

The background is a dark, textured purple with a central, glowing yellow and orange candle flame. The candle is surrounded by a cluster of light purple flowers. The overall style is painterly and evocative.

A Light Shines
in the Darkness

Advent 2025

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 14, 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



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).



Bishop Stewart E. Ruch III
Diocese of the Upper Midwest
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. December 21: RezKids at the 8:30 service only. December 28: no RezKids ministry.

YOUTH

RezYouth, for middle and high school students, is on break until January 21. It will then resume meeting on Wednesdays, 6:30-8/8:30pm.

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
- Set up a meeting with a pastor:
meghanrobins@churchrez.org
- Contact non-staff vestry (church board):
rezvestrymembers@gmail.com

EVENTS AND NEWS

churchrez.org/signup

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Sign up at churchrez.org/reznews

ABOUT US

churchrez.org/about
churchrez.org/leaders

CONTACT US

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



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[@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 Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadow put to flight.

O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all man-kind;
Bid thou our sad divisions cease,
And be thyself our King of Peace.

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.*

O Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in your sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever.

ALL: **Amen.**

The Lessons

Please be seated for the readings from the Bible.

READER: *A reading from the letter of James.*

James 5:7-11 (ESV)

READER: *The Word of the Lord.*

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 146 (BCP 2019)

- 1 Praise the LORD, O my soul; *
while I live I will praise the LORD.
- 2 Indeed, as long as I have my being, *
I will sing praises unto my God.
- 3 Put not your trust in princes, nor in any child of man, *
for there is no help in them.
- 4 For when one breathes his last,
he shall return again to the earth, *
and in that day all his thoughts perish.
- 5 Blessed is the one who has the God of Jacob for his help *
and whose hope is in the LORD his God,
- 6 Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is therein; *
who keeps his promise for ever;
- 7 Who does right to those who suffer wrong; *
and who feeds the hungry.
- 8 The LORD sets prisoners free; *
the LORD gives sight to the blind.
- 9 The LORD helps those who have fallen; *
the LORD loves the righteous.
and the King of glory shall come in.
- 10 The LORD cares for the strangers in the land;
he defends the fatherless and widow; *
but the way of the ungodly he makes crooked.
- 11 The LORD shall be King for evermore, *
even your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Praise the LORD.

The Epistle 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.

Alleluia

Please stand.

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

PEOPLE: Glory to You, Lord Christ.

Matthew 1:18-25 (ESV)

READER: *The Gospel of the Lord.*

PEOPLE: Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Alleluia

The Sermon

Be Patient

—Bishop Stewart E. Ruch III

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: Kyle and Caraline

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.

Kyle, Caraline, and their two children live and serve in North Africa.

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.*

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. (1 John 2:1-2).

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

Sleepers, Wake! A Voice Astounds Us

1 "Sleep-ers, wake!" A voice a - stounds us, the
 2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing; her
 3 Lamb of God, the heavens a - dore you; let

shout of ram - part - guards sur - rounds us: "A -
 heart with joy - ful hope is spring - ing, she
 saints and an - gels sing be - fore you, as

wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!" Mid - night's peace their
 wakes and hur - ries through the night. Forth he comes, her
 harps and cym - bals swell the sound. Twelve great pearls, the

cry has bro - ken, their ur - gent sum - mons clear - ly spo -
 Bride - groom glo - rious in strength of grace, in truth vic - to -
 ci - ty's por - tals: through them we stream to join the im - mor -



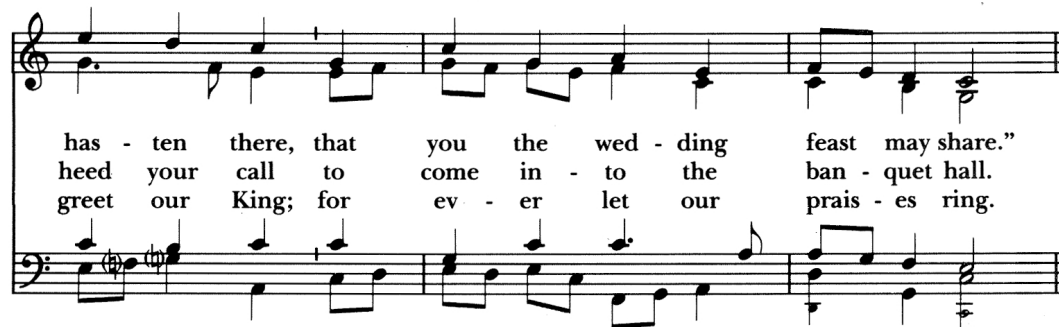
ken: "The time has come, O maid - ens wise!
 rious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.
 tals as we with joy your throne sur - round.



Rise up, and give us light; the Bride - groom is in
 Now come, most wor - thy Lord, God's Son, In - car - nate
 No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de -



sight. Al - le - lu - ia! Your lamps pre - pare and
 Word, Al - le - lu - ia! We fol - low all and
 light: Al - le - lu - ia! There - fore we sing to



has - ten there, that you the wed - ding feast may share."
 heed your call to come in - to the ban - quet hall.
 greet our King; for ev - er let our prais - es ring.

Words: Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); tr. Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944)

Music: WACHET AUF, melody Hans Sachs (1494-1576); adapt. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); arr. and harm
 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

GIVING SUMMARY:

Year to Date Income

July 1, 2025 through November 30, 2025

Actual	Budget	Difference
\$930,610	\$951,264	(\$20,754)

Current Month Outlook

December Goal	December Giving	Difference
\$385,246	\$61,239	(\$324,007)

GIVE ONLINE:

Scan the code to
give by card or bank
account or go to
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

Lessons and Carols | Today, 4pm | Sanctuary

Invite a friend to this special service of sacred music and Scripture readings.

Rector Search Advent Prayer | Pick a day to pray and fast | churchrez.org/rectorsearch**Advent Gift 2025 | churchrez.org/adventgift**

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

Find Community: Join a RezGroup | Sign-ups are open Jan 4-18

A RezGroup is a community of 8-12 people who commit to meet regularly for prayer, Bible study and fellowship. Learn more and sign up at churchrez.org/rezgroups

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 25

Join Confirmation Class, 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

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

One service on Sunday, Dec 28 | 10:30am only | no RezKids**RezArts Festival | 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****Diocese Ecclesiastical Trial Updates**

Find information at midwestanglican.org/acna-investigation.

Find more details at churchrez.org/signup