



December 7, 2025

“Jesus’ birth signals the start of a new way of understanding what it means to be alive. Aliveness, he will teach, is a gift available to all by God’s grace. It flows not from taking but from giving, not from fear but from faith, not from conflict but from reconciliation, not from domination but from service. It opens us up to rethink everything, to see the world in a new light - the light of Christ.” McLaren

Prelude #106

Prepare the Way, O Zion v. 1

Evan O'Donovan

Welcome

Reverend Ed Hoener

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Scripture Reading

The Lighting of the Candles

Jennifer Sola & Cheryl Martin

Unison Prayer ("Let us pray together"):

Bless us, O God, as we light these candles, in this holy season. Transform us by the fire of Your Spirit. May our hearts be warmed by Your love. Teach us to welcome others as Christ has welcomed us, for He is our strength and our redeemer.

Call To Worship:

O God, you come to the world with mercy and grace to redeem all peoples. **You come with a covenant love that holds all humanity throughout our lives.** Jesus, you come bearing the gifts of new, spiritual life. **You help people to enter into that life. You transform our hearts.** Holy Spirit, you empower people's lives of faith so that they are like a light in the darkness. **You equip us so that we are part of bringing peace and righteousness into the world.**

*Hymn of Praise #107

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

vss. 1, 2 & 4

Call to Reconciliation

Prayer of Reconciliation:

O God, your grace helps us to live faithfully. Your Spirit frees us to experience well-being. Yet, sometimes we allow things to get in the way of your will. Sometimes we resist your power to change us. This morning we thank you for your continuous love, and determination to make us new creations! Help us now to receive them anew!
Amen.

Silent Prayers

Assurance of Grace:

God, cleanses our souls as white as snow. **We are enabled to live abundantly, serving God's will.**

*Response of Praise #646

Sing Out, My Soul

Sharing the Peace of Christ:

Christ, the light of the world has come; breathing peace and grace for us to receive! **May our lives reflect his ways that lead to a new world's dawning!** May the peace of Christ shine in us, and through us. **Let us share the peace of Christ with each other!**

Ministry of Music #96

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

Evan O'Donovan

vss. 1, 2, 4

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

*If you can stand comfortably, please do so.

***Hymn of Faith #378**

We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom

Celebrating Passion Enterprises

Sharing what God has done in each other's lives is a source of encouragement, and reminds us that faith, and prayer and grace are at work! Please come to the lectern and share your testimony so that everyone may see and hear.

Prayer Requests

Please come forward to share your request so all may hear.

Prayers of the People

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.

***Hymn of Preparation #512**

The Bread and Wine Are Here

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Prayer Following Communion

We Affirm Our Mission

We Reflect and Respond

Call to Offering

***Offering Song #710**

We are an Offering

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You, we are an offering.

Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are Yours, we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to You, we give to You. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You, we are an offering, we are an offering.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Announcements (pg. 4)

***Hymn of Response #770**

I'm Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table

vss. 1, 3 & 4

Charge and Blessing

Postlude #104

***O Lord, How Shall I Meet You* vss. 1 & 3**

Evan O'Donovan

**If you can stand comfortably, please do so.*

Announcements

Thank you to Cheryl Anne Cammann & Linda Anderson for running the projector & camera!

Join our Worship Support Team! For more information; ask the pastor or the technicians or call the church office.

Gift Bags for the Nursing Home Residents Today/Caroling, December 13th, When Bags are Delivered

The Outreach committee and the Deacons' Christmas project this year is providing goodie bags to all of the residents in a local care facility. Today we will put the bags together; they will be delivered on December 13th. And, on Dec 13th at 1:00 pm, we will be at the care facility singing Christmas carols for the residents! Mark your calendars and join us!

Chair Yoga

Come join us for Chair Yoga! The morning session is on Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. The next session will be on Tuesday, December 9th. The evening session is on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. The next evening session will be on Thursday, December 11th. All are welcome! Bring 2 full water bottles to be used as weights or dumbbells if you have them.

Holiday Coffee Hour at the Manse

Ed & Diane invite you to the manse on Sunday, December 14, following worship. Dozens and dozens of cookies will be available for your taste-testing! Olga Tymchecko will be providing music for added holiday cheer!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Service will begin at 7:30 pm on December 24th. Olla Rhapsody, Olga Tymchenko and Laura Giannini, will be joining Evan with musical selections for this very special service.

- ⇒ ***Christmas Poinsettias will be available for purchase. Speak to Gail Anderson if interested.***
- ⇒ ***Rahway's Best Holiday Events: Details and flyers on the following page.***



Online Donations

PRAYER PERSON OF THE WEEK

Helene Haith

PRAYER REQUESTS

Barbara, Bill Siocha's friend, Flynn family, Carol DeLuca's cousin & family, Michael, Fred R., Tom M., Simpson & Hartlaub families, the Ross, Hoener, & Pender families, Dante B., Portia, Kaiser, William S. Jr., Carol & Jake, Roberta D., Edna, Sue K., Agnes N. & family, Anne H., Flo, Leo & family, Mike & family, Savannah B. & family, Carole H., Becky, John, Sam, Michael, Sara & Joan P., Mary "Cookie" F., Nicole, Allison, Mary R., Helen, Logan, Harper, Helene & Diane, Dorothy R., Amy

**The First Presbyterian Church of Rahway
1731 Church Street**

December 7, 2025
Rev. Ed Hoener
Lauris Beam
Carol Ann Bregman
Evan O'Donovan

10:30 A.M.
Pastor
Worship Leader
Administrator
Music Director





PICTURES WITH SANTA

FREE EVENT

MEET SANTA, ELSA & THE GRINCH
Must register online to save your child's spot!
Bring your own camera.

**THE CENTER- 1731 CHURCH ST
RAHWAY NJ 07065**

SAVE THE DATE
December 13th
(4pm - 6pm)

INSTA: @rahwaysbest @rahwaystigers @besthoopsrahway @bright&bestdance





Breakfast with THE GRINCH

MERRY GRINCH-MAS

INCLUDES:

- BAGELS
- DONUTS
- COOKIES
- FRUIT CUPS
- GREEN EGGS & HAM (EXTRA \$3)
- COFFEE
- ORANGE JUICE
- APPLE JUICE

\$17 EACH PERSON
\$47 FOR A FAMILY OF 4

ALL PROCEEDINGS ARE BEING DONATED TO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH / UNION RESOURCES CENTER




	DECEMBER	
19	20	21

**9am - 10:30am Davis Hall
561 W. Grand Ave Rahway NJ 07065**





INSTA: @rahwaysbest @rahwaystigers @besthoopsrahway @brightandbestdance