

# PROVIDENCE CHURCH



SUNDAY GATHERING  
DECEMBER 24, 2023

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**FIRST CANDLE LIGHTING | Isaiah 9:2, 6-7**


*Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder.*

**All: Come, let us adore him.**

*And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

**Come, let us adore him.**

*Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end.*

**Come, let us adore him.**

*He will reign on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.*

**Come, let us adore him. He is Christ the Lord!**

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**SONG | O Come All Ye Faithful**


Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant

O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem

Come and behold him, born the King of angels

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord

True God of true God, light from light eternal

Humbly, he enters the virgin's womb

Son of the Father, begotten, not created

Sing Choirs of Angels, sing in exultation

Sing all ye citizens of heaven above

Glory to God! Glory in the highest!

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**SECOND CANDLE LIGHTING**


*Luke 1:26-38*

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**SONG | O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**


O Come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lowly exile here, until the Son of God appears

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

O come thou dayspring, come and cheer, our spirits by thine advent here  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight

O come, desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind  
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease, fill the whole world with heaven's peace

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**THIRD CANDLE LIGHTING**


*Luke 2:1-14*

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**SONG | Hark the Herald Angels Sing**


Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, "God and sinners reconciled"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies  
With the angelic host proclaim: "Christ is born in Bethlehem"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ by highest heav'n adored, Christ the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, hail the incarnate Deity  
Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die  
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

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## FOURTH CANDLE LIGHTING



*Luke 2:15-17, 25-32*

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## HOMILY



*Isaiah 53:1-10 (pg. 574 in pew bibles)*

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## COMMUNION



*The communion meal is a sign and seal of a believer's union with Christ. We invite all who have trusted in Christ and been baptized to partake in this meal. If you are still investigating Christianity or not sure what you believe, we invite you to observe during this time and further consider what these things mean.*

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**SONG | Infant Holy, Infant Lowly**


Infant holy, infant lowly, heaven's highest love come down  
 For the poor you left your glory and you laid aside your crown  
 Weak and helpless here you slumber in a stable with your mother  
 As the shepherds gather 'round do they know you've left your crown

Infant holy, infant lowly, you who once held heaven's power  
 Now you lie here cold and hungry, in the silent midnight hour  
 With your parents wrapped in worry, still exhausted from the journey  
 You were helpless in that hour, yet you set aside your power

Infant holy, infant lowly, King of kings and Lord of lords  
 You have come to us with nothing as the poorest of the poor  
 So we come to you in wonder, see you helpless as you slumber  
 And we lay our gifts before, Christ, the Savior, weak and poor

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**SONG | O Holy Night**


Oh holy night! The stars are brightly shining  
 It is the night of our dear Savior's birth  
 Long lay the world, in sin and error pining  
 Till he appear'd and the soul felt its worth  
 A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices  
 For yonder breaks, a new and glorious morn  
 Fall on your knees, oh hear the angel voices  
 Oh night divine, oh night when Christ was born  
 Oh night divine, oh night, oh night Divine

Truly he taught us to love one another  
 His law is love and his gospel is peace  
 Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother  
 And in his name all oppression shall cease  
 Sweet hymns of joy, in grateful chorus raise we  
 Let all within us praise his holy name  
 Christ is the Lord! O praise his name forever  
 His power and glory evermore proclaim  
 His power and glory evermore proclaim

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**PASSING OF THE LIGHT | John 1:1, 4-5, 12, 14**

*Leader: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.*

**All: In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.**

*The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him.*

**But to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.**

*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.*

**We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

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**SONG | Silent Night**

Silent night, holy night; all is calm, all is bright  
 Round yon virgin, mother and child, holy infant, so tender and mild  
 Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night; shepherds quake at the sight  
 Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia"  
 Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born

Silent night, holy night; Son of God, love's pure light  
 Radiant beams from thy holy face with the dawn of redeeming grace  
 Jesus Lord at thy birth, Jesus Lord at thy birth

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**BENEDICTION**

## CONNECTIONS

### GOSPEL COMMUNITIES



Gospel Communities (GCs) are the primary context in our church for discipleship, community, and missional life. They are smaller groups of people within Providence who are seeking to extend grace, speak truth, deal with conflict, meet needs, and invite others in. Groups meet throughout the week and across the city. Scan the QR code to see a full list of GCs or email [gc@providenceaustin.com](mailto:gc@providenceaustin.com) with any questions.

### PROVIDENCE RECOVERY



Providence Recovery is a Christ-centered, twelve-step program designed to help people point each other to Jesus for healing. We do this by providing fellowship and accountability in applying Christian principles and practices to every area of life. Our weekly meetings start at 7:00pm in the Activity Center. Scan the QR code to read more about Recovery or email [recovery@providenceaustin.com](mailto:recovery@providenceaustin.com) with any questions.

### COLLEGE STUDENTS

We love students and we'd love to help you get connected to our church. Let's get coffee or meet up on campus. We have monthly social events where you can meet new people and weekly small groups to help you grow in your faith. Reach out to Alex at **214-707-7356** or [alex@providenceaustin.com](mailto:alex@providenceaustin.com).

### PROVIDENCE YOUTH

6th-12th grade students meet every other Sunday after church for food, fellowship, and Bible study. We also have monthly social events and discipleship opportunities. Email [stephen@providenceaustin.com](mailto:stephen@providenceaustin.com) to get connected or for more info on upcoming events.

**INDUCTIVE STUDIES | STARTING JAN 16 & 17**

We have a tradition of beginning the year in God's Word together. This year, we will be studying The Upper Room Discourse in John 13-16, which is also the text for our spring preaching series. Men will meet on Tuesday mornings (starting Jan. 16) and Women on Wednesday mornings (starting Jan. 17), both from 6:30-8:00am in the chapel at University Avenue. Breakfast tacos and coffee provided! Sign up at [providenceaustin.com/johnstudy](http://providenceaustin.com/johnstudy).

**EOY GIVING | DEADLINE DEC 31**

Make sure to get your year-end gifts postmarked by December 31st to be considered a 2023 contribution. You can give year-end gifts in several ways, which you can see detailed below. Giving statements will be sent out in mid-January as normal.

**GIVING**

We desire that generous giving would be both an act of worship and display of the grace we receive through Christ. There are several ways to give financially to the mission of God through Providence Church:

- 1 You can place your cash and/or check donations in one of the two offering boxes located at the front of the sanctuary.
- 2 You can setup automatic withdraw from your bank account. Go to [www.providenceaustin.com/give](http://www.providenceaustin.com/give) for more info on giving online.
- 3 You can donate stock: Email [donations@providenceaustin.com](mailto:donations@providenceaustin.com).

info@providenceaustin.com  
 www.providenceaustin.com  
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