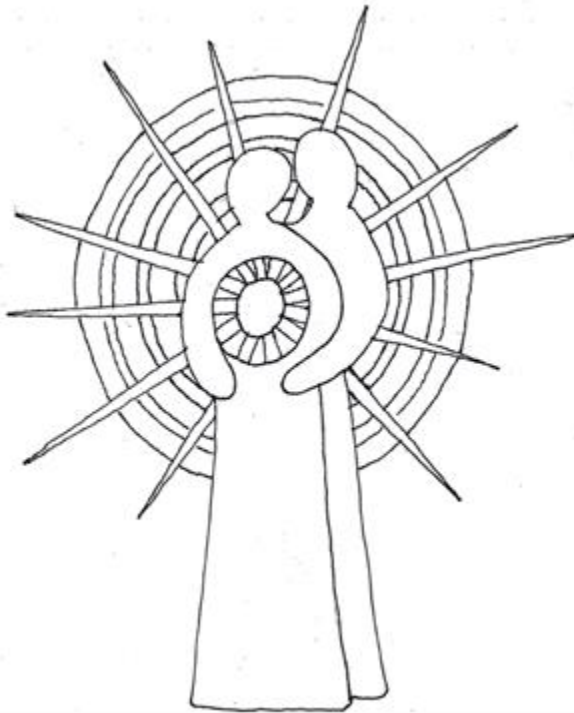


AN EVER-WIDENING CIRCLE OF GRACE



Ridgefield-Crystal Lake Presbyterian Church

8505 Church Street | Crystal Lake, IL 60012 | 815-459-1132
www.rclpc.org



John Dillon, Pastor
2nd Sunday of Advent
December 9, 2018 | 9:00

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

WE GATHER

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE!

+CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Lord, we come yearning,
and longing to love and to be loved.

**All: We raise our voices in worship, singing praise
to the birth of love itself.**

+GETTING READY

+LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

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

All: Speak it loud and clear – 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: Do not hold back!
Speak out, giving voice to God’s peace
that passes all understanding.

~ candle is lit ~

**All sing: As we light the Advent candle
with the light of peace 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: Holy One, mysterious, yet longing to be known,
we thank you for all that Advent offers us.

All: Time to live in hopeful expectation and wondrous certainty that you are always present in our lives.

Pastor: Lord, you have sent so many people into the world who have guided us to a better way.

All: People who have worked for peace, people who have fought for justice, people who have died for others.

Pastor: Lord, we long for the Advent of your kingdom.

All: Help us to play our part in achieving all that it will be. 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

One: Jesus brings the gift of peace, to make us bearers of hope, able to see light even in darkness.

All: May Christ's peace empower us to reconciliation, healing and justice. May it sink deeply into our being, and may we share it with joy.

+SUNG RESPONSE:

GTG 113

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

WEE WORSHIP

O COME O COME EMMANUEL

SCRIPTURE AND DRAMATIC READING

Judges 13:1-14,24

MESSAGE *The Birth of a Promise - Possibilities* Rev. John Dillon

+*JUSTICE AND MERCY*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

OFFERING: *CHRISTMAS PRAYER*

+DOXOLOGY: ANGELS, FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY GTG 143
(*verse 4*)

**All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ,
the newborn king!**

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

+*GLORY (LET THERE BE PEACE)*

+SENDING

Pastor: May the blessings of God surround us.

All: May angels and friends share our journey.

Pastor: May we walk on holy ground.

All: May people of faith inspire us.

Pastor: Go. In the name of the Creator, Christ and Spirit,
and discover the possibilities of faith and life.

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

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

NEWS OF THE CHURCH ALIVE! Details of all church events, meetings etc. are available online at www.rclpc.org. Printed copies are available from the ushers.