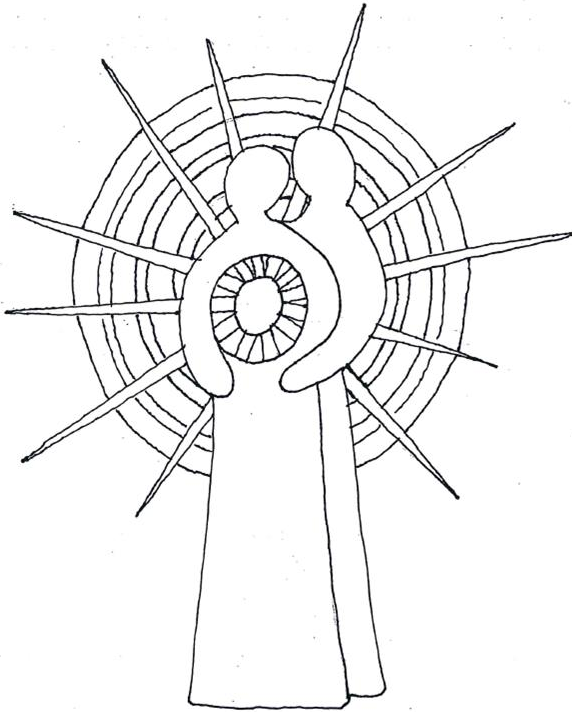


AN EVER-WIDENING CIRCLE OF GRACE



# Ridgefield-Crystal Lake Presbyterian Church

8505 Church Street | Crystal Lake, IL 60012 | 815-459-1132  
[www.rclpc.org](http://www.rclpc.org)



**John Dillon, Pastor**  
**1st Sunday of Advent**  
**December 2, 2018 | 9:00 and 11:00**

*As a courtesy, please silence cell phones before worship.  
A “+” indicates all are invited to stand in either body or spirit.*

## WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE!

## +CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us worship God.

## +HYMN 104: O LORD, HOW SHALL I MEET YOU

## +LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

One: In the beginning was the Word –  
spoken and breathed,  
a promise made and kept.

**All: Listen and hear –  
God's promise is true!**

One: The Word was in the beginning,  
and through him all things come into being.

**All: Eternal and near at hand, already and not yet,  
God's promise is the foundation of all life.**

One: Listen! Hear the covenant anew,  
giving voice to a future with hope.

*~ candle is lit ~*

**All sing: As we light the Advent candle  
with the light of hope burning bright,  
faithfully we wait for his coming;  
faithfully it shines through the night.  
In our humble hearts a fire burns as well;  
hear the prayer these flames would tell.  
O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel.**

## +ADVENT PRAYER

Pastor: In this season of Advent,  
we are here to watch, wait and pray  
for the coming of light into the world.

**All: We long for the day  
when the things of darkness shall be no more.**

Pastor: Lord, light up the past  
that we might learn from it with thankfulness.

**All: Light up the present that we might live in it with love.**

Pastor: Light up the future,  
that we might prepare for it in hope.

**All: As we watch, wait and pray,  
may we always be ready to encounter the Lord  
who is always already with us. Amen.**

+SUNG RESPONSE:

AWAKE! AWAKE, AND GREET THE NEW MORN      GTG 107, verse 4

**All sing: Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night.  
Though dark the winter and cheerless,  
the rising sun shall crown you with light;  
be strong and loving and fearless.  
Love be our song and love our prayer  
and love our endless story;  
may God fill every day we share  
and bring us at last into glory.**

+PASSING THE PEACE

Pastor: Peace be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*(You are invited to share the peace with one another.)*

+SUNG RESPONSE:

GTG 113

**All sing: Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

SCRIPTURE READING:

EXODUS 2:1-10

MESSAGE

*The Birth of a Promise - Hope*

Rev. John Dillon

+AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We trust God, whose Love and Justice are revealed over and over through creation, community, and story, through the voices of prophets and the lives of ordinary people, through a helpless newborn baby.**

**We trust Jesus the Christ, embodiment of God's word, born a refugee, raised in poverty, dependent on the kindness of others. His obedience to God's call brought him together with the most unlikely characters, and his insistence on God's radical love for all led him to the cross. Yet God's love was more powerful than human force, and on the third day love walked out of the tomb, alive and free in the world.**

**We trust the Holy Spirit, breath of all life, who blows where she will, calling us to the same path Jesus walked, and leading us all in the holy dance of life in the kingdom of God.**

**Even as days grow dark, even in the midst of uncertainty, even now: the fire of God's love burns bright, the wind of the spirit cannot be contained, streams of living water flow in the desert, and all earth cries glory, as we wait the dawn of God's new day.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Pastor: All things in heaven and earth belong to God,  
who is coming in glory to reveal a new creation.  
Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

OFFERING:                                    "*Christmas Cantata*"                                    Daniel Pinkham

I. *Quem vidisti pastores?*  
Whom do you see? Shepherds, tell us!  
Proclaim to us: who has appeared on the earth?  
We saw the new born child  
and choirs of angels praising the Lord.

II. *O Magnum Mysterium*

O great mystery and wondrous sacrament  
that animals should see the new born Lord  
lying in their manger.

Blessed is the Virgin whose womb  
was worthy to bear the Lord Jesus Christ.

III. *Gloria in excelsis Deo*

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those of  
good will. O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands; serve the Lord  
with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath made us  
and not we ourselves. Alleluia.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

+HYMN 7: MOTHERING GOD, YOU GAVE ME BIRTH

+SENDING

Pastor: May hope be reborn in you today.

**All: May hope be reborn in the world tomorrow.  
May hope be reborn so heaven  
may be glimpsed even here on earth.**

Pastor: Go with the hope of God,  
born into this world of sorrow and conflict.  
May that hope be with you today, tomorrow, and  
evermore.

## ADULT CHOIR

### Soprano

Rebecca Floyd  
Cindy Harvey  
Alice Haznedl  
Lisa Krchak  
Kelsi Morefield  
Ashley Puenner  
Sarah Metivier Schadt  
Deborah Steele

### Alto

Deb Bendis  
Paula Ekstrom  
Mary Finch  
Kristi Geggie  
Gretchen Holder  
Jodi Iddings  
Lois Johnson  
Ann Legg  
Margie Natividad

### Tenor

Mike Griswold  
Fred Neuschel  
David Woodruff

### Bass

Darrell Bessant  
Larry Connell  
Stephen Connell  
Scott Iddings  
Jac Kelewae  
David Steele  
George Steffen

John Morefield, organist

### *Crystal Brass Quintet*

Jim Henneman, trumpet, Randy Karon, trumpet,  
Ann Lingner, french horn, George Rook, trombone,  
Anthony Camarda, tuba

Sherri Dees, music director

*We gather in grace, we grow in grace, we go in grace...  
The journey continues in an ever-widening circle of grace.*

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NURSERY CARE is provided during all worship services. Infants and pre-kindergarten children are welcomed there by our trained staff.

FLOWERS are given by **Allison & Dave Larsen** in celebration of Anna Larsen's 18th birthday yesterday (December 1)!

NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE! Details of all church events, meetings etc. are available online at [www.rclpc.org](http://www.rclpc.org). Printed copies are available from the ushers.