



ECHOES

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

THE CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

DECEMBER 2022

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From The Rector

Rev. Catherine Tatem

Happy New Year!

On Sunday, November 27, 2022, churches worldwide welcomed a new year, one that begins with the first Sunday in Advent. Advent is celebrated the four Sundays and weekdays before Christmas. Advent is our new year!

I have been reflecting on the practice of living a lectionary, faith-based year.

Where might I encounter or meet God in this practice? First, the seasons of the church year reflect the life and ministry of Christ. As a Christ follower, it is important for Jesus to speak into my life, day by day, year by year. I will not recognize Jesus in others if I do not know Jesus in myself. How is Jesus speaking to me today? Who's biblical voice is in front of me, and what might that person have to say? These are questions of reflecting on the bible, of finding my place in the grand arc of creation and new life.

I appreciate the season of Advent, of starting over when the world seems to have gone wild. Black Friday, which seemed to encompass the month of November this year, Cyber Monday, Giving Tuesday, schedules to see Santa and friends, and trying to make a whole month magical ring false in my ears.

That I can walk intentionally through this time is a gift. Light a candle. Sit in its light, and do the same tomorrow. Yes, I'll decorate a tree, recounting memories from each ornament, and in the practice of decorating overall. Something special is coming! Advent is our preparation for something grand and holy. I love some quiet, joyful preparation. And I'll sing along to some Christmas music, too. We have a gift in the season of Advent, our countdown to encountering Jesus in the flesh once again.

Moving forward, the church or liturgical year is divided into two halves. The first half of the liturgical year is focused on the life of Christ; the second, on the life of Christ's body, the church. Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost all occur in the first half of our year. Within this expanse of time we have cycles of preparation, repenting, and rejoicing. Pentecost, the pouring of the Spirit upon the people, dismisses us, if you will, into ordinary time. "Ordinary" time, so called because we number/order the weeks, focuses on living into a Christ-like life, through which we have just journeyed, in our daily lives.

Wow – we do all that? Yes, friends, we do. Marking and living into liturgical times puts Jesus in front of us every day, in every season, on every calendar. Each season offers a way to grow spiritually. For example, in Advent we prepare to welcome Jesus the baby, God incarnate, and to welcome Jesus into our hearts once again. We birth Christ anew each year, imprinting Jesus on the whole of our lives. In Epiphany, we carry the light of Christ into the world, practicing living in the way of Jesus in places other than the church. How will we shine Christ's light this year? We can be as bold as the magis, or as quiet as a mouse in the manger. Each way allows us to encounter Christ in a different way, and to carry Jesus into all of life.

I invite you to encounter Jesus with me once again, over and over. Prepare in this season with joy and wonder. As Advent fades and the light of Christ bursts into our world in a manger, sing praises. Although we say it at Easter, I think I'll say it this Christmas Day, too: Welcome happy morning!

In Christ,
Catherine+



From the Sr. Warden:

As the year draws to a close and Christmas rapidly approaches, I just want to take this opportunity to say thank you! Thank you for all the love and support you all have shown me this year. It has been an honor serving as your senior warden. I hope I was able to fulfill your expectations, if only slightly. I wish everyone a peaceful advent and pray for a wonderful Christmas celebration. I know this season is extra special this year for my family. Just as Mary and Joseph were preparing for the coming of Jesus, Cayce and I are taking in every moment as we prepare to welcome our first child in March. There is still much work to be done, but it is pleasant work indeed. All the blessing to you and yours; and I look forward to seeing what 2023 has in store for our Redeemer family!

Daniel McCullough
Senior Warden



#GOD with US

**Join us for
CHRISTMAS SERVICES
Christmas EVE
Saturday, December 24
6:00 PM Service**

**Christmas Morning
Sunday, December 25
9:30 AM Service**

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
No Christian Education



What do we need?

Someone presented me with a thought, philosophy, on what is needed to feel whole. And although I don't remember who it was, I assigned it to the ideas of Carl Jung.

The proposal is that to feel whole, mentally well, fulfilled, you need three things: purposeful work or activity, a group of friends, and a close significant other. These were thought to be needed for mental health. It was proposed that without one of these, you can get along, feel ok-but not great. Without two, you become quirky, like the person that lives for their job only, or is just a party animal. Without all three you will be institutionalized.

It struck me that Redeemer can provide all three of these things you need. God can be your significant other. Confiding in Him and sharing in His love, can fill this need. Love God with all your heart, soul, and mind.

Redeemer is known for its friendly people. It does provide for the need of a circle of friends. You care about them and they you. Love your neighbors as yourself.

Redeemer can provide you with many opportunities for mission and service. You don't need money as your score card for being purposeful. Throw yourself into something, whether it be for the maintenance or improvement of our church community, (in-reach) or something needed in the world, (outreach). Take care of my sheep.

Wishing you good mental health, especially in these seasons of Advent and Christmas.

See you in church.
Rick

First Sunday of Advent at Church of the Redeemer: making Advent wreaths and decorating the Chrismon Tree.

Praise be to God!



Christmas Party

December 11, 2022

3 to 6 PM

**The Jernigan's house
710 Crescent Avenue
Greenville**

Bring anything you want to share!



Vestry updates:

On November 20, 2022, at a special meeting of the congregation, a quorum being present, The Church of the Redeemer elected four people to three-year terms on the vestry:

***Jane Bouton
Jim Briggs
Kathryn Ethridge
David Poleski***

We thank them for agreeing to serve in this important role in the life of the church. Thank you, and welcome!

Prior to this meeting, the following people joined the vestry to fill unexpired terms:

Jack Blackburn, Meg Coffey, Cynthia Eason, Celia Jernigan.

Thank you, thank you!!

Reflections from the Altar Guild

We have welcomed a new member to the Altar Guild: Edie Parrott. Edie brings a raft of knowledge from other altars she has served, and we are most happy to have her join us. We are fortunate to have our ten women, plus one man to hang the high things!



This is a busy time for the Altar Guild in preparing the Lord's Table for services. You may have noticed that the altar and hangings were white for Christ the King Sunday, the last Sunday of our long, green Pentecost season. Then on the following Sunday, the First Sunday of Advent, we changed to blue. Many of us remember when the Advent color was purple. The expectant color of Mary (blue) is being used in more and more churches during Advent. Advent is still a season of reflection and preparation, not as soberly penitential as Lent. The altar will stay blue for the four Sundays of Advent, and then go to white for our Christmas services.

The Advent Wreath appears near the baptismal font on the first Sunday of Advent. You will note that there are three purple/blue candles, one pink, and a center white. The Advent wreath is our countdown to Christmas Day, and representation of the ever-expanding light of Christ. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday of Advent, sometimes called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means joy, and it comes from a beginning antiphon in an older service. The third Sunday is a time to take a bit of a break from the dark days of Advent. Watch for special vestments and even altars flower on this day.

Community Outreach Update:

Redeemer's Community Outreach has been very active and helpful showing our love to our neighbors this year. From a week long VBS for the young people of Pleasant Valley Connection to raising \$689 for our Thanksgiving altar. The money given was enough to provide meals for 96 families.

We will again be helping our Pleasant Valley Connection neighbors for Christmas this season. There will be an angel tree in the narthex with information about children in their program. Pick an angel and sign the sheet, purchase your gift(s), and bring them wrapped to place under the tree. Let's have a bare tree and an abundance of beautifully adorned gifts for the children of Pleasant Valley Connection!

From Robin Mill



From Lori:

Angel Tree

This year's angel tree will benefit the children of Pleasant Valley Connection (PVC.) PVC is an after school and summer program for low-income families. This year we are sponsoring 12 children for Christmas. If you would like to participate, simply take an angel off the tree in the Narthex.



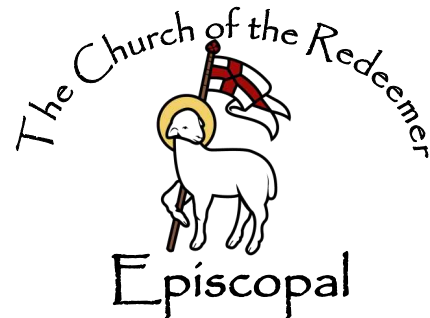
Make sure to sign out your angel on the sheet provided. **Return your wrapped gifts on or before December 11.**

Please have your angel tag attached to the gift. Place a check on the sign up sheet that you have turned in your gift.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!

THE LECTIONARY:

We move Sunday to Sunday in the church through a 3-year cycle of bible readings, labeled Years A, B, and C. Daily bible readings have a two-year cycle, Year 1 and Year 2. We have just begun Year A for Sundays and Year 1 in the daily readings. These readings compromise “the Lectionary,” and many mainline churches follow this same pattern. When we worship on Sundays, we join a multitude world-wide hearing the same bible verses and psalms. On weekdays we join others in the same way. With daily and Sunday readings, we read about 90 percent of the gospels, 72 percent of the New Testament overall, and roughly 13.5 percent of the Old Testament in that three year cycle. Over our lifetimes, with consistent daily and Sunday reading, the bible is embedded into our lives. Today, we can find readings in the physical bible, on websites, in audio files and free podcasts. Consider beginning a practice of reading or hearing the lectionary, and set aside time for it each day. When you fall behind, as we might, begin again. And again.



120 Mauldin Road
Greenville, S.C. 29605
864.277.4562

The Rev. Catherine Tatem - Rector

Lori Hawkins, *Director of Youth & Family Ministries*
Deborah Dunlap, *Parish Administrator*
Gabriel Santamaria, *Sexton*

Vestry Members

Daniel McCullough (2022) - *Senior Warden*
Betty Boesch (2023) - *Junior Warden*
Jack Blackburn (2023)
Annette Burdette (2022) - *Grounds*
Meg Coffey (2024)
Cynthia Easton (2023)
Celia Jernigan (2024)
Robin Mill (2022) - *Outreach*
Rick Hankinson (2024) - *Outreach*
Greg Brown (2022) - *Membership*

Rebekah Webb - *Treasurer*
rwebb5476@gmail.com
Jack Blackburn - *Assistant Treasurer*
Debbie Price - *Clerk*

Echoes:

a monthly newsletter from
The Church of the Redeemer.

- Deadline for submissions is usually the 22nd of each month.
- Submit written information to the parish administrator at corgsc29605@gmail.com.

Pondering Gratitude from Annette Burdette:

Gratitude

While waiting for an appointment recently, I saw this quotation: “Start bringing gratitude to your experiences instead of waiting for a positive experience to feel grateful.” Gratitude can aid in more feelings of optimism and positive emotions which can reduce stress and anxiety. As a result this can improve our physical health such as lowering blood pressure and sleeping better. Gratitude improves our relationships. As we become more grateful for our family and friends, we will treat them with more kindness and respect. One way to become more grateful is to focus on the little things such as a beautiful sky and small acts of kindness. Enjoy the little things, for one day you may look back and realize they were the big things.

A quote by Willie Nelson “When I started counting my blessings, my whole life turned around.”

The more we can feel and express our gratitude the happier and more content we will be. As a quote to live by I give you a quote by Sterling K. Brown.

“Always have an attitude of gratitude”

4 Ways Gratitude Contributes to Well-Being

As psychologists continue to explore the casual mechanisms behind gratitude, one thing is clear. Gratitude offers extensive benefits of well-being, including:

1. **Increased optimism.** *Research demonstrates that the practice correlates to an increase in the experience of positive emotions and reduction of negative ones.*
2. **Reduced stress and anxiety in times of crisis.** *In studies following the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and elsewhere, Fredrickson found that the practice of gratitude diminished the intensity and frequency of traumatic memories.*
3. **Enhanced physical health.** *Gratitude helps lower blood pressure and the quality of our sleep. Researchers have found that by practicing gratitude, we get more sleep, fall asleep more easily, and feel better when we wake up.*
4. **Improved relationships.** *Robert Emmons and Michael McCullough theorize that gratitude within relationships can create a kind of “upward spiral.” As we become more grateful for our friends and family, we treat them with more kindness and respect.*

A Daily Practice to Help Make Gratitude a Habit

The key to making gratitude a habit is simply taking the time—once a day—to focus on the experience of gratitude. You might do this by writing down three things that you are grateful for, or by expressing gratitude at the beginning of a meal. We could express gratitude through our prayers.



DECEMBER Readings

Date	1st Reading	Psalms	2nd Reading	Gospel
December 4	Isaiah 11:1-10	Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19	Romans 15:4-13	Matthew 3:1-12
December 11	Isaiah 35:1-10	Canticle 15 Luke 1:46-55	James 5:7-10	Matthew 11:2-11
December 18	Isaiah 7:10-16	Psalms 80:1-7, 16-18	Romans 1:1-7	Matthew 1:18-25
December 24	Isaiah 62: 6-12	97	Titus 3: 4-7	Luke 2: 1-20
December 25	Isaiah 9: 2-7	96	Titus 2: 11-14	Luke 2: 8-20



The mission of the Order is summarized by three intertwined circles representing Prayer, Service, and Evangelism. In our Baptismal Covenant, we pledge to “proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ... with God's help.” Evangelism!

In the midst of this holy season of preparation and celebration, even as we thank God for the Greatest Gift of all, let us pause to pray for those who somehow don't see the hand of God in the wonders of creation or feel the wonders of His love. We wonder how anyone could fail to believe! But here, even in the Bible Belt, we encounter non-believers whether we realize it or not. Lord, what would you have us do?

St. Francis of Assisi is credited with these words: “Preach the gospel at all times, and when necessary, use words.” And Jesus said, “...let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)

We invite you to join with us as we pray: *Ever living God, whose will it is that all should come to you through your Son Jesus Christ: Inspire our witness to him, that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

We wish you and your loved ones all the joys and blessings of this holy season.

Peace,
Your Sisters in Christ, St. Therese Chapter,

The Liturgical Year

Looking ahead to the New Year – the year that begins in Advent!

The Church Year begins with Advent, a season spanning the four Sundays before Christmas Day. Remember that our church year is anchored on Christmas and Easter, with a third anchor of the Day of Pentecost. Here is what our 2022-2023 year looks like:

1 Advent 11/27/22

2 Advent 12/04/22

3 Advent 12/11/22

4 Advent 12/18/22

Christmas 12/25/22 We celebrate Christmas Day beginning with a service after sunset on Christmas Eve, a very Jewish practice, in which a day, or at least a feast, begins at sundown. Christmas is a season, and not a single day; the season lasts until Epiphany, the day on which we recognize the arrival of the magi/wise men.

Church of the Redeemer's Christmas-time services

December 24: 6:00pm

December 25: 9:30am

January 1: 9:30am (the usual Sunday service time)

Epiphany is January 6, and we will have a “service of light” at 6:00pm. Come celebrate the light of Christ!

Our next liturgical anchor is the day of Easter, although Easter, too, is a season. The day of Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon following March 21, the Spring Equinox. (That's a mouthful, right?) Easter can occur between March 23 and April 25. There are also tables in the back of the Book of Common Prayer to find the date of Easter for many years past and yet to come. Then we count backward from Holy Saturday forty days, minus Sundays, and we land on Ash Wednesday.

Ash Wednesday 2023: February 22

Easter 2023: April 9

Forty days after Easter is the Principal Feast of Ascension Day.

Ascension Day 2023: May 18

Easter season is fifty days, often called “the Great 50 Days.” Then we celebrate the day of Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit was poured upon the people.

Day of Pentecost 2023: May 28

After Pentecost, we number our Sundays by how many Sundays after Pentecost it is. In short, we call the Sundays “Propers.” We often celebrate the Sunday before Advent as the observance of the Reign of Christ, or “Christ the King” Sunday. This is “ordinary” time and lasts until the first Sunday of Advent!



Altar Flowers

Have a special event or a tribute you'd like to make to a loved one? Make an Altar Flower Dedication and let us all know what is dear to you. It's only \$35 and you can specify your preferences. Here's what the December dedications look like:



December 4 Phyllis & Steve Webb

In celebration of Andrew's 21 st birthday

December 11 Deborah Dunlap

In memory of John & Barbara Wright and in thanksgiving for Emily & Lauren


































December 18 Greens

December 25 Christmas Altar

Thank you everyone for providing such wonderful morning snacks!!

Coffee Sign-up



												
	December 4											
	December 11											
	December 18											
	December 25											
												
												
												
												
												
												
												
												
												

Betsy Walt
Hankinsons

December 18 open

December 25 No coffee hour



We ask your ongoing prayers for missionary Gary Powell as he spreads God's light and hope to people in war torn Ukraine. Gary's ministry takes him into the dangers of war zones and the many destructions of the ongoing war. He is following God's call and asks for your intentional prayers.

SAVE THE DATE

December 4: His Name Shall be Called

(Celebrate the birth of Jesus through music)

December 11: Christmas Party Jernigans

December 18: Ways we pray: Scott Worley

Vestry Meeting

The next vestry meeting is Thursday, December 15th at 6:00 PM., offsite.

The minutes for the monthly Vestry meeting are posted on the bulletin board outside the office.

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee meets on **Monday, December 12 the**, at 6:00pm (the second Monday of each month)

Financial Corner— October 2022

Tithes & Offerings

Budget \$16,962.76

Actual \$14,691.53

Total Expenses

Budget \$25,197.14

Actual \$20,460.38

Net Total

Budget (\$7,861.15)

Actual (\$5,671.20)

Server Schedule

	December 4	December 11	December 18	December 24	December 25
Verger	Meg Coffey	Margie Hankinson	John Helm	Margie Hankinson	
Ushers	Wallace Lightsey	Bill Lee	Daniel McCullough	Josh Hawkins	
Crucifer	Robin Mill	Sarah Meade	William Meade	Riley Hawkins	
Lector 1	Betty Boesch	Rick Hankinson	Bill Heizer	Lori Hawkins	David Poleski
Lector 2	Robin Mill	Wallace Lightsey	Bill Lee	Bill Lee	Robin Mill
Altar Guild	Judy Cerrick Margie Hankinson	Betsy Walt Susan Butler	Debbie Price Margie Hankinson Joanie Mullin	Margie Hankinson Joanie Mullin	Edie Parrott
Flower Guild	Lauren McCullough	Lauren McCullough	Robin Mill	All arrangers	All arrangers
Counters	Steve Webb Jane Bouton	Carol Hallman Bill Lee	Meg Coffey John Helm	Jane Bouton Steve Webb	
Video	David Poleski	Rick Hankinson	John Helm	Bob & Jane Bouton	NA

December . Birthdays & Anniversaries



If your birthday or anniversary does not appear or is incorrect, please notify corgsc29605@gmail.com to update our records.

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

Opportunities to share your gifts of ministry:

Counters Jane Bouton
Ushers Steve Webb
Video Service Rick Hankinson
Vergers Daniel McCullough)
Acolytes Lori Hawkins Lectors open
Altar Guild Margie Hankinson
Flower Guild Lauren McCullough

If you are considering helping at a service, please contact the leader, or call the parish office to volunteer.
Thank you to all volunteers! We are grateful for you!



Prayers for peace, restoration, forgiveness, love, strength and healing in Ukraine and for all of their people.



December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 OFFICE CLOSED	3 11 am AA (Purser Hall) 11 am Al-Anon (Transept)
4 9:30am Holy Eucharist 2:00pm Hispanic Service	5 6:00 pm ACOA 7:00 pm ALANON	6 DOK 11:00 AM Parlor	7 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:30am Holy Eucharist 12 pm AA 6:30 PM—Choir	8	9 OFFICE CLOSED	10 11 am AA (Purser Hall) 11 am Al-Anon (Transept)
11 9:30am Holy Eucharist 2:00pm Hispanic Service	12 6:00pm Finance 6:30pm Vestry 6:00 pm ACOA 7:00 pm ALANON	13	14 9:30am Holy Eucharist 12 pm AA 6:30pm Choir	15	16 OFFICE CLOSED	17 11 am AA (Purser Hall) 11 am Al-Anon (Transept)
18 9:30am Holy Eucharist 2:00pm Hispanic Service	19 6:00 pm ACOA 7:00 pm ALANO N	20	21 8:30am Men's Bible Study 9:30am Holy Eucharist 12 pm AA 6:30 PM—Choir	22 (23 OFFICE CLOSED	24 11 am AA (Purser Hall) 11 am Al-Anon (Transept) Christmas Eve: 6 PM
25 Christmas Day Service: 9:30 AM	26 (OFFICE CLOSED 6:00 pm ACOA 7:00 pm ALANO N	27 (OFFICE CLOSED)	28 (OFFICE CLOSED) No Eucharist 12 pm AA No Choir	29 (OFFICE CLOSED)	30 OFFICE CLOSED	31 11 am AA (Purser Hall) 11 am Al-Anon (Transept)



The Church of the Redeemer

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www.corgsc.org

Parish Office: corgsc29605@gmail.com

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The Church of the Redeemer

Come Join Us!
Everyone is welcome to join us
On Sundays at 9:30 am for Worship
or Wednesdays at 9:30 am.
Find us online at
Facebook.com/corgsc