrick
Dec. 27	9:30 AM	Youth Reader	Phyllis Webb	Stephany Austell Cindy Wilson Joanie Mullins

**We need your help at every service.**

Counters (Jane Bouton) Ushers (Jason Houston)  
 Vergers/Acolytes (Wallace Lightsey) Lectors (Judy Planck)  
 Altar Guild (Margie Hankinson) Flower Guild (Lauren McCullough)

Be sure to let us know you are ready to serve. **We need YOU!**

Contact the lead, or call the parish office to volunteer.



## December Birthdays & Anniversaries





1 Judy Planck	10 Janet Poleski	22 Carolyn McCullough
4 Lori & Josh Hawkins	12 Samantha Warren	23 Kevin Hayes
4 Patrick Pryor	13 Ellison Christie	24 Frances Steele
4 Margaret White-Howard	13 Heather Johnson	25 Evan Zeager
4 Andrew Reardon	14 Beth Plante	28 Sandy & Greg Brown
8 Clark Jernigan	15 Lori Hawkins	28 George Poleski
8 Earlene Nall	22 Betsy Chiles	29 Judy Derrick
		30 Cindy Wilson

We apologize if your birthday or anniversary does not appear.  
 Please notify parishadmin@corscg.org to update our records.

# December

# 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			2 9:30am Morning Prayer  12 pm AA (Purser Hall)  6:30PM ADVENT Bible Study on zoom	3	4 OFFICE CLOSED	5 11 am AA (Purser Hall)
6 <b>Advent Week 2</b> 9:30 am Worship & Holy Eucharist  1:00 pm Hispanic Services	7 12 pm AA (Purser Hall)  6:00 pm ACOA 7:00 pm ALANON  <b>6pm Finance Meeting</b>	8	9 9:30am Worship & Holy Eucharist  12 pm AA (Purser Hall)  6:30PM ADVENT Bible Study on zoom	10	11 OFFICE CLOSED	12 11 am AA (Purser Hall)
13 <b>Advent Week 3</b> 9:30 am Worship & Holy Eucharist 1:00 pm Hispanic Services	14 12 pm AA (Purser Hall)  6:00 pm ACOA 7:00 pm ALANON  <b>6:30pm Vestry Meeting (zoom)</b>	15	16 9:30am Morning Prayer  12 pm AA (Purser Hall)  6:30PM ADVENT Bible Study on zoom	17	18 OFFICE CLOSED	19 11 am AA (Purser Hall)
20 <b>Advent Week 4</b> 9:30 am Worship & Holy Eucharist  1:00 pm Hispanic Services	21 12 pm AA (Purser Hall)  6:00 pm ACOA 7:00 pm ALANON	22	23 No Service 12 pm AA (Purser Hall)  6:30PM ADVENT Bible Study on zoom	24 <b>CHRISTMAS EVE</b> <b>11:00am Service</b>  <b>6:00 pm Service</b>	25 <b>Christmas Day</b> with Rev. Catherine online	26 11 am AA (Purser Hall)
				The Parish Office will close at noon on Dec. 24		
27 9:30 am Worship & Holy Eucharist  1:00 pm Hispanic Services	28 12 pm AA (Purser Hall)  6:00 pm ACOA 7:00 pm ALANON	29	30 No Service  12 pm AA (Purser Hall)	31 <b>NEW YEARS EVE</b>   <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!</b>		





# The Church of the Redeemer

120 Mauldin Road  
Greenville, SC 29605

864.277.4562

[www.corgsc.org](http://www.corgsc.org)

Parish Office: [parishadmin@corgsc.org](mailto:parishadmin@corgsc.org)

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CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND



***Come Join Us!***  
***Everyone is welcome to join us***  
***Sundays at 9:30 am for Worship***  
***or Wednesdays at 9:30 am***  
***PLUS***  
***Find us on Facebook!!***