



**IRVINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**December 1, 2024**

**10:30 a.m.**

## Reflection

*“Promise is a key concept in understanding Advent. We are all familiar with broken promises; indeed, it sometimes seems that broken promises are the only promises there are. This is a sign of the old age. The gospel announces the promise of God, which has an entirely different character from human promises because it is anchored in the very nature of the righteous God with whom ‘all things are possible’. Therefore, the principal defining characteristic of the Christian community, along with faith and love, is hope.”*

~ Fleming Rutledge

## †Prayer for the Week

*O Adonai, Ruler of the house of Israel,  
you appeared in the burning bush to Moses  
and gave him the law on Sinai:  
Come with outstretched arm to save us.  
Come, Lord Jesus.*

### **Sources and Credits:**

Art Attribution: Anonymous. *Burning Bush*, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

The Advent Candle Lighting is written by Dr. Montisa Anntoinette Watkins and Rev. Shavon Starling-Louis and published in *Wait for the Lord: An Advent Candle Liturgy*.

The Prayer of Confession is from the *Book of Common Worship*.

The Prayer of Illumination is written by Teri McDowell Ott and published in *The Presbyterian Outlook*.

*First Sunday of Advent*

## **Gathering in God's Love**

*The prelude is a call for personal  
preparation for the worship of God.*

### **PRELUDE**

O Adonai from *O Antiphon Sequence* | Cecilia McDowall

### **SENTENCES**

### **WELCOME**

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP: ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING**

**Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.**

**Wait for the Lord; be strong; take heart.**

Children of God...

With the Holy Spirit as our guide, we join the prophet Jeremiah  
in testifying to your timeless, unending faithfulness in the shadowiest of days.

**“The days are surely coming,” says the Lord,**

**“when I will fulfill the promise**

**I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah.**

In those days and at that time

**I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David,  
and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.**

In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will live in safety.

**And this is the name by which it will be called:**

**The Lord is our righteousness.”** (*Jeremiah 33:14-16*)

*\*Please stand in body or in spirit.*

\*HYMN

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs. 1, 3) | VENI EMMANUEL

1 O come, O come, Im - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, who or - dered all things  
3 O come, O come great Lord of might, who to your tribes on  
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se's stem, un - to your own and

Is - ra - el that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
might - i - ly to us the path of knowl - edge show  
Si - nai's height in an - cient times did give the law  
res - cue them! From depths of hell your peo - ple save,

*Refrain*  
un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
and teach us in its ways to go. Re - joice! Re -  
in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.

joice! Im - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of the future,**

**you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule.**

**We confess that we have not expected your kingdom,**

**for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment.**

**We accept and offer lies as truth,**

**exploit neighbors, abuse the earth**

**and refuse your justice and peace.**

**In your mercy, forgive us.**

**Grant us wisdom to welcome your way,**

**and to seek things that will endure**

**when Christ comes to judge the world. Amen.**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

### **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of our Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## **Listening for God**

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Savior God, guide us by your word and Spirit, that we might hear your truth, heed your call and be prepared for Christ's coming this Christmas. Amen.

## **SACRED SCRIPTURE**

Exodus 3:1-16

Romans 10:5-10

## **SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**


# SERMON

"O Adonai"


## Responding in Faith

### \*HYMN OF THE WORD

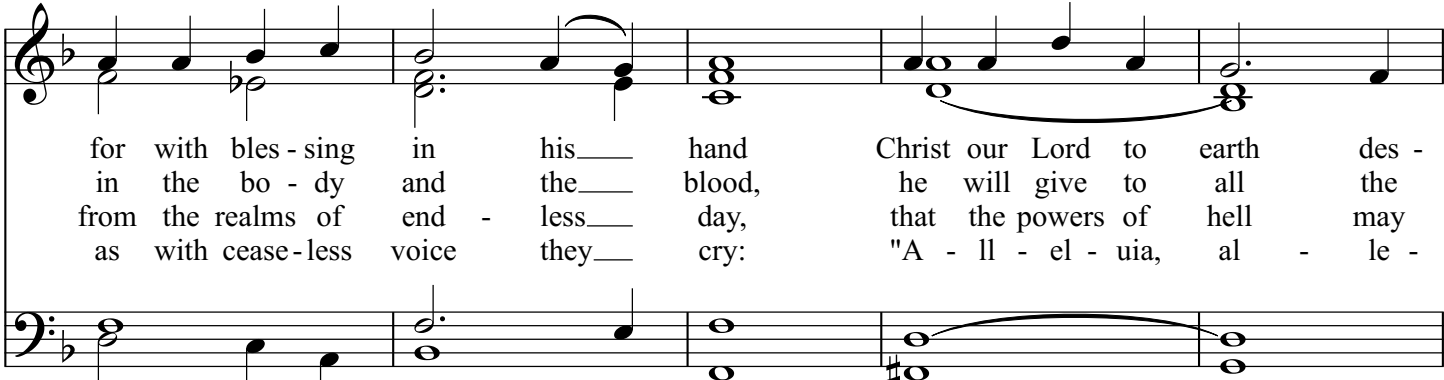
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence | PICARDY



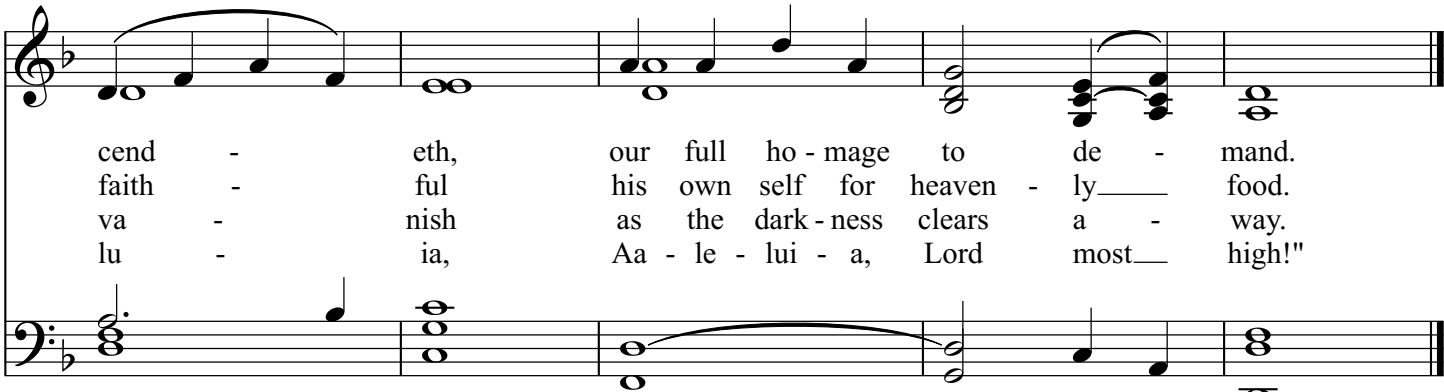
1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep\_\_\_ si - lence, and with fear and  
2 King of kings, yet born of\_\_\_ Ma - ry, as of old on  
3 Rank on rank the host of\_\_\_ hea - ven spreads its van - guard  
4 At his feet the six - winged\_ se - raph, che - ru - bim, with



trem - bling\_\_\_ stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly\_\_\_ min - ded,  
earth he\_\_\_ stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man\_\_\_ ves - ture,  
on the\_\_\_ way. as the Light of light des - cend - eth  
sleep - less\_\_\_ eye, veil their fa - ces to the\_\_\_ Pre - sence,



for with bles - sing in his\_\_\_ hand Christ our Lord to earth des -  
in the bo - dy and the\_\_\_ blood, he will give to all the  
from the realms of end - less\_\_\_ day, that the powers of hell may  
as with cease-less voice they\_\_\_ cry: "A - ll - el - uia, al - le -



lend - eth, our full ho - mage to de - mand.  
faith - ful his own self for heaven - ly\_\_\_ food.  
va - nish as the dark - ness clears a - way.  
lu - ia, Aa - le - lui - a, Lord most\_\_\_ high!"

**\*CONFESSION OF FAITH**

***Nicene Creed***

**We believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
begotten from the Father before all ages,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made;  
of the same essence as the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven;**

**he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and was made human.**

**He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;**

**he suffered and was buried.**

**The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures.**

**He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead.**

**His kingdom will never end.**

**And we believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the Lord, the giver of life.**

**He proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.**

**He spoke through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look forward to the resurrection of the dead,**

**and to life in the world to come. Amen.**

## OFFERING

*To give online, scan the QR code to the right:*



## OFFERTORY

Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, BWV 659 | Johann Sebastian Bach

## \*DOXOLOGY

1. Praise God, from Whom all bles - sings flow; Praise Him, all crea - tures here be - low;

Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.



## **SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

### *Invitation*

#### *The Great Thanksgiving*

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.**

### *Sanctus*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory,**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

### *The Mystery of Faith*

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

### *Words of Institution*

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

### *Prayer Response*

God of our salvation, **hear our prayers.**

## **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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,**

**and the glory forever. Amen.**

# Departing in Joy

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### \*HYMN

Savior of the Nations, Come | NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's  
2 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds; back to  
3 Now your man - ger, shin - ing bright, hal - lows  
4 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord, vir - gin's



son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, O  
God his path - way leads; out to van - quish  
night with new - born light. Night can - not this  
son, in - car - nate Word! To the ho - ly



heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.  
death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.  
light sub - due; let our faith shine ev - er new.  
Trin - i - ty praise we sing e - ter - nal - ly.

## CHARGE

**Life is short.**

**We have not much time to gladden the  
hearts of those who journey with us.**

**Therefore, be swift to love, make haste to be kind.**

## \*BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

O Adonai from *O Antiphon Preludes* | Nico Muhly

### WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Blaine Crawford

Music Director: Jon Riss

Nursery Care: Desde Visconti

Liturgist: Victoria Jiminez and family

Acolyte: Madison Floyd

Ushers: Mark & Elizabeth Lindberg

Communion Servers: Bill Bayer, Mary Bongiovi  
and Rob Graafland

Coffee Hour Host: Olivia Graff

### ***†Learning Liturgy***

*The seven "O Antiphons" (also called the "Greater Antiphons" or "Major Antiphons") are prayers that are prayed in the days leading up to Christmas. Each Antiphon begins with "O" and addresses Jesus with a unique title which comes from the prophecies of Isaiah and Micah and whose initial letters, when read backwards, form an acrostic for the Latin "Ero Cras" which means "Tomorrow I come."*

*Those titles for Christ are:*

*Sapientia (Wisdom)*

*Adonai (Lord of Israel)*

*Radix Jesse (Root of Jesse)*

*Clavis David (Key of David)*

*Oriens (Radiant Dawn/Dayspring/Morning Star)*

*Rex Gentium (King of all nations/Gentiles)*

*Emmanuel (God with Us)*

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**NURSERY:** Nursery care is available today in Classroom #2 (downstairs in John Knox Hall). Please ask an usher if you need assistance.

**CHAPEL TIME:** Children should gather in the Chapel at 10:30am (parents welcome to stay), before joining the Congregation for Communion in the Sanctuary. There is no Sunday School this week.

**FALL ADULT ED:** *'SPEAKING ABOUT FAITH: Raising Children to be followers of Jesus.'* We will meet in the Upper Room at 11:50am for the second of our monthly conversations about faith, parenting, and our children. Christian Education Director Adam McAllister will lead a workshop about at-home Advent practices to celebrate together as a family in preparation of Christmas. Childcare will be provided.

## **IPC/ST. B's for REFUGEES**

We are thrilled to share that the Hernandez family has arrived safely and is now living in Yonkers. As they settle into their new home, we are seeking volunteers to assist with helping the parents enroll and attend ESL classes; connecting the family with nearby medical providers and accompanying them to initial appointments; as well as visiting during the week to spend time with them and/or show them around. The family speaks only Spanish and communicates through Google Translate, so patience and kindness are key. Financial assistance is also greatly appreciated. For more information or to get involved, please contact Barb Hanna ([barbarafhanna@yahoo.com](mailto:barbarafhanna@yahoo.com)) or Susan Brunenavs ([susan.brunenavs@gmail.com](mailto:susan.brunenavs@gmail.com)).

## **SILENT AUCTION TO BENEFIT THE CONCERT FUND**

You can have a character named for you or a loved one in Susan Breen's new novel, *Merry*, to be published in September 2025. Or how about an hour of IPC's own piano man, Jonathan Ackerman, playing for your Christmas party? This and other great items, including themed baskets, are available to bid on in a 'Silent Auction' beginning today. A fundraiser for the IPC Concert Fund, the silent auction will run from 12/1 through the reception following the *Messiah* concert on Sunday 12/15. Bids can be placed in the parlor during coffee hour and in the church office during the week from 8:30am-12:30pm.

Irvington Presbyterian Church Community Choir  
and Chamber Orchestra present

# HANDEL'S MESSIAH

*Christmas Portion*



**Sunday, December 15, 4pm**

Irvington Presbyterian Church  
25 N Broadway, Irvington, NY

**Jon Riss, *conductor***

**Christina Rohm, *soprano***

**Nancy Rathbun, *soprano***

**Nicholas Simpson, *tenor***

**Scott Lefurgy, *baritone***

Suggested donation:  
\$20/ person    \$50/family

## UPCOMING ADVENT & CHRISTMAS DATES

### *Greening of the Sanctuary*

Saturday, December 14 – 12 pm

### *Messiah*

Sunday, December 15 – 4 pm

### *Lessons and Carols*

Sunday, December 22– 10:30 am

### *Christmas Eve Family Service*

Tuesday, December 24th – 2 pm

### *Christmas Eve Candlelight Service*

Tuesday, December 24th – 8 pm

### *Sunday, December 29th– 10:30am*

Joint worship with St. Barnabas – Hosted by IPC

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## ESTIMATE OF GIVING ~ 2025

As we near the end of 2024, we ask members and friends of the church to consider the ways they can generously give and serve in the church, in gratitude for the goodness of God. Your Estimate of Giving pledge not only helps us plan and grow, but it also becomes a tangible act of faith, ensuring IPC remains a place where hearts are lifted, and lives are transformed. Together, let's continue to make our church a beacon of warmth, welcome, and hope for all.

To make your 2025 Estimate of Giving pledge, please scan the following QR code:



# STAFF

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## **New to IPC? Not yet on our weekly email?**

Sign up for our email list by scanning the QR code below:



or by visiting the homepage of our website:

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

# OUR MISSION

Irvington Presbyterian Church is called by Jesus Christ to glorify God in worship through word and song, grow as disciples through study, engage in mission to the world, joyfully extend hospitality and fellowship to all and, with God's help, allow the Holy Spirit to work through us.

We seek to be a place of healing, where individuals can feel safe and find sanctuary from their own hurts, and can then turn that healing spirit outwards, to help others.

We believe God is calling each of us to ministry, and we seek to be a place where each member will feel helped and supported in discovering their gifts.



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Office Hours: 8:30-12:30, M-F