



Visioning Christ

Nativity courtesy of Marilyn Irwin

November 30, 2025

1st Day of Advent

"People only see what they are prepared to see."

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

TIME OF QUIET PREPARATION

PRELUDE

"Come, Thou Savior of the Nations"

J. S. Bach

Organist, Jill Hunt

CHORAL INTROIT

WELCOME

The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (adapted from Luke 3)

Liturgist, Patti Dolezal

A voice cries out, "Prepare for God's arrival!"

Make the road straight and smooth, a highway fit for God.

Fill in the valleys, level off the hills, smooth out the ruts, clear out the rocks.

For our God is coming! The God of Hope! Let us worship God together!

ENTRANCE OF THE ADVENT FLAME

Carol Nussbaumer

Words by J. Richard Dixon

Music by J. Richard Dixon

Soprano



We bring this can-dle of Hope to-day and pre-prepare to wel-come the light of the world. We
bring this can - dle to pre - pare the way for God's on - ly Son our Lord Je - sus Christ.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 86**

"The People Who Walked in Darkness"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we pray today awaiting the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ. As we look carefully at our lives, we realize that we live with broken relationships. We sometimes harbor ill thoughts toward our friends and neighbors. God forgive us and help us prepare for the coming of the Lord with our hearts and minds. Through your renewal, we can heal one another and our world.

Silent Prayer of Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***RESPONSE:** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

*Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.*

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

A READING FROM THE SCRIPTURE *Isaiah 2:1-5, NRSV*

CHANCEL CHOIR "What is This Lovely Fragrance" arr. Healey Willan
Director, Rich Dixon

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL *Matthew 1:1-17, NRSV*

MESSAGE "Visioning Christ" The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

MEDITATION AND *HYMN OF THE DAY NO. 92 "While We Are Waiting, Come"

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from the Confession of 1967)

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for women and men when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

“Come, Thou Savior of the Nations”

Max Reger

*DOXOLOGY

(Hymnal # 606)

*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. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The congregation responds, “**Come Lord Jesus**”*

Following each petition which concludes, “We pray together...”

THE LORD’S PRAYER (Unison)

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.

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

(Not merely announcements, but the activities of our life together that reflect our day-to-day responses to God’s call for faithfulness and your invitation to join in!)

*HYMN OF SENDING NO. 106

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

Paul Manz

**Please stand if you are able.*



The Week Ahead

Monday, December 1

10:00am Christian Ed Committee
2:00pm Advent In-person Study Group
3:00pm Ballet Renaissance

Tuesday, December 2

12:00pm One Day at a Time AA Group
3:00pm Ballet Renaissance
4:30pm EVICS
6:30pm Estes Valley Chamber Singers
6:45pm Hispanic Bible Study

Wednesday, December 3

12:00pm Bible Study
12:30pm Estes Nonprofit Network
4:00pm Joyful Bells
6:00pm Luciana Ensemble
6:30pm Estes Park Chorale

Thursday, December 4

1:00pm Organ Proposal Meeting
4:00pm Chancel Bells
5:00pm EVICS
5:30pm EVICS Christmas Party
6:30pm One Day at a Time AA Group
6:30pm Chancel Choir

Friday, December 5

10:00am Adult Study Group
3:00pm Ballet Renaissance

Saturday, December 6

9:30am Card-Making Group
10:00am Girl Scout Troop 70449
2:00pm Estes Valley Chamber Singers
concert
5:30pm One Day at a Time AA Group

Sunday, December 7

8:30am Journeys
10:00am Worship
7:00pm Advent Zoom Study Group

See the full church calendar on www.pccrusa.org

Church Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey, pastor@pccrusa.org
Office Administrator: Brenda Dixon, office@pccrusa.org
Financial Manager: finance@pccrusa.org
Handbell Director: Patti Dolezal, music@pccrusa.org
Organist: Larry Gillum **Choir Director:** Rich Dixon

Elders

Nancy Almond - Curtis Fox - Judy Schaffer - Steve Wilson
Terry Brigham - Dennis Jacobs - Jim Jonell - Kent Meyer
Mimi Hardendorf - Jennifer Workman - Bruce Ellingwood
Fred Thibodeau - Clerk of Session: Barb Cole

Deacons

Diane Palmer - Chuck Bonza - Deborah Webb
Chuck Slicker - Mike Dempsey - Brenda Gillum
Jack Holmquist - Joanie Kleckner - Patti Dolezal
John Davis - Larry Pierce - Marilyn Irwin

Announcements

Greeters this morning are Lois & Bruce Ellingwood.

Fellowship Time—Join us today for coffee and treats hosted by Pete & Bonnie Vanderveen.

Wednesday Bible Study with Pastor Christine will be on Wednesday, December 3rd at 12:00 noon in the church Library. This week's topic is "Joseph" Genesis Chapters 37. All are welcome to join!

Adult Study Group with Carol Nussbaumer —

The Adult Study Group (a.k.a. Not Your Mother's Sunday School) continues on Friday, December 5th at 10:00am. The group is doing an in-depth study of Matthew chapter 5. Listening to the panel of 3 experts (one teaches an entire class on Matthew), we are beginning to see past the quick read of the "red verses" - i.e. the words of Christ—and are deepening our understanding of this most loved Bible chapter. All are welcome!

Advent Study—Join Pastor Christine either in person or on Zoom for a 4-week Advent study, reading and responding to Cynthia Campbell's *Christmas in the Four Gospel Homes*. Learn how the different gospel writers told (or did not tell) the Christmas story and discuss how that shapes our understanding of Jesus' arrival.

In-person gatherings: Mondays, December 1, 8, 15 and 22 at 2:00pm in the church library

Zoom only gatherings: Sunday evening, November 30, December 7, 14 and 21 at 7:00pm

All are welcome to attend! If you would like to participate, please contact Brenda in the church office to get the order information for your study book.

The **Estes Valley Chamber Singers Christmas concert** will be held in our sanctuary on **Saturday, December 6th at 2:00pm**. The concert, directed by Rich Dixon, will also feature the PCCR bell choirs, Larry Gillum and the Highland Brass. There is no charge to attend but donations will be accepted to defray the cost of music. All are invited to attend this wonderful celebration of the season!

On Sunday, December 14th there will be a **Congregational Meeting** immediately following the worship service to discuss the election of officers and the Pastor's terms of call. Please plan to attend.

Upcoming:

Sunday, November 30—Zoom Advent Study begins at 7:00pm

Monday, December 1—In-person Advent Study begins at 2:00pm in the church library

Saturday, December 6—Estes Valley Chamber Singers Christmas Concert featuring the PCCR bell choirs, Larry Gillum and the Highland Brass at 2:00pm in the Sanctuary, directed by Rich Dixon

Saturday, December 13—Estes Park Chorale Concert at 2:00pm in the Sanctuary, directed by Denise Stookesberry

Sunday, December 14—Congregational Meeting following the worship service

Sunday, December 21—Blue Christmas service at 5:00pm in the Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 24—Christmas Eve service at 5:00pm in the Sanctuary





Presbyterian
Community Church
of the Rockies



Donate!

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