

Second Presbyterian Church  
Oxford, New Jersey  
[www.oxford2nd.org](http://www.oxford2nd.org)  
December 18, 2016

Prelude Robert Jelks

\*Hymn *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus (vs 1)* #187

Call to Worship

\*Hymn *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus (vs 2)* #187

Lighting the Fourth Candle of the Advent Wreath-*Christina DiMartini*

Hymn *Oh, Come O Come Emanuel (vs. 1)* #186

**Responsive Reading:**  
L: We light this candle as a symbol of Christ the Way.  
**P: May the Word sent from God through the prophets lead us to the way of salvation.**  
L: May the Love of Christ fill our hearts and minds;  
**P: May we be found faithful to His commission on the Day of our Lord's glorious return.**

**All: God of justice and God of mercy, on this second Sunday of Advent we await the glorious return of your Anointed One. Prepare our hearts and minds for your purposes. God of all nations, races, confessions, and cultures; in Christ you became one with us in our humanity. Enable us to live as grace-filled people, spreading the good news wherever we go in Jesus name. Amen.**

\* Hymn *Oh, Come O Come Emanuel (vs. 2)* #186

\*Greet One Another - followed by *Bind Us Together* #130

Scripture Reading *Romans 1:1-7*  
*Bobby Radmore*

Unison Prayer of Confession  
Eternal God, by the birth of Jesus Christ you gave yourself to the world. We confess that we are a broken people, in need of your forgiveness and transformation. Grant that, being born in our hearts, Jesus may save us from all our sins, and restore within us the image and likeness of our Creator. To You, Mighty God, be everlasting praise and glory, world without end. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession and Assurance of Pardon  
*Gloria Patri* #620

Concerns of the Fellowship  
Prayers of the People & *The Lord's Prayer*

Offering  
\* *Doxology* #623  
Prayer of Thanksgiving

\*Hymn of Preparation *I Wonder As I Wander* #210

Scripture Reading *Matthew 1:18-25*

Sermon The Rev. Joicy Becker-Richards  
"Embracing the Unexpected"

\* Hymn *How Great Our Joy!* #192

\*Charge & Benediction

\*Hymn *Sweet, Sweet Spirit* #153

\*Postlude

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\*Congregation standing \*\*\*Inside back of Hymnal  
*Following the service, please join us for refreshments*  
*Christina DiMartini & Jennifer Waldele*