#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER! We welcome all who are visiting with us this morning. We are delighted to have you with us. Please fill out one of our visitor cards so that we can get to know you. If you have any questions about COTR, feel free to ask one of our elders, our ministers, or members. We're glad you're here!

**Today-SECOND SUNDAY SERVICE:** This evening, we'll again have our "Second Sunday" service with a time of singing, prayer, and a brief study . . . And . . . Pizza afterwards! Make plans to come!

**PIZZA! PIZZA!** This Sunday evening, we will again be serving pizza after our evening service. Cost is \$15 per family, \$3.00 per individual. See you then!

Friday-ADVENT HYMN & PSALM SING: We will have our last Advent hymn and psalm sing, this coming Friday evening at 7:00 in the home of Paul and Micah McCoy (287 S. Ridge Rd., Rayville). There'll be food (chili) and fellowship afterwards, bring a treat to share and make plans to come!

#### **UPCOMING:**

CROSS-HICKS WEDDING: The congregation is invited to the wedding of Lauren Cross and Jed Hicks, Monday evening, December 29, 2025. Please pray for God's blessing upon Lauren and Jed as they become one in Christ Jesus.

**PASTOR MICKEY SCHNEIDER PREACHING:** We will have the privilege of having Pastor Mickey Schneider preaching in our evening service, the last Sunday of Christmas, Sunday, January 4. Please pray for God's blessing.

**2026 CHRISTENDOM LECTURES:** We will host our 26th annual Christendom Lectures, this coming January 5-7, 2026 ("Surprised by God"). Our speakers are: Victor Lee Austen (canon theologian of the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas, Texas), Jason Staples (assistant professor at North Carolina State University and author), and Jeff Meyers (author, pastor of Providence Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, Missouri). It's going to be another great conference and COTR members may attend free of charge if they register. Mark your calendars and plan to come!

GLORIA SANCTA, 2026: It's time to register again for Gloria Sancta, 2026. This is a conference for single adults, ages 18-30. This coming conference will be held January 7-10, 2026, at the Timberline Camp and Conference Center, in Lindale, Texas. For more information go to: <a href="https://www.GloriaSancta.org">www.GloriaSancta.org</a>

## **CALENDAR**

December 14 - Third Sunday of Advent

Second Sunday service, 6:00 p.m.

Pizza fellowship afterwards

- 19 Advent Hymn/Psalm Sing, 6:30 p.m., at Paul & Micah McCoy's home
- 21 Last Sunday of Advent
- 24 Christmas Eve Service, 6:00 p.m.
- 25 Merry Christmas!
- 28 No Evening Service
- 29 Cross-Hicks Wedding
- 31 Last COTR Hockey Night of 2025

January 1 – Happy New Year!

Feast of Christ's circumcision

4 – Last Sunday of Christmas

Pastor Mickey Schneider preaching, p.m. service

- 5-7 2026 Christendom Lectures
- 6 Feast of Epiphany
- 7-10 Gloria Sancta Conference, 2026
- 11 First Sunday of Epiphany

Second Sunday service, 6:00 p.m.

- 14 Session Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 18 High School Fellowship after evening worship

#### **NURSERY WORKERS FOR TODAY:**

**Infant:** AM: Anna Pryor, Sarah Richey Floater: Hayes Merritt

**Toddler:** *AM:* Caroline Smith, Rose Wilkins *Floater:* Isaac Cychosz

#### **NEXT WEEK:**

Morgan Lang, Kaitlyn Rockett Marley Amos

Amy Hanson, Savannah Riley Beau Asher Lizenby

CHURCH of the REDEEMER is a member of the Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches (CREC). The CREC is an international church community with member congregations all across North and South America, Western and Eastern Europe, and Eastern Asia. We are evangelical believers who embrace the historic Christian faith, in the Protestant Reformation tradition. More information may be found at https://crechurches.org.

# CHURCH of the REDEEMER

715 Cypress Street | West Monroe, LA 71291 Phone: (318) 323-3061 | Fax: (318) 387-5135 www.redeemertwincities.org



# THE LORD'S SERVICE

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**DECEMBER 14, 2025** 

10:00AM MORNING SERVICE

#### THE LORD CALLS US TO DRAW NEAR

MINISTER: "In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, let us worship God." + HYMN #39 (SH) "Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring"

#### + SALUTATION:

Minister: "Grace to you and peace, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. The Lord be with you."

Cong: "And with your spirit"

Minister: "Prepare ye the way of the Lord,"

Cong: "Make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

Minister: "Let God arise! Let His enemies scatter; and let those who hate Him flee before Him. Let the wicked perish before God. And the righteous: let them rejoice; Let them exult before God; and let them be glad with rejoicing. Sing to God! Play music to His Name. Prepare a way for the Rider in the Deserts. In Yah, His Name, yes, exult before Him." Amen.

#### THE LORD CLEANSES US

#### CONFESSION OF SINS:

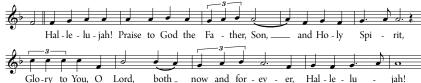
Minister: "Let us humbly kneel and confess our sins to Almighty God"

Cong: Heavenly Father, we have sinned against You, through ingratitude, disobedience, & hardness of heart. We have not heeded the warnings of Your prophets & apostles nor lived as those who await the appearing of Your Son. We have loved the world & the things of the world, & have not sought Your Kingdom and righteousness. Wherefore we beg You, be merciful to us. Forgive us for our sins & deliver us from all evil & the evil one & lead us in the ways of righteousness & peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### +ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Minister: "Arise and hear the good news of God's forgiveness: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."

### +OPENING ACCLAMATION



+ASCENSION (Sung Preface & Sursum Corda):

Minister: The Lord be with You.

Congregation:



Minister: Lift up your hearts

Congregation:



Minister: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

Congregation:



Minister: "It is truly meet, right, and salutary, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee. O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty Everlasting God: Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying:"

+ SANCTUS (p. vii, SH)

+ PRAYER OF ADORATION

+ CANTICLE #3 (SH)

#### THE LORD INSTRUCTS US

"Magnificat"

THE LESSON Isaiah 35:1-10

Minister: "The Word of the Lord." Cong: "Thanks be to God."

CONGREGATIONAL PSALM

Psalm 96

THE EPISTLE James 5:7-11

15:4-13

Minister: "The Word of the Lord."

Cong: "Thanks be to God."

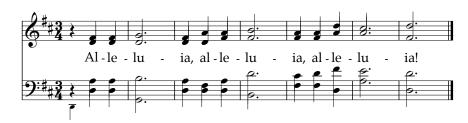
+ HYMN #35 (SH) "Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding"

+ READING OF THE GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2-15

Minister: "The Gospel of our Lord. Cong: "Praise be to You, O Christ."

+ THREE-FOLD ALLELUIA



READING OF THE TEXT:

Ephesians 5:28-6:4

**SERMON** "Submitting to One Another" (2)

Pastor Steve Wilkins

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY #153 "Behold, A Branch is Growing"

(the congregation will sing this hymn)

+ DOXOLOGY (We lift our hearts, voices, and hands in praise to God)

+ PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

#### +The Congregation will please stand

#### THE LORD COMMUNES WITH US

HYMN #146

"Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates"

+ PRAYER OF INTERCESSION:

Minister: Lord, in your mercy,

Congregation: Hear our prayer.

+ THE LORD'S PRAYER: page ix (SH)

+ NICENE CREED:

WE 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 the 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 Ghost 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 on 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 WE BELIEVE IN THE HOLY GHOST; 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 in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And we look for the resurrection of the dead; And the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE LORD'S SUPPER:

Words of Institution

Thanksgiving for the Bread

Communion Hymn #40 (SH)

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Thanksgiving for the Wine Passing the peace of Christ

Minister: "The Body and Blood of our Lord strengthen and preserve you steadfast in the true faith unto life everlasting; in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." Amen.

# THE LORD COMMISSIONS US

+ HYMN (Insert).

"Nunc Dimittis (Vickers)"

+ BENEDICTION

+ THREE-FOLD AMEN

+The Congregation will please stand

+The Congregation will please stand