The Presbyterian Church of Kennett Square



November 30th, 2025 10:30 a.m.

Taste and see that the Lord is good! Psalm 34:8

For Reflection

"Thus Christ has always been the Life and Light, even before his birth, from the beginning, and will ever remain so to the end"

—Martin Luther.



Act 1: Creation

Welcome

Prelude

Call to Worship: Psalm 33:6-9

Leader:

By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of his mouth all their host. He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses.

People:

Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him! For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Hymn: "Long Ago, Prophets Knew"

1 Long ago, prophets knew Christ would come, born a Jew, come to make all things new; bear his people's burden, freely love and pardon.

Refrain:

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring! sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing! When he comes, when he comes, who will make him welcome?

2 God in time, God in man, this is God's timeless plan: he will come, as a man, born himself of woman, God divinely human. [Refrain]

3 Mary, hail! Though afraid, she believed, she obeyed. In her womb, God is laid: till the time expected, nurtured and protected, [Refrain]

4 Journey ends! Where afar Bethlem shines, like a star, stable door stands ajar. Unborn Son of Mary, Saviour, do not tarry!

Refrain:

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring! sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing, sing! Jesus comes!
Jesus comes!
We will make him welcome!



Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

O Christ, our light and our life, we confess with your word, "The light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed" (Jn. 3:19–20).

We confess the many ways that we have walked in darkness and have hidden ourselves from your brightness. Let not our hearts grow dim with fear and pride. Shine upon us, not because we are worthy but because your mercy is greater than our darkness. Expose what is broken within us and, by your Spirit, turn us back to you, so that we might walk in the light of your presence, clothed in your right-eousness.

Silent Confession

Choral Prayer Response: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" in the Hymnal #120 (remain seated)

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 Day-spring, come and cheer Our spirits by Thine advent here; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight. (Refrain)



Act 3: Redemption God covers us with Grace

Assurance of Pardon: John 5:24

Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life.

Thanks be to God!

Greet One Another and Pass the Peace of Christ

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church. the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Moment For Mission: Advent Conspiracy

Storykeepers Prayer

Leader: What is our hope for these children?

People: That they would know the love of Jesus Christ, trust in his

promise, and walk in his ways all their days.

Advent Reading: Luke 1:26-38 Page 1016

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. 28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" 29 But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. 30 And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

34 And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

35 And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. 36 And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God." 38 And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Sermon Text: John 1:1-5

Page 1053

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: The Light of the World

Hymn: "O Splendor of God's Glory Bright"

1 O Splendor of God's glory bright, from Light eternal bringing light, O Light of light, light's living Spring, true Day, all days illumining. 2 Come, very Sun of heaven's love, in lasting radiance from above, and pour the Holy Spirit's ray on all we think or do today. 3 Confirm our will to do the right, and keep our hearts from envy's blight; Let faith her eager fires renew, and hate the false, and love the true. 4 All praise to God the Father be, All praise, eternal Son, to Thee Whom with the Spirit we adore, Forever, and forever more.



Act 4: Renewal: God communes with us

The Lord's Supper

The Lord is my light and my salvation;

whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life;

of whom shall I be afraid?

(The Communion Bread is gluten free.)

Prayers for Those Not Taking Communion

Prayer for Faith: God, in my places of pain, give me your song; in my places of darkness, give me your light; in my places of unbelief, give me faith. Help my unbelief and help me see. Amen.

Prayer Amid Habitual Sin: God, if I have given myself over to sin, making a home for it, please kick the door down and clean my heart. Please forgive me for ways I've sinned against you, others and myself. Free me. I want life, freedom, and the joy of victory. Only through Jesus is this possible. Amen.

Prayer of Belief: Lord Jesus Christ, I accept that I am weaker and more sinful than I dare to admit, but through you I am loved more than I ever dared hope. Thank you for dying for me, taking my place and offering me forgiveness. You've been raised from the dead, so I turn to you, my Redeemer. Amen.

Post Communion Prayer (All)

Precious Lord, thank you for the gift of yourself. You who are beyond all comprehension have made yourself known to us. We trust in your provision—your body and your blood—that by your Spirit you strengthen our faith and our fellowship with you and one another. Grant us the strength to rest in your promise. We believe we shall look upon the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. We long for that day, and we take courage from you, our light and our life, as we wait upon the Lord.

Prayer of Intercession

Offering: "The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns".

Kentucky Harmony, arr. Theodore Beck

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

In the Life of the Church

- Corporate Prayer We will be gathering in the Gilmor room at 9am on Sundays during Advent to pray.
- Reverse Advent Calendar The Reverse Advent Calendar involves giving a daily item to donate, not receiving one. This Advent, PCKS and other Kennett churches are collecting food for KACS; bring each week's listed items (see shopping list in the Parlor) to church on December Sundays and Christmas Eve or the 28th.
- Advent Conspiracy The Mission Partnering Committee will be presenting three of PCKS's missions to support during Advent. Please find information to donate on the table in the parlor.
- Christ and Cookies We will be having a Christmas event with carols and a cookie exchange on December 14th from 12:30-2 in the Gilmor room. Please bring two dozen cookies to participate in the cookie exchange.
- Dressember a challenge to dress up in the month of December to raise awareness and funds to fight human trafficking. Contact RuthAnn with any questions: rdeveney@gmail.com.

Hymn: "Beautiful Savior"

1 Beautiful Savior, King of 3 Fair is the sunshine, Fair is creation, moonlight,
Son of God and Son of Man! Bright the sparkling stars on Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
Light of my soul, my Joy, my
Than all the angels in the sky Crown.

2 Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer; He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

3 Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky.
4 Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be Thine!

Benediction

Prayer Ministry is available in the sanctuary after the service.

Please join us for refreshments in the parlor!

Growth Groups

If you're not currently a part of a growth group, but have interest in learning more, feel free to reach out to the growth group leaders mentioned below.

All are welcome!

- Sandy Meyer's Growth Group will be studying and discussing the book of Deuteronomy using a 12-week study by Matthew H. Patton. Our usual dates for gathering together will be the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month, 1-2:30 p.m. If you have any questions, you my contact Sandy at 610-357-0443.
- Barbara Handy's Growth Group will meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. We will continue our study of "Not Ashamed," Paul's letter to the Roman's by W. Robert Godfrey. Contact Joanne Taylor if you would like to join us at 610-444-0272.
- Mackenzie Mojica's Growth Group will be studying the book of John.
 The group will meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays from 6:15-7:30
 p.m. in the youth room. Anyone interested in studying the book of John is welcome to join! Childcare will be provided.
- Liz Lawson's Growth Group is currently studying "God's Big Picture" by Vaughan Roberts. This group meets twice a month at times that best suit the members. If interested in joining, email Liz at lizlawson98@gmail.com.

Come Pray With Us!

There are two 15-minute online congregational prayer times each week. Please join in on one or both! No registration needed. We meet at 6:45 a.m. on Tuesdays and at 11:45 a.m. on Fridays. Some participants pray out loud, others silently. The following zoom log on details are the same for both meetings:

Phone: +1 929 436 2866

Meeting ID: 914 1344 6893

Passcode: 156928

Our Session Our Deacon Board

John Beley Caroline Beck

Davy Crumplar Debbie Beley

RuthAnn Deveney Sophia Beris

Bob Johnson (Clerk of Session) Beth Catranis

Sandy Meyer Belen Dusik

Bob Whitlock Nikki Paschall

Mary Ellen Whitmire Rana Sakr

Eric Wilkins Olga Stokes

Marion Whitlock

Marcia Wilkins (Deacon Moderator)

To Contact the Church

Call: (610) 444-5255

Email: office@pcks.org

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pcks.org

If you'd like to receive our weekly updates and prayer points by email, please contact the church office. For those without email, paper copies are available on the table in the back of the sanctuary.

Text to give: 84321 (include amount)