



Church of Reconciliation

10:30

November 28, 2021

First Sunday of Advent

**WELCOME** to all visitors and guests this morning. We are happy you are here to worship with us. If you want to know more about the Church of Reconciliation, you may email the church office at [info@cor-satx.org](mailto:info@cor-satx.org) to receive our weekly e-mail.

**All are welcome at the table of the Lord for Holy Communion. If you would prefer to receive Communion at your seat instead of at the rail, please let an usher know. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Large-print bulletins are available at the church entrances.**

**About Today's Preacher**

The Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas is an Episcopal priest, author, retreat leader, and climate activist. She has been a lead organizer of many Christian and interfaith events about care for Earth, and she leads spiritual retreats in the U.S.A. and Canada on spiritual resilience and resistance in the midst of a climate emergency. Her latest book, [Rooted and Rising: Voices of Courage in a Time of Climate Crisis](#) (2019), is a co-edited collection of essays by environmental activists from diverse religious traditions. She has been arrested in Washington, D.C., and elsewhere to protest expanded use of fossil fuels. She serves as Missioner for Creation Care in the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts and Southern New England Conference, United Church of Christ, and as Creation Care Advisor for the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts. Her Website, [RevivingCreation.org](http://RevivingCreation.org), includes blog posts, sermons, videos, and articles.

**Alternative Gift Market**

**Sunday, December 12 and 19 during Coffee Hour**

Gifts purchased at the Church of Reconciliation's Alternative Gift Market celebrate the true spirit of Christmas with gifts that inspire change through humanitarian causes. Honor your loved ones with donations to one of the non-profit organizations affiliated or associated with Rec. More info coming soon!

**The HUGEST OF THANK YOUS to EVERYONE** who donated coats for our coat drive to benefit Casa Marianella and Santa Fe Episcopal Church. Because of your EXTREME generosity, we collected 150 coats!!! The coats have already been delivered to Casa Marianella and the men, women and children who received them were extremely appreciative!! (Due to safety concerns, I was not able to capture their joy on camera, but trust me when I say, they were putting on the coats immediately and parading down the street with smiles on their faces.) A special thank-you to Suzanne Wade for all of the knitted caps that she donated as well. They loved them!! You ALL are so incredibly generous with your gifts!! Many thanks!!

**Today's altar flowers are given by Roxie Montesano in loving memory of Barry Smith.**

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

- 8:00am** – Holy Eucharist (no music)
- 9:00am** - Christian Education & Formation
- 9:00am** – Chapel with Holy Communion, Labyrinth
- 9:30am-10:15am** - Children, Youth & Family Formation
- 10:30am** – Holy Eucharist (livestreamed, with music)  
*The outdoor Labyrinth is available at any time.*

**“Stuff the Stockings” for Magdalena House:**

As we have done for the past several years, we would like to invite you to once again serve the women and children at **Magdalena House!** Magdalena House is a transitional home in San Antonio that serves mothers and children who have fled dangerous and abusive lives. They provide transformation through education, nurturing community, and programming. They rescue the least and the lost, sharing hope for a new beginning.

Our list this year from Magdalena House includes 11 moms and 17 children for a total of 28 people. In the past, we have asked for donations of small gifts for the stockings. This year we would like to try something new! **With 28 stockings to stuff, we are asking for monetary donations of \$25 per stocking for a total of \$700.** Then, a small team of volunteers will shop for the stocking stuffers. **Donations are due by Wednesday, December 1,** at which time we will gather as a church family for our Advent Dinners and Activities and stuff the stockings.

Please make plans to join us in whatever way you are able. If you have any questions, please feel free to call, text or email Jennifer Murphy at 210-725-3080 or [jennifer@cor-satx.org](mailto:jennifer@cor-satx.org).

**Advent Family Dinners and Activities  
Wednesdays, December 1, 8, and 15, 2021**

Please join us from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in Brown Hall for Advent Family Dinners and Activities!! Families will have the opportunity to slow down and enjoy some family time, all while preparing for the birth of Jesus. There will be yummy food, singing, games, crafting, praying, serving, and more!! Registration will be open to all Rec Children, Youth and Families! All ages are welcome and invited to attend (activities will be age-appropriate for all of our Children and Youth) **and the cost is FREE; but reservations are required!!** Sign up for any dates you want to attend! All are welcome! Sign up at <https://cor-satx.org/signup-for-events/>

## Sunday Worship Service Options

### **8:00am Worship Service**

This service is a full Holy Eucharist, without music. All are welcome!

### **9:00am Chapel with Holy Communion followed by Children, Youth and Family Formation**

Everyone is invited to join us at 9:00 a.m., in Brown Hall, for Chapel with Holy Communion! **(Weather permitting, we will be on the Labyrinth for this service).**

Following our Chapel service, those who would like to participate, can join us for Children, Youth and Family Formation in the Children's Building and Rec Room.

We will wrap up by 10:15 a.m.

Any questions? Please don't hesitate to chat with Jennifer!

### **10:30am Livestream Worship Service**

On Sundays, Reconcilers will be allowed in the sanctuary for our 10:30am livestream service. This is a full Eucharist service with music. All are welcome!

## Order of Service

10:30

### THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

**Bryna and Haley Nation**

Advent means “Coming”. We begin our church year with the season of Advent. Who is coming, where are we going and who will show us the way? It is a season to spiritually prepare to enter the Mystery of Christmas, a mystery so big that it takes four weeks to get ready.

During the four Sundays of Advent our eyes will be focused on Bethlehem. The altar rail will be transformed by the lights of those who are to show us the way. Come with the prophets, the Holy Family, the Shepherds, and the Magi as we all make our way to Bethlehem.

### FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“The Light of the Prophets” declares the season that awaits Christmas and reveres those who first spoke the promise of the Christ Child.

Their language generated hope in the hearts of the faithful. They told us to

STOP!

WATCH!

PAY ATTENTION!

Something incredible is going to happen in Bethlehem!

### PROCESSION

#### THE OPENING HYMN

**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**  
**Hymnal #56**  
**Verses 1, 2**

O come, O come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

### THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

#### THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

*Celebrant* Blessed are you, holy and living One.

*People* **You come to your people and set them free.**

*Celebrant:* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

#### THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE

**Jeremiah 33:14-16**  
**Read by Erica Valle**

*Lector:* A Reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 25

**Refrain: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul, to you, I lift my soul.**

Lord, make me know your ways, teach me your paths  
and keep me in the way of your truth, for you are God, my Savior. *Refrain*

For the Lord is good and righteous,  
revealing the way to those who wander,  
gently leading the poor and the humble. *Refrain*

To the ones who seek the Lord,  
who look to God's word, who live God's love,  
God will always be near, and will show them mercy. *Refrain*

## THE EPISTLE

**1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**  
**Read by Erica Valle**

*Lector:* A reading from Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## THE SEQUENCE HYMN

**Jesus, Come! For We Invite You**

Jesus come! For we invite you, guest and master, friend and Lord;  
Now, as once at Cana's wedding, speak and let us hear your word:  
Lead us through our need or doubting, hope be born and joy restored

## THE GOSPEL

**Luke 21:25-36**

*Celebrant:* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## THE SERMON

**The Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas**

## THE NICENE CREED

*Celebrant:* Let us affirm our faith together.

*All:* **We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**Read by Erica Valle**

*Intercessor:* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

For all people in their daily life and work, especially military, medical workers, and first responders;  
**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world, especially our president, Joe, our governor, Greg, our mayor, Ron, and all other leaders;  
**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation; today we acknowledge the extinction of the upland combshell mussel.  
**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble, especially from our parish family: Jan, Kimberly, Nora, Garnet, Susan, Stella, Robert, Carolyn, Randy, Tiffany, Luke, Arlene, and Carolyn; and others we name either silently or aloud \_\_\_\_.  
**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, David and Rayford, our Bishops, Josh and Judy, our priests, and all other ministers of the church;  
**For all who serve God in the Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. Hear us, Lord;  
**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We will exalt you, O God our King;  
**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;  
**Who put their trust in you.**

*The Celebrant reads the Concluding Collect.*

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## **THE CONFESSION OF SIN**

*Minister* Let us confess our sins to God.

*Minister and People*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

## **THE ABSOLUTION**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

*Celebrant:* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*(The people exchange greetings)*

## **THE GATHERING HYMN**

**Awake, Awake**

Awake, Awake and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning.  
Sing out your joy for soon he is born, behold! the Child of our longing.  
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!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Happy birthday to:

Suzanne Scott	11/29
Kitty Flores	12/2
Stella Judson	12/2
Stewart Swann	12/2
Jessie Hardy	12/3

*If you would like your birthday, anniversary, or other milestone mentioned here, please email [info@cor-satx.org](mailto:info@cor-satx.org).*

## THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*Celebrant:* O Lord our God, you are worthy to receive glory and honor and power; because you have created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being. *Revelation 4:11*

## THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM

**Every Valley by John Ness Beck**

Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain made low;  
And the crooked made straight and the rough places plain.

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed  
And all flesh shall see it together  
For the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

## DOXOLOGY

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part, yet what I can I give him; give him my heart.

## THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

**Eucharistic Prayer A**

<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	<b>And also with you.</b>
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	<b>We lift them to the Lord.</b>
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	<b>It is right to give our thanks and praise.</b>

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.  
For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

*Then the Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*Celebrant and People*

**Christ has died.  
Christ is risen.  
Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

*Celebrant:* As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**The LORD'S PRAYER** *(sung)*

**G7**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,**

**your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

### **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

*Celebrant:* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

*The people respond:* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

### **THE INVITATION**

He whom the universe could not contain, is present to us in this bread. He who redeemed us and called us by name, now meets us in this cup. So take this bread and this wine, in them God comes to us so that we may come to God.

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

*All are welcome at the table of the Lord for Holy Communion.*

### **COMMUNION MUSIC**

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.

**Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus**  
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.

**My Lord, What a Morning  
With One Voice #627**

### **THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

*Celebrant:* And now, let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us the strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. AMEN.**

### **THE BLESSING**

### **THE CLOSING HYMN**

**Soon And Very Soon  
With One Voice #744**

## **THE DISMISSAL**

*The Priest dismisses the people saying:*  
Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

*The People Respond:*  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Rec Nursery: "Come One, Come All"**

"Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them." (Matthew 19:14)

**Ages:** 6 weeks old through 3 years old

**Elementary Ministry: "Fun In Our Faith"**

"He will fill your mouth with laughter and your lips with shouting!" (Job 8:21)

**Ages:** 4 years old through 4th Grade

**Elementary Sunday School:** Join us on our next adventure with Story Makers: The Flood from 9:30-10:15 a.m. in the Children's Building.

**Rec Middle School Ministry: "Faith Over Fear"**

"Do not be afraid! Do not be discouraged!" (Deuteronomy 31:8)

**Ages:** 5th Grade thru 8th Grade

**MS Sunday School:** The Middle School Youth and parents will be discussing the Gospel Reading, alongside a devotional from the Book of Common Prayer, in the Rec Room, every Sunday morning from 9:30-10:15.

**MS Youth Group:** Wednesday Evenings from 7:00-8:30p.m. Please chat with Jennifer for the details!

**Rec High School Ministry: "Carried By The Lord"**

"Where you saw how the Lord your God carried you..." (Deuteronomy 1:31)

**Ages:** 9th Grade through 12th Grade

**HS Sunday School:** The High School Youth and parents will be discussing the Gospel Reading, alongside a devotional from the Book of Common Prayer, in the Rec Room, every Sunday morning from 9:30-10:15.

**HS Youth Group:** Wednesday Evenings from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Please chat with Jennifer for the details!

**Please call/text or email Jennifer Murphy at 210-725-3080 or [jennifer@cor-satx.org](mailto:jennifer@cor-satx.org) for more information.**

**Ministering and Serving This Sunday  
November 28, 2021**

**8:00**

**Verger:** George Zayas

**Usher:** Fred Spartz

**Lector:** Rusty Wilson

**Prayers of the People:** Rusty Wilson

**Altar Guild:** Team I (Margaret Lewis Team)

**10:30**

**Verger:** George Zayas

**Lector:** Erica Valle

**Prayers of the People:** Erica Valle

**Lay Eucharistic Minister:** Joan West, Jennifer Murphy

**Altar Guild:** Team I (Margaret Lewis Team)

**Ushers:** Mike Moneer (lead), Cris Lopez

**Greeters:** Rodney Gray, Timothy Webber (lead)

**Coffee Hour:** Brenda Moneer, Priscilla Coppock

**Second Sunday Service Day  
for Children, Youth and Families**

Please make plans to join us on the second Sunday of every month, immediately following the 9:00 a.m. Chapel service for **Second Sunday Service Day!** This time will be set aside for ALL of our Children, Youth and Families (and anyone else who would like to join us) to serve our San Antonio community, right here in our very own **Alban Classroom (please take note of the location change.)**

Service projects will vary, but we will finish in time for the 10:30 service. (This time of service will take the place of Family Faith Formation for the week.) Additional service opportunities will continue to be offered throughout the school year for our Middle School and High School Youth. Any questions?!? Please call/text or email Jennifer Murphy.

**Upcoming Second Sunday Service Days:**

December 12

We invite your prayers this week for:

**Jan, Kimberly, Ron, Nora, Reese, Benny, Garnet, Kes, Randy, Susan, Audie, Stella, Robert, Alice, Carolyn, Randy, Flora, Larry, Tiffany, Alfred, Ken, Luke, Virginia, Arlene, and Carolyn.**

Use this QR code to make a donation to Rec via PayPal.

