

OUR REDEEMER
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, December 17, 2023



OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

1822 East Lincoln Street, Bloomington, IL 61701

(309) 662-3935

Website: www.OurRedeemerLCMS.net

Email: office@OurRedeemerLCMS.net

.....

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.

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT
DIVINE SERVICE SETTING II

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN “Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding” *LSB 345*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *LSB 167*

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

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

P: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore 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 126*

P: When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

C: Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done great things for them.”

P: The LORD has done great things for us; we are glad.

C: Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like streams in the Negeb!

P: Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy!

C: He who goes out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, bringing his sheaves with him.

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.

KYRIE

LSB 168

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



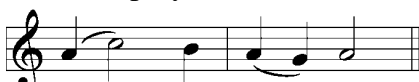
C Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C A - men.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

LSB 172

P: The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11(Pew Bible pg. 620)

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified. They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

For I the LORD love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their offspring shall be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 (Pew Bible pg. 988)

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil.

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 173

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?". The second staff contains the melody for "You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.".

HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:6-8, 19-28 (Pew Bible pg. 886)

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

Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

The image shows a single staff of musical notation in G major (one sharp) for the phrase "Glo - ry to You, O Lord.".

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

This is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No." So they said to him, "Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



APOSTLES' CREED

LSB 175

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.

SERMON HYMN

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

LSB 343

SERMON

“Who Are You?!”

John 1:6-8, 19-28

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

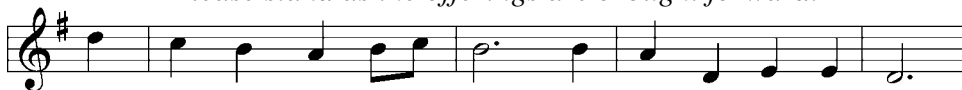
Tithes and offerings are collected in the offering box in the Narthex and brought forward during Offertory. If you have a tithe or offering to share, you may still place it in the offering box following worship.

OFFERTORY

“We Give Thee But Thine Own”

LSB 781 (v. 1-2)

Please stand as the offerings are brought forward.



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive



All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 179

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C: 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.

BENEDICTION

P: 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.



CLOSING HYMN

“Hark the Glad Sound”

LSB 349

Serving Us Today

Guest Pastor - Rev. Bill Jensen

Pianist - Tracy Holloway

Elder	Danny Kiedaisch	(309-212-0504)
Reader	Kris Boerger	
Ushers	David Liebers (Lead) and Doris Davenport	

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are sponsored by Les and Tracy Holloway in celebration of their son Matthew's 21st birthday December 18th.