

The background is a dark, textured purple with visible brushstrokes. In the center, a lit candle with a bright yellow flame sits atop a large, multi-petaled purple flower. The candle's light illuminates the flower and the surrounding dark background.

A Light Shines  
in the Darkness

Advent 2025

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 7, 2025

# WELCOME TO RESURRECTION!

We're glad you're here! At Church of the Resurrection (Rez), we believe that you can be transformed by encountering the love of Jesus. Through this encounter, many people have received healing, become part of a community, and learned to serve others. Our vision is to invite everyone into this kind of transforming relationship with Jesus and his Church, whether you are exploring Christianity for the first time or grew up attending church.

If you are visiting us for the first time or watching on livestream, we are so excited to have you with us. We would love to meet you and give you a gift at the Guest Center.



A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Matt Woodley".

**Fr. Matt Woodley**  
Interim Cathedral Dean  
[churchrez.org](http://churchrez.org)



**Anglican Diocese**  
*of the* **Upper Midwest**

As the cathedral church, Resurrection is the headquarters for our regional family of churches, the Anglican Diocese of the Upper Midwest, as well as the home of Bishop Stewart Ruch. The mission of our Diocese is to plant a revival of Word and Sacrament infused by the Holy Spirit.

We are also a member of the Anglican Church in North America (ACNA).

This Sunday, Bp. Stewart is visiting Resurrection Anglican Church in Minnesota.



**Bishop Stewart E. Ruch III**  
Diocese of the Upper Midwest  
[midwestanglican.org](http://midwestanglican.org)





# CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

## VISITING?

We would love to meet you and give you a gift at the Guest Center.

## CHILDREN

Children's ministry is available at both services for infants through 5th grade. For parents' pickup procedure, visit [churchrez.org/pickup](http://churchrez.org/pickup).

## YOUTH

RezYouth, for middle and high school students, meets on Wednesdays, 6:30-8/8:30pm. Visit [churchrez.org/youth](http://churchrez.org/youth) to learn more.

## ADULTS

Rooted in Scripture, our adult Bible study, is on break and will resume meeting on Wednesday, January 21, 7-8pm, in the Sanctuary.

## QUESTIONS?

- For general questions:  
[office@churchrez.org](mailto:office@churchrez.org)
- Set up a meeting with a pastor:  
[meghanrobins@churchrez.org](mailto:meghanrobins@churchrez.org)
- Contact non-staff vestry (church board):  
[rezvestrymembers@gmail.com](mailto:rezvestrymembers@gmail.com)

## EVENTS AND NEWS

[churchrez.org/signup](http://churchrez.org/signup)

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Sign up at [churchrez.org/reznews](http://churchrez.org/reznews)

## ABOUT US

[churchrez.org/about](http://churchrez.org/about)  
[churchrez.org/leaders](http://churchrez.org/leaders)

## CONTACT US

[office@churchrez.org](mailto:office@churchrez.org)  
630-653-3888  
935 W. Union Ave.  
Wheaton, IL 60187

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:30am & 10:30am

## BULLETIN COVER ART

"Light from Light" by Anna  
Freeman, with text by Alan Miller



[churchrez.org](http://churchrez.org)



[facebook.com/churchrez](https://facebook.com/churchrez)



[@ChurchRez](https://www.instagram.com/ChurchRez)

# THE WORD OF GOD

---

*In the first half of the service, we encounter God  
by hearing and responding to his truth in the Bible.*

## The Processional Hymn

*Please stand.*

### **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.

#### *Refrain:*

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, thou branch of Jesse's tree,  
Free them from Satan's tyranny  
That trust thy mighty power to save,  
And give them victory o'er the grave.

O come, thou Key of David, come,  
And open wide our heavenly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery.

O come, O come, Emmanuel!  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.

Words: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel, trans. John M. Neale  
Music: Public Domain

## The Acclamation

CELEBRANT: *Surely the Lord is coming soon.*

PEOPLE: Amen. Come Lord Jesus!

# The Collect for Purity

CELEBRANT: *Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you 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 Christ our Lord.*

ALL: Amen.

# The Summary of the Law

CELEBRANT: *Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:*

*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets (Matthew 22:37-40).*

# The Kyrie

CELEBRANT: *Lord, have mercy upon us.*

PEOPLE: Christ, have mercy upon us.

CELEBRANT: *Lord, have mercy upon us.*

# Songs of Worship

## The Collect of the Day

*A brief prayer on the theme of the day.*

CELEBRANT: *The Lord be with you.*

PEOPLE: **And with your spirit.**

CELEBRANT: *Let us pray.*

*Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that by patience and the comfort of your holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.*

ALL: **Amen.**

# The Lessons

*Please be seated for the readings from the Bible.*

READER: *A reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah.*

## **Isaiah 11:1–10 (ESV)**

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

## **Psalm 72:1–15 (BCP 2019)**

- 1 Give the King your judgments, O God, \*  
and your righteousness to the King's son.
- 2 Then shall he judge your people with righteousness \*  
and defend the poor with justice.
- 3 The mountains also shall bring peace, \*  
and the little hills righteousness to the people.
- 4 He shall vindicate the poor among the people, \*  
defend the children of the poor, and punish the wrongdoer.
- 5 They shall fear you as long as the sun and moon endure, \*  
from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like the rain upon the mown grass, \*  
even as showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish, \*  
even an abundance of peace, so long as the moon endures.
- 8 His dominion shall be also from one sea to the other, \*  
and from the river unto the world's end.

*Continued on following page.*

- 9 Those who dwell in the wilderness shall kneel before him; \*  
his enemies shall lick the dust.
- 10 The kings of Tarshish and of the isles shall give presents; \*  
the kings of Arabia and Seba shall bring gifts.
- 11 All kings shall fall down before him; \*  
all nations shall do him service.
- 12 For he shall deliver the poor when he cries, \*  
the needy also, and the one that has no helper.
- 13 He shall be favorable to the lowly and needy, \*  
and shall preserve the lives of the poor.
- 14 He shall deliver them from falsehood and wrong, \*  
and dear shall their blood be in his sight.
- 15 Long may he live!  
And unto him shall be given the gold of Arabia; \*  
prayer shall ever be made unto him,  
and daily shall he be blessed.

## **Alleluia**

*Please stand.*

READER: *The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Matthew.*

PEOPLE: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

## **Matthew 3:1–12 (ESV)**

READER: *The Gospel of the Lord.*

PEOPLE: Praise to You, Lord Christ.

## **Alleluia**



# The Sermon

## The Kingdom of Heaven Is at Hand

**—Fr. Brett Crull, Cathedral Vicar**

The Old Testament and Gospel readings are from The ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. The Psalm is from The Book of Common Prayer (2019), by Anglican Liturgy Press. Music license: CCLI #799334, unless otherwise indicated.

# The Nicene Creed

*Please stand for the Creed and  
the Prayers of the People.*

CELEBRANT: *Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:*

ALL: We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, visible and invisible.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten 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 from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
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 People

LEADER: *Lord, in your mercy:*

ALL: Hear our prayer.

## **Global Partner Spotlight: Jeff & Kirsty**

*Each week, we pray for one of our global partners. Use this bio as a reminder to pray for them today and throughout the week. Due to safety concerns, we are often limited in how much we can share about the location and nature of this ministry.*

Jeff, Kirsty, and their three young children live and serve in North Africa. Jeff teaches English at a local university.

# The Confession of Sin

DEACON: *Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.*

*Please be seated or kneel. There will be a time of silence.*

ALL: Most merciful God, we confess that 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.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

CELEBRANT: *Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has  
promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and  
with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver  
you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,  
and bring you to everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*

# The Comfortable Words

CELEBRANT: *Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.*

*The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners (1 Timothy 1:15).*

# The Peace

CELEBRANT: *The Peace of the Lord be always with you.*

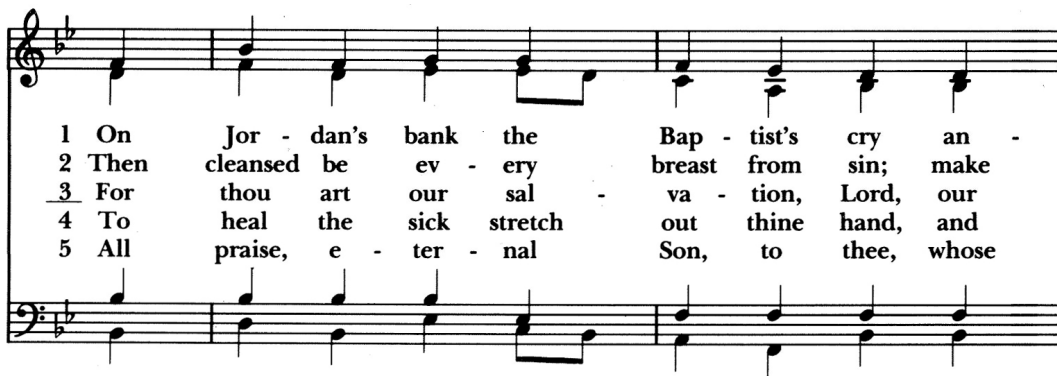
PEOPLE: **And with your spirit.**

*Please use this time to share the peace of Christ with those around you.*

*Parents of nursery through kindergarten, please pick up your children from their classrooms before the announcements. Parents of grades 1-5, please stay in your seats. After the announcements, shepherds will bring children to the sanctuary center chute. Children will then find you.*

# The Offertory

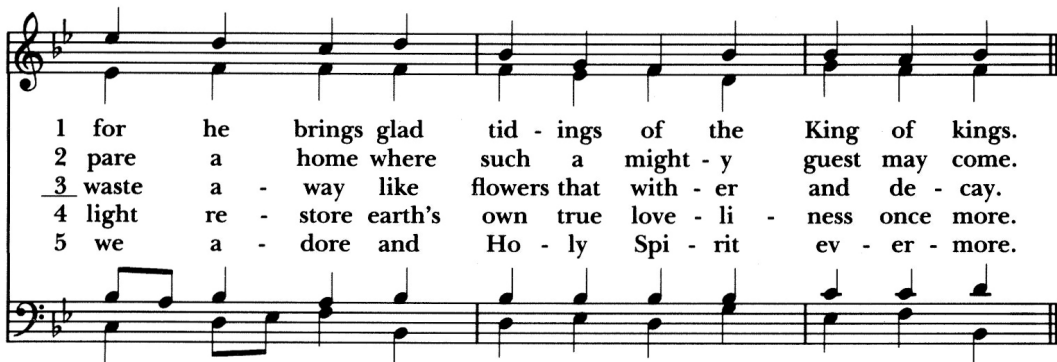
## On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make  
 3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our  
 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and  
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose



1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,  
 2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -  
 3 ref - uge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we  
 4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy  
 5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther



1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.  
 2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.  
 3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.  
 4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.  
 5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944),  
 after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt.

Music: WINCHESTER NEW, melody from Musicalishes Hand-Buch, 1690;  
 harm William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.



GIVING SUMMARY:

Year to Date Income

July 1, 2025 through October 31, 2025

Actual	Budget	Difference
\$699,191	\$767,559	(\$68,368)

Current Month Outlook

November Goal	November Giving	Difference
\$183,805	\$231,424	\$47,619

GIVE ONLINE:

Scan the code to  
give by card or bank  
account or go to  
[churchrez.org/give](http://churchrez.org/give)



# THE HOLY COMMUNION

---

*In the second part of the service,  
we encounter God at his table.*

## The Doxology

*Please stand.*

ALL: Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise him all creatures here below,  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

## The Great Thanksgiving

CELEBRANT: *The Lord be with you.*

PEOPLE: And with your spirit.

CELEBRANT: *Lift up your hearts.*

PEOPLE: We lift them up to the Lord.

CELEBRANT: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

PEOPLE: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

CELEBRANT: *... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:*

ALL: 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!  
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,  
God of power and might.

"Sanctus #3," music by Steve Williamson, © 2024. Used by permission.

CELEBRANT: . . . *Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:*

ALL: Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.

CELEBRANT: . . . *By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.*

ALL: Amen.

CELEBRANT: *And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray,*

ALL: 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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

# The Breaking of the Bread

CELEBRANT: *Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;*

PEOPLE: **Therefore let us keep the feast! Alleluia!**

ALL: **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world  
Have mercy on us, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world  
Have mercy on us, have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world  
Grant us your peace, grant us your peace.**

*"Agnus Dei," music by John Fawcett, © 1998 John Fawcett. Used with permission.*

CELEBRANT: *The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance  
that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with  
thanksgiving.*

*Please be seated. All who are baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy  
Spirit and are committed to following Jesus are welcome to receive Communion.  
Ushers will release you row by row. Gluten-free wafers are available upon  
request. Non-alcoholic grape juice is available in the silver trays. Please dispose  
of used cups in the buckets available on tables in your section.*

## Songs of Worship

# The Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Please stand.*

CELEBRANT: *Let us pray.*

ALL: Heavenly Father,  
We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal Kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out to do the work  
you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

## The Blessing

CELEBRANT: *Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you, scatter the darkness  
from before your path, and make you ready to meet him when he  
comes in glory; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the  
Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.*

ALL: Amen.

## The Dismissal

DEACON: *Alleluia, alleluia. Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of  
the Holy Spirit.*

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.



# RezNews

What's next at Resurrection

## **Rector Search Advent Prayer**

Through Dec 21

Pick a day to pray and fast. Sign up online.

## **Advent Family Workshop for Parents**

Today, 12:30–1:30pm

Learn simple Advent ideas to enjoy with your children from Dcn. Margie, upstairs in St. Gregory Room. Bring your own lunch.

### **MORE**

## **Lessons and Carols | Sunday, Dec 14, 4pm**

A special service of sacred music and Scripture readings in the Sanctuary.

## **Advent Gift 2025 | [churchrez.org/adventgift](https://churchrez.org/adventgift)**

Share hope with inmates by contributing to gift bags for our Rez Prison ministry.

## **Baptism of Our Lord | Sunday, Jan 11 | Apply by Dec 22**

Please apply if you would like your infant or child baptized.

## **Confirmation Class | Sundays, 4–5:30pm, Starting Jan 18**

Invite a friend! Whether you want to become a member, be baptized or renew baptismal vows, or learn more about Anglicanism. Sign up by Jan 11.

## **Advent & Christmas Services | [christmas.churchrez.org](https://christmas.churchrez.org)**

Invite a friend! Find descriptions of services. Pick up an invitational postcard for friends and neighbors.

## **8:30am Service Only on Sunday, Dec 28**

## **RezArts Festival | [churchrez.org/rezartsfestival](https://churchrez.org/rezartsfestival)**

Create for this year's festival theme: "The Art of Work: Our daily labors made holy."

## **Intercessory Prayer for the Church & the World | Mondays at 7:30am**

All Saints Prayer Chapel

### **NOTES**

## **Rector Search Updates | [churchrez.org/rectorsearch](https://churchrez.org/rectorsearch)**

## **Diocese Ecclesiastical Trial Updates**

Find information at [midwestanglican.org/acna-investigation](https://midwestanglican.org/acna-investigation).

**Find more details at [churchrez.org/signup](https://churchrez.org/signup)**