

# PROVIDENCE CHURCH




SUNDAY GATHERING  
DECEMBER 22, 2024

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**CALL TO WORSHIP** | Fourth Advent Candle Lighting
 

*Isaiah 42:1-4*

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**SONG** | 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

Joy to those who long to see thee, dayspring from on high, appear  
 Come, thou promised Rod of Jesse, of thy birth we long to hear!  
 O'er the hills the angels singing, glad tidings of a birth  
 "Go to him, your praises bringing; Christ the Lord has come to earth."

Comes to earth to taste our sadness, he, whose glories knew no end  
 By his life he brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend  
 Leaving riches without number, born within a cattle stall  
 This, the everlasting wonder, Christ was born the Lord of all

Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a King  
 Born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring  
 By thine own eternal Spirit, rule in all our hearts alone  
 By thine all-sufficient merit, raise us to thy glorious throne

Come, Messiah, come

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**CONFESSION OF SIN**


Lord, we have not kept watch for you. We have occupied ourselves with our own concerns. We have not waited to find your will for us. We have not noticed the needs of the people around us. We have not acknowledged the love that has been shown to us. Forgive us for our lack of watchfulness. Help us to wait to know your will. Help us to look out for the needs of others. Help us to work and watch for your coming. Amen.

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## ASSURANCE OF PARDON ●

*Isaiah 25:6-9*

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### SONG | We Will Feast in the House of Zion ◀

We will feast in the house of Zion

We will sing with our hearts restored

“He has done great things!” We will say together

We will feast and weep no more

We will not be burned by the fire, he is the Lord, our God

We are not consumed, by the flood, upheld, protected, gathered up

In the dark of night, before the dawn, my soul, be not afraid

For the promised morning oh how long? Oh God of Jacob, be my strength

Every vow we’ve broken and betrayed you are the Faithful One

And from the garden to the grave, bind us together, bring shalom

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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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**PROFESSION OF FAITH** | Mary's Magnificat • Luke 1:46-55
 

We glorify the Lord, and our spirits rejoice in God our Savior. He is mindful of the humble, and he scatters the proud. The Mighty One has done great things—holy is his name. His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. He has performed mighty deeds with his arm—he has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants forever.

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**ADVENT TESTIMONY**


*Torch Sunday (4th & 5th graders)*

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**READING & PREACHING OF THE WORD**


*Matthew 2:1-12, 16-18 (pg 757 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 | Doxology (Advent)** ◀

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

Praise God, who came as infant low  
To bear our flesh and grace bestow  
Born in a lowly manger stall  
A child who shall redeem us all

To us a child is born today  
Emmanuel in flesh displayed  
To once for all his people save  
Rejoice, give thanks and praise his name

From all that dwell beneath the skies  
Let the Creator's praise arise  
Let our Redeemer's name be sung  
Through ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue

Amen

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**SONG | Until He Comes Again** ◀

By this, we remember in faith as we gather  
With bread and wine we remember, until he comes again

When he comes again, like a thief in the night  
When he comes again, all the wrongs will be right  
Oh the earth lifted up as heaven comes down  
We remember until he comes again

By this, we remember in hope as we gather  
With bread and wine we remember, until he comes again

By this, we remember your love as we gather  
With bread and wine we remember, until he comes again

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**SONG | Christ is Coming** ◀

Christ is coming! Let creation from her groans and travail cease  
Let the glorious proclamation hope restore and faith increase  
Christ is coming! Christ is coming! Come, thou blessed Prince of Peace

Earth can now but tell the story, of thy bitter cross and pain  
She shall yet behold the glory, when thou comest back to reign  
Christ is coming! Christ is coming! Let each heart repeat the strain

Long thine exiles have been pining, far from rest, and home, and thee  
But, in heav'nly vestures shining, they their loving Lord shall see  
Christ is coming! Christ is coming! Haste the joyous jubilee

With the blessed hope before us, let no harp remain unstrung  
Let the mighty advent chorus, onward roll from tongue to tongue  
Christ is coming! Christ is coming! Come, Lord Jesus, quickly come

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**BENEDICTION** ◻

## 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).

## 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 are on Thursdays at 7:00pm in the Activity Center (first floor of the building).

Scan the QR code to read more or email [recovery@providenceaustin.com](mailto:recovery@providenceaustin.com).

## COLLEGE STUDENTS



We love college students, and we would 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.

Scan the QR code to see the upcoming college schedule or reach out to our college director, Alex Moser ([alex@providenceaustin.com](mailto:alex@providenceaustin.com) / 214-707-7356).

## PROVIDENCE YOUTH



**Middle School students (6th-8th)** meet after church three times a month for lunch, Bible study, and games.

**High School students (9th-12th)** meet in small groups twice a month, and a large group gathering once a month.

Scan the QR code to see the upcoming youth schedule or reach out to our youth director, Stephen Smith ([stephen@providenceaustin.com](mailto:stephen@providenceaustin.com)).

**END OF YEAR GIVING | DEADLINE DEC 31**

Make sure to get your year-end gifts postmarked by December 31st to be considered a 2024 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.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE | DEC 24 • 5PM**

We will have a Christmas Eve service at 5pm this year. It will be a slightly shorter service than our normal Sunday gathering, and childcare will not be provided. Invite your extended family and friends to join us!

**BAPTISM CELEBRATION | JAN 12 • AFTER GATHERED WORSHIP**

Our next baptism celebration will be held on January 12th. If you would like to learn more about baptism, please email [baptism@providenceaustin.com](mailto:baptism@providenceaustin.com).

**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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