A large, black, stylized cross graphic is positioned on the left side of the page. The vertical bar of the cross is on the left, and the horizontal bar extends to the right. At the intersection, there are six diagonal lines forming a star-like pattern. The text is arranged to the right of the vertical bar.

Reformed Presbyterian Church of Bowie

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

LORD'S DAY
DECEMBER 22, 2024

2807 Church Road, Bowie, MD 20721 | P.O. Box 1251, Bowie, MD 20718
301.262.2280 | www.rpcbowie.org
S.A. Fix, Pastor | Chris Calvi, Assistant Pastor | information@rpcbowie.org

Welcome

A NOTE FROM OUR PASTOR

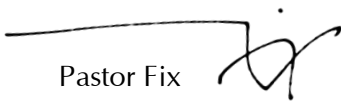
*We are so glad you
are here!*

Welcome to Reformed Presbyterian Church of Bowie! We're glad you are able to join our church family today as we do what we were made to do together, namely glorify and enjoy God.

Weekly worship is the center of our life together as the body of Christ, as we meet with God and are spiritually nourished and built up by his Word and Sacraments, which focus our attention on the Good News of Jesus Christ. We want to do this as he tells us he wants us to in the Bible, so our worship seeks to reflect that.

We would love to meet you and for you to get to know us, so please plan to stay after worship for some coffee and tea in the foyer and our discipleship classes for all ages that follow worship.

Warmly,


Pastor Fix

FOR YOUR FAMILY

We believe in families worshipping together so we welcome children of all ages to be with us during the whole worship service.

Nursery is offered for children ages 5 months to 5 years during the morning worship service and morning discipleship.

Discipleship is offered for all ages immediately after the morning worship service. We have classes for children age 4 through 12th grade in the classrooms. For adults we have either a class or sermon discussion in the big meeting room.

Evening Worship meets every Sunday at 6:00 PM, except on the first Sunday, when we have Hymn Sing, which is also at 6:00 PM.

Recordings of morning and evening sermons are available on our website, www.rpcbowie.org.

ACCESSIBILITY OPTIONS FOR WORSHIP

Large-print bulletins are available in the foyer as well as **personal lights** to aid any who may have added visual needs. Please see the greeters for help with this.

Order of Worship

Please remember to silence your mobile devices during the worship service.

Introit.....Following the Star to Bethlehem

COMING BEFORE THE THRONE OF GOD

God invites us to worship him in spirit and in truth

Call to Worship Ken Styles

We praise God through song

* Hymn #208 O Come, All Ye Faithful

We praise God through prayer and acknowledge our need of forgiveness and renewal through the cleansing blood of Jesus

Prayer of Adoration and Confession Ken Styles

***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.***

God reminds us of his promise of forgiveness in Christ

Assurance of Pardon.....Psalm 130:3-4

* Gloria Patri (#735)

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the be-
gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A - men, a - men.

RECEIVING GOD'S WORD

God speaks to us through his Word read and preached

Old Testament ReadingPsalm 68:1-20
(responsive, Hymnal p. 808)

* Hymn #226As with Gladness Men of Old

New Testament Reading.....Matthew 1:18-2:12 (p. 807)

*Congregation standing

Order of Worship (cont.)

Space for notes is
provided on pages 6–7

Sermon..... **QA28 - Christ's Exaltation**
Pastor Fix

We prepare to receive
the visible Gospel
in the Supper

* Hymn #197..... Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

We confess our faith
together with the
broader church today
and the church
of ages past

* Confession of Faith..... The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; and in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by Whom all things were made; Who, for us men, and for our salvation, came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church; I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen. †

We receive the grace of
the Gospel in the visible
form of bread and wine

Lord's Supper Pastor Chris

Gluten-free bread is served for the Lord's Supper. Wine is also served; however, the outer ring of each tray contains grape juice for those who desire it for reasons of health or conscience. Please hold the elements until all have received them, so that we can partake together.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

We respond in praise
for the blessings
received in the Gospel

* Hymn #195..... Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

We give thanks and
bring our needs to God

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession Mark Wallace

We give a portion back
as thanks to God

Offering..... Veni, Veni
ERO CRAS (I will come)

*Congregation standing

†The word "catholic" with a lower case "c" means "universal."

Order of Worship (cont.)

Latin

*Veni, veni, veni Emmanuel
ERO CRAS*

*Veni, veni, Emmanuel
captivum solve Israel,
qui gemit in exsilio,
privatus Dei Filio.*

*Gaude! Gaude!
Emmanuel nascetur pro te Israel!*

*Veni, veni Rex Gentium
Veni, Redemptor omnium,
ut salvas tuos famulus
peccati sibi conscios.*

*Veni, veni, veni Emmanuel
Quis veniet.
ERO CRAS*

*Veni, veni O Oriens,
solare nos adveniens,
noctis depelle nebulas,
dirasque mortis tenebras.*

English

O come, O come, Emmanuel
ERO CRAS: acrostic; trans. "I will come!"**

O come, O come Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel,
Who mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

O come, O come King of the nations,
O come, Redeemer of all,
To save your servants
Who are aware of their sin.

O come, O come Emmanuel.
Who will come!
I will come!

O come thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death dark shadows put to flight.

**see next page for explanation of ERO CRAS

* Doxology (#731)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here be - low; praise him a - bove ye heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

*God sends us out
with his blessing*

* Benediction.....*Pastor Fix*

* Amen (#738)

*Congregation standing

**The initial words of the "O Antiphons" of the ancient church in reverse order form the acrostic ERO CRAS:

7. O Emmanuel (O God with us)
6. O Rex (O King of the Nations)
5. O Oriens (O Morning Star-or-O Dayspring)
4. O Clavis (O Key of David)
3. O Radix (O Root of Jesse)
2. O Adonai (O Lord)
1. O Sapientia (O Wisdom).

Thus, the acrostic **ERO CRAS** is traditionally used in this hymn and can be loosely translated as "I will come".

Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes

Next Two Weeks at a Glance

THIS WEEK 12/22 – 12/28

SUNDAY 12/22 Morning Worship, 10:00 AM
Discipleship, 11:45 AM
No Evening Activities

TUESDAY 12/24 Program of Lessons and Carols, 6:00 PM (Prelude at 5:30 PM)

No activities the rest of this week due to the Christmas holiday.

Merry Christmas!

NEXT WEEK 12/29 – 1/4

SUNDAY 12/29 Morning Worship, 10:00 AM
Discipleship, 11:45 AM
No Evening Activities

Happy New Year!

FRIDAY 1/3 [Men's Study Videoconference](#), 7:00 AM

SATURDAY 1/4 Men's Study, 8:30 AM at the Fixes'

Preparation for Next Lord's Day

SERMON TITLE: *"The Person that Makes for Peace"*

SERMON TEXT: *Luke 19:37–44*

PREACHER: *Eric Pilson*

MONDAY

Romans 9:1–18

Why does Paul have great sorrow and anguish in his heart? Where does this kind of burden for the lost people of Israel come from?

TUESDAY

Psalms 30:1–5

David proclaims that God's favor is for a lifetime. How are you clinging to that promise today?

WEDNESDAY

Luke 13:22–35

Jesus longs for the people of Jerusalem to repent and believe the good news of His visitation, and yet they were not willing. How can you relate to the sentiment Jesus describes here in verse 34?

THURSDAY

John 11:28–44

What can we learn about the emotional life of our Lord from this passage?

FRIDAY

1 Peter 2:11–25

According to Peter, how are we to live our lives in such a way that others are drawn to God and glorify Him on the day of visitation?

SATURDAY

Isaiah 25:1–12; Revelation 21:1–7

How does our future hope—that God will wipe away all of our tears—comfort us and encourage us to persevere?

Church Staff and Officers

CHURCH STAFF AND MINISTRY CONTACTS

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