



December 19, 2021 | Fourth Sunday of Advent

Hymn numbers are provided for use of the red hymnal in the pew racks. Scriptures are printed from the NRSV of the Bible found in the pew racks. Music from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #11274154.



Welcome! Prince of Peace is more than a place on a map. We are a beautiful mosaic of dedicated and diverse people who love Jesus and our neighbors. We care deeply about each other, our community and our world. We are a church on the move with Jesus as our inspiration. Thanks for adding your voice to God's song of love this morning. Once again, welcome!

Guidelines for Holy Communion: *Today we move forward with community distribution of Holy Communion. At the appropriate time, you are invited to come forward to receive the bread from communion servers. The wine/grape juice is available in individual cups at tables on either side of the communion servers. Please deposit your empty cups in the designated baskets. Individual communion kits are available for those who choose to remain seated during distribution.*

Partnering in Prayer:

Place your prayer requests in the prayer chest by the entrance or in the offering plate.

Jan Moore Andrew Sandstrom Paul and Cleo Dillabough David Chorlton

Hazel Whitlow Jackie Cherry Marilyn Schmidlin Stephanie Paine

The Jacobs' family as they mourn the loss of Gwen's father

Prelude

Joy To The World
POP Bells, Allen Quie, Lynne McGinley

Welcome and Prayer

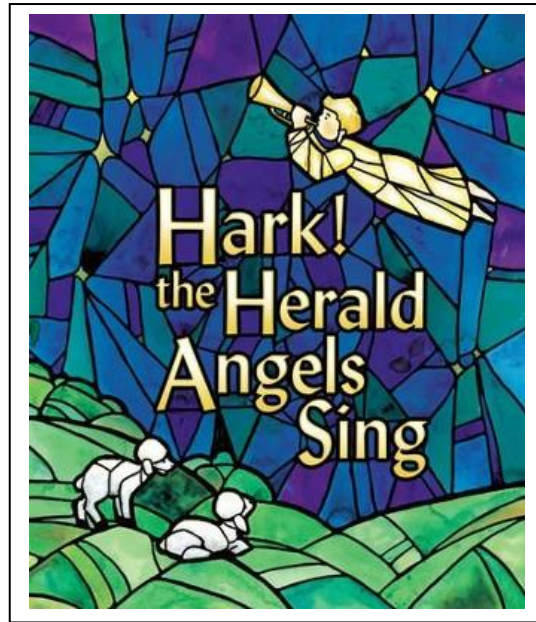
1. Hark! The herald angels sing,
 "Glory to the newborn king;
 peace on earth, and mercy mild,
 God and sinners reconciled."
 Joyful, all you nations, rise;
 join the triumph of the skies;
 with angelic hosts proclaim,
 "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing,
 "Glory to the newborn king!"

2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
 Christ, the everlasting Lord,
 late in time behold him come,
 offspring of a virgin's womb.
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
 Hail, incarnate deity!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell,
 Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*

3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!
 Hail the Sun of righteousness!
 Light and life to all he brings,
 ris'n with healing in his wings.
 Mild he lays his glory by,
 born that we no more may die,
 born to raise each child of earth,
 born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

**The Lighting of the Advent Candle (The Candle of Love)**

L: The candle of this fourth week of Advent is a candle of love. Today the flame of this candle reminds us of the love that came to this world when Jesus was born and his presence with us. Jesus said, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; remain in my love." Let us pray...

C: **Dear God, as our Advent journey draws to completion, grant us the courage to share your love. Love for the unexpected challenge, love for the vulnerable one, love for the presence of God. Amen.**

Passing of the Peace**Children's Message****Announcements**

Lesson: Micah 5:2-5a: ² But 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. ³ 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. ⁴ 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; ⁵ and he shall be the one of peace. If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven shepherds and eight installed as rulers.

L: This is the Word of Life

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Special Music**Mary's Song**

written by Harper Denhard

Gospel: Luke 1:39-56: ³⁹In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴²and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."⁴⁶And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; ⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. ⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. ⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; ⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. ⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, ⁵⁵according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."⁵⁶And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Message

Above All, Mercy

Pastor Paul Nelson

Hymn of the Day

The First Noel

ELW #300 v. 1-2

1. The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

2. They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

Prayers of the Community

Advent Confession and Forgiveness

Confession and Absolution (*Advent 2021*)

L: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

L: Lord of the universe, here in your house we seek your presence. We long for wisdom, inspiration and peace.

C: **Come, Holy Spirit, shine into our souls!**

L: Lord of all people, you call us your daughters and sons; you know us and love us. We long to know where you might lead us.

C: **Come, Holy Spirit, let your light shine on our way!**

L: Spirit of truth, pour your light into our souls and speak to us in this moment of silence.

Sacred Silence

L: Lord, after all, we are still captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.
Together we confess:

C: We acknowledge that we have rebelled against you in many ways, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Help us embrace and extend your love through thoughts, words, and deeds. You make everything new, including us.

L: In the mercy of God, Jesus was given to die for you and for me, and for his sake forgives us every sin. We are free to seek out the beauty in this new day and beyond. We are free.

C: Amen.

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The Celebration of Holy Communion

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Distribution

**It Came Upon a Midnight Clear
*POP Bells and Allen Quie***

Benediction



1. Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain

Gloria in excelsis Deo;
gloria in excelsis Deo.

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*

3. Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *Refrain*

Dismissal

Postlude



POP Announcements | Weekend of December 19, 2021

*Christmas Eve Services
at Prince of Peace*

Friday, December 24, 2021

- ★ 4:00 pm - Family service
- ★ 7:00 pm - Candlelight

No 9pm or Christmas Day Services

**Join us every Sunday for
Worship at 9:30am**
*followed by fellowship in the gym
immediately after service.*

*We wish you a Merry Christmas and
a Blessed New Year!*



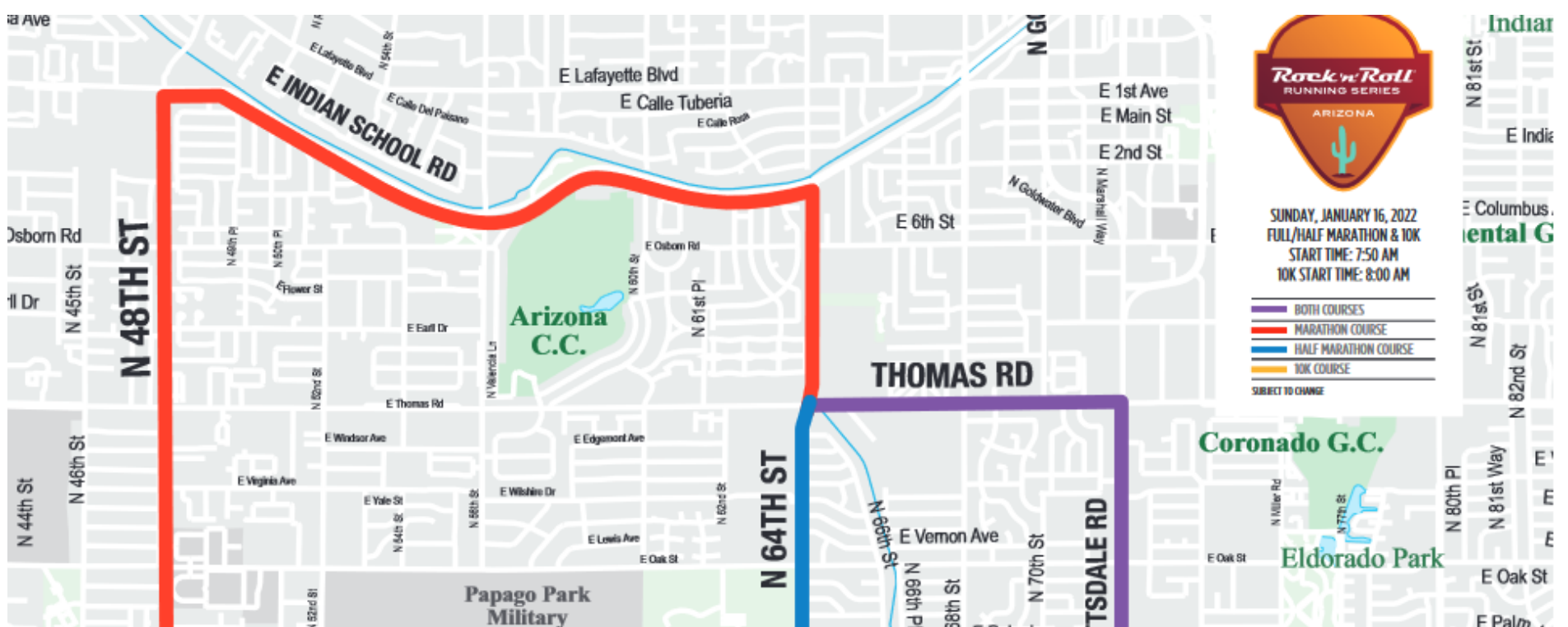
Ongoing Ministries | Weekend of December 19, 2021

Ch.I.L.L. Sunday Mornings at 9am-9:30am in the conference room.

Every Sunday 6th-12th Grades meet for check-in time, prayer and of course...donuts

Join us for **fellowship every Sunday** after worship-stop by for some coffee and cookies and say hi to our hosts Dena Welch-Rowland and Jan Beebe!

Volunteers Needed on Sunday, January 16th, 7am-12:30p, as POP hosts a Rock'N'Roll Marathon water station at 52nd st/Indian School Rd. Contact Steve Edgar at sledgar@gmail.com/602-618-3364 to sign up. For full course map and closures visit <https://www.runrocknroll.com/arizona-courses>



Bible Study with Pastor Rick -every Wednesday Morning at 10:00am in the office conference room. Join Pastor Rick as we look at the assigned scripture readings for the following Sunday. This is your opportunity to help create a sermon! The coffee is hot, the discussion is faith-affirming and the laughter will warm your heart. All are welcome.

Women's Bible Study -Tuesday's at 9:30am- 11:00 am in the Church office conference room. Welcoming women of all ages. Paula Sturgeon 480.236.6278

Theology Pub every 2nd Tuesday in person at Fate, and every 4th Tuesday will be on zoom. Join with your bible, beer (or other beverage) for lively discussions with great people. This is a time for free discussion and the sharing of idea and is open to all, including your friends who aren't members of POP. Please send Pastor Rick an e-mail (pastorrick@popphoenix.org) or a text (408-472-0529) if you plan to be there.

Stewardship for 2022 promise cards are due back. Please drop yours off in the offering plate, church office or mail it back. If you need to update your address or have any questions please call Kriscina at the Church office 480.945.9537 or office@popphoenix.org

Offerings: Thank you for continuing to support Prince of Peace. You can mail offerings to the church office or sign up for online giving. You can also use our Text to Give system –text the amount you want to give to 833-441-0048.

December Outreach is over, thank you to all who participated!

January Outreach is benefitting The Andre House and it goes from January 1-28 please drop items off in the preschool office or the narthex!



Clothing Drive for Andre House

January 1 - 28

Items Needed: drop items off in the narthex or preschool office

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|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Blankets (new or used)• Deodorant (new)• Family size conditioner (new)• Family Size Body Wash (new)• Women Shorts - All sizes (new or used) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mens Socks (Regular and XL Sizes, new)• Underwear (All Sizes, new)• Shoes (8-16, new/used)• Pants (sizes 32, 34, 36 new/used) |
|---|--|



Andre House of Arizona is a non profit that helps serve the homeless and their needs. They run a clothing closet, Laundry service, Showers, Legal services, blanket closet, and they serve meals to the homeless 6 days a week.

Church office hours: Church office staff is available to take your calls and emails Monday – Thursday from 9am-4pm.

In Person Worship:

Every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Holy Communion is celebrated at the 9:30am service. If you'd like communion delivery please schedule through the church office.



Get Connected



Weekly Announcements

www.poppheoenix.org
www.facebook.com/poppheoenixaz
www.instagram.com/poppheoenix
office@poppheoenix.org



Please pray for the end of the pandemic and the end of any dividing lines that keep us from recognizing the Spirit of God within each of us. While COVID-19 continues to be a part of our lives, you are invited to observe the following guidelines:

- Face masks are not required for those who are fully vaccinated.
- Face masks are highly recommended for those who are not fully vaccinated.
- Those who make a personal choice to wear face masks are welcome and encouraged to do so.



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