

The Third Sunday in Advent
December 12, 2021
8:30 a.m.

Redeemer Lutheran Church and School

Reaching Out into the Community
To do What's Best for the Community

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USHER. IF YOU HAVE DIFFICULTY HEARING, AUDIO TRANSMITTERS
ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE USHERS.**

Welcome to worship with the Redeemer family! We are pleased that you joined us for worship today. Our regular worship schedule each Sunday is **8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.** Adult and youth Bible classes are held at **9:45 a.m.** as listed in the information page. If infants/toddlers become restless during worship, you are welcome to use the parent's room, located at the right of the narthex as you leave the sanctuary. Children's quiet bags for use during church services are available in the narthex.

Order of Worship

*The worshipers are invited to sing or speak the words in **bold print** throughout the worship service.*

Pre-Service Music

“Christmas Meditation”

Krug – Bells of Praise Too

“Gentle Mary”

Roth – Bells of Praise Too

Welcome and Announcements

Processional (The Cross and the Christ Candle process. The Advent Wreath is lit by an acolyte.)

Call to Worship

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

LSB #357 st. 1 & 5

**O come, o come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**O come, Thou Key of David, come, And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God created plants to teach us. Jesus says, “Consider the lilies of the field and how they grow.”

They teach us of the Lord’s provision. (Luke 12:27)

Consider the trees of the field.

They clap their hands for the Word of the Lord going out to all peoples. (Isaiah 55:12)

Consider the crocus.

They blossom for the joy of the Lord as the Lord restores His people. (Isaiah 35:1-2)

Song of Praise

“Joy to the World”

green book hymn #39 st. 1

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King;
Let ev’ry heart prepare him room and heav’n and nature sing,
And heav’n and nature sing, And heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.**

Confession & Pronouncement of Forgiveness

Consider the grass of the field.

All people are like grass and their glory like the flowers of the field.

The grass withers and the flower falls. Only the Word of God lasts forever. (Isaiah 40:7,8)

Father, we put our hope in Your Word, particularly the Word made flesh, Jesus. Only He stands forever. Only He does not wither or fall. Only He gives Your forgiveness, love, and eternal life. Give us the Holy Spirit so we may believe in Him now and in the future. Teach us to trust like the lilies of the field, celebrate like the trees, and rejoice like the crocus. Amen.

Be assured you are the apple of the Savior's eye. You are loved with an everlasting love. Jesus proves this by His death of the cross and resurrection. In the name of Jesus you are forgiven, loved, and given eternal life. Trust it. Celebrate it. Rejoice in it.

Amen.

Song of Praise

“Even So Come”

Tomlin

**All of creation, all of the earth make straight a highway, a path for the Lord;
Jesus is coming soon.**

**Call back the sinner, wake up the saint, let every nation shout of your fame;
Jesus is coming soon.**

Chorus: Like a bride waiting for her groom, we'll be a church ready for You.

Ev'ry heart longing for our King, we sing:

Even so, come, Lord Jesus come. Even so, come, Lord Jesus come.

**There will be justice, all will be new. Your name forever, faithful and true;
Jesus is coming soon. (Chorus)**

So we wait, we wait for You. God, we wait; You're coming soon.

So we wait, we wait for You. God, we wait; You're coming soon. (Chorus)

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Prayer of the Day

Father, because of our sin You have every reason to disown us. But in Your love You sent Your Son to save us and make it possible for us to be with You forever. Give us faith to trust Jesus and know the peace which passes all human understanding. In His name. Amen.

The First Reading

Genesis 3:8-24 ESV

Adam and Eve mess up and sin, and its consequences are brought into the world. The Lord, however, promises a child born of a woman to crush Satan's power and take away sin.

⁸ And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, “Where are you?” ¹⁰ And he said, “I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself.” ¹¹ He said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?” ¹² The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” ¹³ Then the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.” ¹⁴ The LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵ I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.” ¹⁶ To the woman he said, “I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you.” ¹⁷ And to Adam he said,

“Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, ‘You shall not eat of it,’ cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; ¹⁸ thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹ By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” ²⁰ The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. ²¹ And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them. ²² Then the LORD God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—” ²³ therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴ He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

The Second Reading

Galatians 4:4-7 ESV

Jesus, the one born of a woman, comes to redeem us and make us children of the living God.

⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

The Gospel Reading

Luke 1:26-38 ESV

The Lord chooses Mary to be the woman to bring the Son of God into the world.

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!” ²⁹ But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³ and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” ³⁴ And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵ And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶ And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸ And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ!

Children's Message

Sermon Song

(Prayer Request cards are gathered along the center aisle by the ushers as we sing.)

“The Holly and the Ivy”

English folk carol

**The holly and the ivy, when they are both full grown,
Of all the trees that are in the wood the holly bears the crown.**

(Chorus) **The rising of the sun and the running of the deer,
The playing of the merry organ, sweet singing in the choir.**

**The holly bears a berry, as red as any blood,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to do poor sinners good. *(chorus)***

**The holly bears a prickly, as sharp as any thorn,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ on Christmas day in the morn. *(chorus)***

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Message

“Christmas Flora: Holly and Ivy”

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was
buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He
ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From
thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

(Please be seated at the conclusion of the prayers.)

Gathering of the Tithes and Offerings

(Please stand when the pastor stands and approaches the altar and sing:)

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Eithun – Bells of Praise Too

The Offering Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Distribution Songs of Praise

(Holy Communion is a special meal for the baptized followers of Jesus. Jesus is really present in the bread and wine. He says, "This is My body...This is My blood." If you share this belief in His real presence, are repentant of your sins, and are baptized in the Triune God, you are welcome. Children who have not received instruction in the meaning of Holy Communion are invited forward for a blessing; please fold your arms in front of you. Wine is offered via the common cup and individual glass. Non-alcoholic wine is offered in the center of each tray. Hand your communion card to the usher as you go up for communion. Guests, please read and fill in the gold card.) (Please join in singing:)

"Lamb of God"

Marty Haugen

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world:

Have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You are the way of mercy and love:

Have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You give us hope as we wait for You:

Have mercy on us, mercy on us, mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world:

Grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

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"Mary's Song"

Frazier—Leanne Mitchell (solo)/Lawrence Mirman (guitar)

"While I Wait"

Brewster

Deep inside my heart, I know You've won I know You've overcome.

And even in the dark, when I'm undone, I still believe it.

I live by faith and not by sight; sometimes miracles take time.

(Chorus) **While I wait, I will worship, Lord, I'll worship Your name.**

While I wait, I will trust You, Lord, I'll trust You all the same.

When I fall apart, You are my strength, help me not forget.

Seeing ev'ry scar, You make me whole, You're my healer

I live by faith and not by sight; sometimes miracles take time.

I live by faith and not by sight; sometimes miracles take time. (Chorus)

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"Wonderful Merciful Savior"

Rodgers/Wyse

Wonderful merciful Savior, precious Redeemer and Friend;

Who would have thought that a Lamb could rescue the souls of men?

Oh, You rescue the souls of men.

Chorus **You are the One that we praise, You are the One we adore.**

You give the healing and grace our hearts always hunger for,

Oh, our hearts always hunger for.

**Counselor, Comforter, Keeper, Spirit we long to embrace;
You offer hope when our hearts have hopelessly lost the way,
Oh, we hopelessly lost the way. (chorus)**

**Almighty, infinite Father, faithfully loving Your own;
Here in our weakness You find us falling before Your throne,
Oh, we're falling before Your throne. (chorus)**

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The Communion Blessing

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

Amen.

Forgive and feed, you are now entering the mission field.

Here am I, Lord, send me!

Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Closing Song of Praise

“There Is Joy in the Lord”

Cheri Keaggy

There is joy in the Lord, There is Love in His Spirit,

There is hope in the knowledge of Him.

There's a fountain that flows like a river from heaven,

Abounding in love to my soul.

Chorus: **All blessing and honor are His. All glory and power are His.**

Let all wisdom and strength be the Lord's in this place.

Let all glory be given to Him.

There is joy in the Lord, There is Love in His Spirit,

There is hope in the knowledge of Him.

There's a fountain I know, ev'ry time I am near it,

My heart overflows to the Lord. (chorus)

There is joy in the Lord, There is Love in His Spirit,

There is hope in the knowledge of Him.

There's a fountain that flows like a river from heaven,

Abounding in love to my soul. There is joy in the Lord.

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