



*church of reconciliation*

**Welcome to Church of Reconciliation!** We are happy you are here to worship with us.  
Assisted listening devices and large-print bulletins are available in the church narthexes.  
The nursery is open for ages infant to three years.  
Early Learning Class is open for children 3 years old through kindergarten age.

**The Lighting of the Advent Candle**

“My eyes have seen your salvation. You prepared this salvation in the presence of all peoples. It’s a light for revelation to the Gentiles and a glory for your people Israel.” *Luke 2:30-32*

As we light all four candles of the Advent wreath, we give thanks for your great love in Jesus, your Son. Help us to make room in our hearts for your love and live in our bodies, minds, and spirits. Amen.

*Our first Advent candle will be lit, which represents hope.  
Our second Advent candle will be lit, which represents peace.  
Our third Advent candle will be lit, which represents joy.  
Our fourth Advent candle will be lit, which represents love.*

**The Procession and Opening Hymn**

**Hymnal 1982 #66 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**  
*(to the tune Hyfrydol)*

**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 Gloria**

**S-280 Hymnal 1982**

**Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to God’s people on earth  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**The Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant:* God be with you.

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

*Celebrant:* Let us pray.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**The First Lesson**

*Lector:* A Reading from Micah.

**Micah 5:2-5a**  
**Read by Vanessa Gill**

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,

from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,

whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has brought forth;

then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.

And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,  
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;

and he shall be the one of peace.

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Canticle of Mary G 147

My soul is filled with joy, as I sing to God my savior; you have looked upon your servant, you have visited your people. And holy is your name through all generations! Everlasting in your mercy to the people you have chosen, and holy is your name.

I am lowly as a child, but I know from this day forward that my name will be remembered for all will call me blessed. And holy is your name through all generations! Everlasting in your mercy to the people you have chosen, and holy is your name.

I proclaim the power of God, you do marvels for your servants; though you scatter the proud hearted and destroy the might of princes. And holy is your name through all generations! Everlasting in your mercy to the people you have chosen, and holy is your name.

To the hungry you give food, send the rich away empty. In your mercy you are mindful of the people you have chosen. And holy is your name through all generations! Everlasting in your mercy to the people you have chosen, and holy is your name.

In your love you now fulfill what you promised to your people. I will praise you, Lord my savior everlasting is your mercy. And holy is your name through all generations! Everlasting in your mercy to the people you have chosen, and holy is your name.

### **The Second Lesson**

*Lector:* A Reading from Paul's letter to the Hebrews.

**Hebrews 10:5-10**

**Read by Terry Arata-Maiers**

When Christ came into the world, he said,

"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
but a body you have prepared for me;

in burnt offerings and sin offerings  
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God'  
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

*Lector:* The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **The Gospel Acclamation**

*Bells.*

*Cantor:* Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

*Bells.*

*Congregation:* Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

*Bells.*

## The Gospel

Luke 1:39-55

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

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

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,  
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,  
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.  
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;  
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.  
His mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.  
He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.  
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,  
and lifted up the lowly;  
he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and sent the rich away empty.  
He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,  
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,  
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

*Celebrant:* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Christmas Pageant

**Hymn:**

**Hymnal 1982 #79 O Little Town of Bethlehem**

**NARRATION 1:** All is still and quiet.

**Hymn:**

**Hymnal 1982 #111 Silent Night**

**NARRATION 2:** They decide to sleep with the animals.

**Hymn:**

**Hymnal 1982 #81 Lo, how a rose e'er blooming**

**NARRATION 3:** Mary gently wraps the baby in a blanket and lays him in the feed box filled with straw.

**Hymn:**

**Hymnal 1982 #101 Away in a manger**

**NARRATION 4:** There they find the Holy Family and creep forward, overwhelmed with mystery, to find Nativity itself in the centre of all that love.

**Hymn:**

**Hymnal 1982 #96 Angels we have heard on high**

**READER 5:** The star leads everyone to your Bethlehem.

**Hymn:**

**Hymnal 1982 #128 We Three Kings**

They fall on their knees and give him bright gold, sweet smelling frankincense, and bitter myrrh, brought so far with so much love.

**READER 6:** So now we come, following the star to find God-with-us. We come as people have come all through the ages, to bring our gifts to this Child, God's gift to us.

**Closing Hymn:**

**Joy To The World Hymnal 1982 #100**

**The Nicene Creed**

**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,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who 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 Marise Melson**

*Intercessor:*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world. Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray especially for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; David, our Bishop; Angela, our Bishop Suffragan-elect, Reagan, our priest; Jennifer, Jude, and Emily, our seminarians; and all other ministers of the church;

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Give us all a reverence for creation. Stir up in us a thirst for justice that protects the earth and all its resources, so that we may leave to our children's children the legacy of beauty and abundance that you have given us.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those from our parish family: Kimberly, Garnet, Kes, Carolyn, Audie, Emmet, Mary, Lauren, Rick, Kathy, Michael, Liz, Mark, Nancy, Mike, Jean, Cynthia, Joe, Joseph, Kathryn, and Peter; and those we name either silently or aloud (silence is then kept for a time). Give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially those we name either silently or aloud (silence is then kept for a time); that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy  
**Hear our prayer.**

*The Celebrant prays a concluding Collect.*

### **The Confession of Sin**

*Celebrant:* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence*

*Minister and People*

**God of all mercy,  
we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,  
the evil we have done,  
and the evil done on our behalf.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. 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 Song

## 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.  
Come as a baby weak and poor, to bring all hearts together, he opens wide the heavenly door,  
and lives now inside us forever.

## Announcements

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

## The Offertory Anthem

## Breath of Heaven by Chris Eaton and Amy Grant

## Doxology

## In The Bleak Midwinter

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 my heart.

## The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer III, Enriching Our Worship

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

*Celebrant and People*

**Land of Rest**

**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.**

*The Presider continues*

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.



We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

*Celebrant and People*

**Dying, you destroyed our death.**

**Rising, you restored our life.**

**Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

*Celebrant and People*

**Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**The Lord's Prayer**

**G7**

**Our Father in heaven hallowed by 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 forever.**

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

**The Fraction Anthem**

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 Invitation**

*Celebrant:* The Gifts of God for the People of God, holy gifts for holy people. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

## Communion

With One Voice #632 The Angel Gabriel

*Gluten-free wafers and non-alcoholic wine are available upon request.*

*If you would prefer to receive Communion at your seat instead of at the rail, please let an usher know.*

## The Greeting at the Rail

*At the rail, pass the following greeting to your neighbor.*

**Greeting:** Christ is coming.

**Response:** Let us receive him.

## Sending Forth of Eucharistic Visitors

*If Eucharistic Visitors are to be sent forth, they are commissioned with the following form:*

**Celebrant and People:** In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

## 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 strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## The Blessing

## The Closing Hymn

With One Voice #730 My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness

## The Dismissal

*The Priest dismisses the people. The People Respond:*

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Today's altar flowers are given by Bill Schiller in memory of Norrie and Pauline Brett.**

**Join us for Christmas Eve services!**

**4:00pm:** Children's Sermon and Young Musicians (Prelude Music beginning at 3:45)

**7:00pm:** Traditional Choir and Hymns

**Serving and Ministering This Sunday  
December 22, 2024**

**8:00 am**

**Verger:** Erica Valle

**Lectors:** Jude Castillo

**Prayers of the People:** Jude Castillo

**Chalice:** Brandi Simpson

**Intincter:**

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

**Ushers:** Brad and Julia Coffey

**10:30 am**

**Verger:** Erica Valle

**Livestream:** Lou Navarro, Lee Mick

**Lectors:** Vanessa Gill, Terry Arata-Maiers

**Prayers of the People:** Marise Melson

**Intincter:** Lee Mick

**Chalice:** Judith Anthony

**Acolytes:** Rhodes Shay, Bennett Shay

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

**Ushers:** Eddie Cox (lead), Mike Moneer, Bruce  
Floh

**Greeters:** Teresa Gray (lead), Katheryn Cox

**Godly Play:** None

**Breakfast:** Son Rise Crew

**Coffee Hour:** Brenda Moneer

### **Christmas Pageant**

All Children are invited to grab a costume and be a part of this sacred story. This pageant will be "pick up" style meaning that we will guide your children on the day, but there are no rehearsals beforehand. Preschoolers and Kindergartners will have a special celebration during formation hour in their classroom on December 22nd. Toward the end of the celebration, teachers will help our early learners pick out costumes so they will be ready for the pageant! Big kids participating in the pageant will report to the Godly Play Atrium at 10am to pick out their costumes.

Costumes will also be available in the narthex for those just coming in at 10:30am. Return costumes to the narthex.

After the pageant, Big Kids and Youth are invited to join us in the Youth Building for a Christmas Party together. Food, Karaoke, Crafts, and Games. We will also be preparing Christmas cards to send to those who are receiving hospice care this season.

### **New Directory - Your Info Needed!**

It's time to work on our new directory! If you are a new member and want to be featured in our directory, please email Erica at [erica@cor-satx.org](mailto:erica@cor-satx.org) with your info! (photo, email, address, phone, or whatever information you feel comfortable sharing). If you are already in the directory, but want to submit a new photo, phone number, etc. email Erica with the info.

**We are aiming to have the directory ready by January 12.**

### **Christmas Decorating**

After the 10:30 service, we will be setting up our Christmas decorations in the sanctuary. If you are available to help, please stay after the service!

### **Dinner Dames**

The next Dinner Dames will be Friday, December 27, from 6pm-8pm. Location TBD.

### **Tai Chi Class**

EXERCISE CLASS CANCELLED December 23-31. We will start back up in the new year.

### **Christmas Office Closures**

Our office will be closed from December 23 - January 1, and we will reopen on Thursday, January 2nd. We will have Sunday services as usual. Staff members will be here on and off, so if you need anything, please call ahead. If you have a pastoral emergency, please call/text Rev. Reagan at (406) 579-0394.

### **Meditation Circle**

Join our newly formed Meditation Circle **Fridays at 10am in the church.** Anyone can meditate; it's simple, but not easy. The group will hear and discuss a reading, reflection, poetry, or scripture for 30 minutes and meditate in silence for 30 minutes. Come learn about and explore the spiritual practice of meditation and through it to experience the contemplative dimension of spirituality. All are welcome.

### **Firewood**

Firewood is available for anyone who would like some. Donation of any amount is accepted. Email Bill at [bill@cor-satx.org](mailto:bill@cor-satx.org) to set up a time to pick it up.

### **Food Insecurity Ministry**

Thank you all so much for your generous outpouring of donations for the Little Food Pantry. Please continue to donate goods for the Little Pantry. We have seen a lot of requests lately. Even though the Food Insecurity Awareness month is over, we have a standing committee to keep this important ministry in the forefront. If you are interested in being on the committee, please email Jude at [jude@cor-stax.org](mailto:jude@cor-stax.org).







## Today at Reconciliation Formation

- Adults: Journey In Faith Group, 9:15-10:15am in the Library
- Adults: Reconciling Out Loud Formation Class, 9:15-10:15am in Alban
- Christmas Pageant: Children Invited to Participate in Eucharist

## Fellowship

- Breakfast in Brown Hall, 8:40am-9:30am
- Coffee Hour in Brown Hall after the 10:30am service
- Busy Hands Club in Brown Hall after 10:30 service
- Peace on Earth Playtime Celebration at 9:00am
- Children and Youth Christmas Party after the 10:30

Use this QR code to fill out a Newcomer Card online!



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



## The Episcopal Church of Reconciliation

8900 Starcrest Drive, San Antonio, TX 78217  
Phone: (210) 655-2731  
[www.cor-satx.org](http://www.cor-satx.org)

Church Office Hours:  
Tuesday – Friday, 9:00am – 3:00pm

Have questions? Email us at:  
[info@cor-satx.org](mailto:info@cor-satx.org)

## Reconciliation Vestry and Officers

### Through 2024

Priscilla Coppock, *Clerk*  
Katheryn Cox  
Jann Steed, *Junior Steward*  
April Toman, *Senior Steward*  
Timothy Webber

### Through 2025

Susan Ennis  
Bryna Nation  
Roderick “Pat” Patterson

### Through 2026

Teresa Gray  
Sonia Suire  
  
Suzanne Scott, *Treasurer*  
Mike Moneer, *Assistant Treasurer*

## Reconciliation Staff

The Rev. Reagan Gonzalez, Rector  
Erica Valle, Parish Administrator  
Rusty Wilson, Administrative Assistant  
Tamara Talasek, Director of Children, Youth & Families  
Jude Castillo, Director of Elder Ministries & Outreach  
Cindy Sanchez, Music Director  
Mary Hitt, Financial Administrator  
Bill Swann, Finance and Facilities Manager  
Richard Davila, Handyman/Sexton  
Idalia Davila, Caretaker

### Meet with Rev. Reagan+!

Rev. Reagan is available to meet for casual get togethers, pastoral concerns, idea sharing, or whatever is on your heart. You can call the office, email her, or put yourself on her calendar through Calendly. Use this link or the QR code to make an appointment.



Reagan's email: [rector@cor-satx.org](mailto:rector@cor-satx.org)