OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, December 10, 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

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SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT DIVINE SERVICE SETTING I

WELCOME

HYMN OF INVOCATION "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

LSB 344

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

LSB 151

- 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.

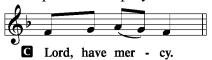
SERVICE OF THE WORD

PSALM Psalm 85

- P: LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
- C: You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin.
- P: You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.
- C: Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us!
- P: Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations?
- C: Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?
- P: Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.
- C: Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.
- P: Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.
- C: Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.
- P: Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.
- C: Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.
- P: Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way.
- 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 152

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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



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.



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



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



SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

LSB 156

P: The Lord be with you.



P: Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



OLD TESTAMENT READING

Zephaniah 3:14-20 (Pew Bible pg. 790)

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the LORD.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

2 Peter 3:8-14 (Pew Bible pg. 1019)

But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

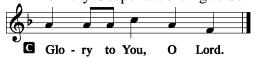
A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

ADULT CHOIR

"Comfort, Comfort Now My People" By Olearius, Winkworth, Bourgeios, and Austin

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



The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,' John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."





NICENE CREED LSB 158

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

"The Tables Are Turned" Zephaniah 3:14-20

TITHES AND OFFERINGS PRESENTED AT THE ALTAR

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

*Please sign the Friendship Pad located on the aisle side of the pew and pass it along.

OFFERTORY

"We Give Thee But Thine Own"

LSB 781 (v. 1-2)

Please stand as the offerings are brought forward.



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface LSB 160

P: The Lord be with you.



P: Lift up your hearts.

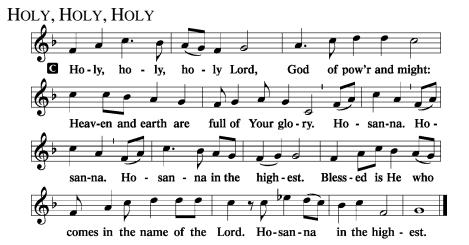


P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



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:

LSB 161



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER LSB 162

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

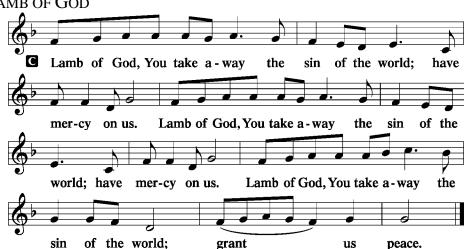
PEACE OF THE LORD

LSB 163

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



LAMB OF GOD



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.)

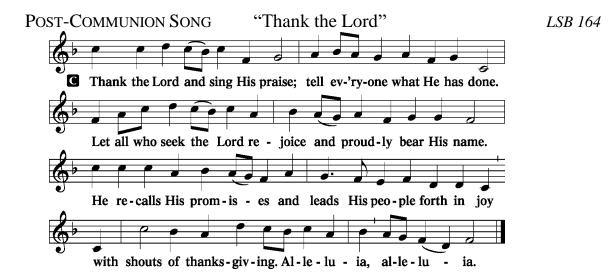
DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide"

LSB 355

"O God, My Faithful God"

LSB 696



P: Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



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

"The Advent of Our King"

LSB 331

Serving Us Today

Guest Pastor - Rev. David Ehlers **Pianist** - Tracy Holloway

Elder Gerry Christman (309-212-6136)

Reader Jay Brinkmeyer

Ushers Kevin Holmes (Lead) and Marvin Loos

Altar Guild Danny and Nancy Kiedaisch

Adult Choir Cally Robertson, director

Tracy Holloway, accompanist

Altar Flowers

The flowers on the altar are sponsored by Doug and Peggy Hardwick for God's blessings.