

OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, December 24, 2023



OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

1822 East Lincoln Street, Bloomington, IL 61701

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OUR MISSION

“The Our Redeemer church family exists to **welcome** people to faith;
help people **grow** in the faith that works in real life;
and **serve** our community and the world together in **Jesus’** name.”

GUESTS AND MEMBERS – WELCOME TO OUR REDEEMER

We’re happy that you’ve joined us in worship, especially if you are a visitor with us.
We pray that the Lord who led you here would lead you into a time of knowing Him better,
trusting in Him more, and growing deeper in His love as He places His Word
and cross before your eyes, ears, and hearts.

We like to know you worshiped with us today. Please sign the Friendship Pad located on
the aisle side of the pew and pass it along to others in the pew.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS, HYMNALS & LISTENING DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE

Please see an usher for assistance with these items.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT
DIVINE SERVICE SETTING III

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” *LSB 357*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *LSB 184*

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

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: Who made heaven and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

PSALM

Psalm 89:1-5

P: I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, forever; with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.

C: **For I said, “Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness.”**

P: You have said, “I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant:

C: **‘I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations.’”**

P: Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

LSB 186

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

LSB 189

P: The Lord be with you.

And with thy spir - it.

P: Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A - men.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 (Pew Bible pg. 259)

Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.”

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, “Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”’” Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house.

And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.’”

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Romans 16:25-27 (Pew Bible pg. 951)

Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 190



Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:26-38 (Pew Bible pg. 855)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. 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, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

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. 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. For nothing will be impossible with God." 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.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

LSB 191

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 will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will 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 worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian 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.

SERMON HYMN

“A Great and Mighty Wonder”

LSB 383

SERMON

“Messiah To Do the Impossible”

Luke 1:26-38

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Tithes and offerings are collected in the offering box in the Narthex and brought forward during Offertory. If you have a tithe or offering to share, you may still place it in the offering box following worship.

CHOIR CHIMES

“The Sussex Carol”

Arranged by Martha Lynn Thompson

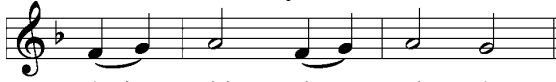
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

LSB 194

P: The Lord be with you.



☐ And with thy spir - it.

P: Lift up your hearts.



☐ We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.



☐ It is meet and right so to do.

***Meet means fitting, proper*

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

LSB 195



☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 196

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 197

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



☐ A - men.

LAMB OF GOD

LSB 198

☐ O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

The musical notation for 'Lamb of God' is spread across five staves in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION

HOLY COMMUNION ... Because we believe Jesus' word that in communion He gives us His body and blood, forgives our sins, and strengthens our relationship with our brothers and sisters in Christ, we welcome to communion those

- * who are part of God's family through baptism;
- * who are growing by the power of the Holy Spirit in true faith in Jesus as their savior;
- * who are truly repentant and sorrowful for their sins; and
- * who intend by the power of the Holy Spirit to amend their lives.

If you feel your relationship with God is not of this nature, you may still come forward for a blessing (indicated by crossing your arms at the communion rail), rather than communing to your spiritual harm. For those communing, both wine and grape juice are available.

(If you are unable to come forward for communion, please raise your hand after the last table of communicants has been dismissed.)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Once He Came in Blessing”

LSB 333

“Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness”

LSB 636 v. 1-4

SONG OF SIMEON

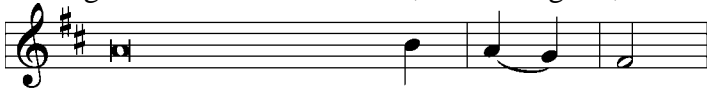
LSB 199

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING

LSB 200

P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



☐ and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



☐ A - men.

BENEDICTION

LSB 201

P: The Lord be with you.



☐ And with thy spir - it.

P: Bless we the Lord.



☐ Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



☐ A-men, a-men, a - men.

CLOSING HYMN

“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child”

LSB 374

Serving Us Today

Guest Pastor - Rev. David Ehlers

Organist - Trudy Rowold

Elder Chris Byers (309-275-5040)
Reader Danny Kiedaisch
Ushers Ron Lund (Lead) and Phil Christman
Altar Guild Les and Tracy Holloway
Choir Chimes Rae Anne Robertson, director

Altar Flowers

*The flowers on the altar are sponsored by Les and Tracy Holloway
in celebration of their son, Andrew's 27th birthday today.*

Acknowledgments

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