



Redeemer
Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
CHURCH IN AMERICA

We are a *Reconciling in Christ*
congregation, affirming the
diversity of God's children



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Third Sunday of **ADVENT**



"Jesus of the People," by Janet McKenzie.
First-place winner in the National Catholic Reporter Jesus 2000 collection.

December 13, 2020

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...

an adventure for life!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Of the Father's Love Begotten, arr. Mark Hayes

Advent Wreath Lighting

Christ, Be Our Light

3 Long-ing for food, man-y are hun-gry. Long-ing for

wa-ter, man-y still thirst. Make us your bread,

bro-ken for oth-ers, shared un-til all are fed.

Refrain
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the

dark-ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your

church gath-ered to-day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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Welcome

Hymn **Unexpected and Mysterious** (sung to the tune below)

1 - Unexpected and mysterious
is the gentle word of grace.
Ever-loving and sustaining
is the peace of God's embrace.
If we falter in our courage
and we doubt what we have
known,
God is faithful to console us
as a mother tends her own.

2 - In a momentary meeting
of eternity and time,
Mary learned that she would carry
both the mortal and divine.
Then she learned of God's
compassion,
of Elizabeth's great joy,
and she ran to greet the woman
who would recognize her boy.

3 - We are called to ponder myst'ry
and await the coming Christ,
to embody God's compassion
for each fragile human life.
God is with us in our longing
to bring healing to the earth,
while we watch with joy and wonder
for the promised Savior's birth.

Text: Jeannette M. Lindholm, b. 1961
Text © 2002 Jeannette M. Lindholm, admin. Augsburg Fortress.



Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen
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WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 The Message, alt.

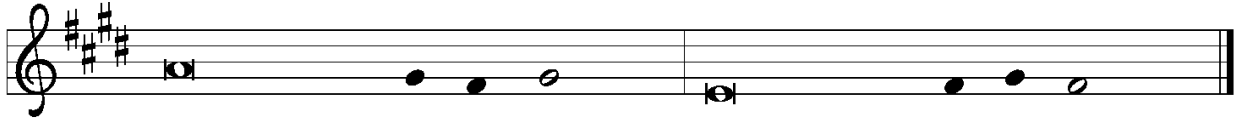
A reading from Isaiah

The Spirit of GOD is on me
Because GOD anointed me.
GOD sent me to preach good news to the poor,
heal the heartbroken,
announce freedom to all captives,
pardon all prisoners.
GOD sent me to announce the year of grace—
a celebration of GOD's destruction of our enemies—
and to comfort all who mourn,
to care for the needs of all who mourn in Zion,
give them bouquets of roses instead of ashes,
messages of joy instead of news of doom,
a praising heart instead of a languid spirit.
Rename them "Oaks of Righteousness"
planted by GOD to display GOD's glory.
They'll rebuild the old ruins,
raise a new city out of the wreckage.
They'll start over on the ruined cities,
take the rubble left behind and make it new.
"Because I, GOD, love fair dealing
and hate thievery and crime,
I'll pay your wages on time and in full,
and establish my eternal covenant with you.
Your descendants will become well-known all over.
Your children in foreign countries
will be recognized at once
as the people I have blessed."
I will sing for joy in GOD,
explode in praise from deep in my soul!
GOD dressed me up in a suit of salvation,
outfitted me in a robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom who puts on a tuxedo
and a bride a jeweled tiara.
For as the earth bursts with spring wildflowers,
and as a garden cascades with blossoms,
so GOD brings righteousness into full bloom
and puts praise on display before the nations.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,
then were we like | those who dream.

**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts
of joy.**

**Then they said among the nations, “The LORD has done
great | things for them.”**

The LORD has done great | things for us,
and we are | glad indeed.

**Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,
like the watercourses | of the Negeb.**

Those who | sowed with tears
will reap with | songs of joy.

**Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,
will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves.**



Gospel**John 1:6-8, 19-28** (The Message, alt.)

The Holy Gospel according to St. John

Glory to you, O Lord.

There once was a man, his name John, sent by God to point out the way to the Life-Light. He came to show everyone where to look, who to believe in. John was not himself the Light; he was there to show the way to the Light.

When religious leaders from Jerusalem sent a group of priests and officials to ask John who he was, he was completely honest. He didn't evade the question. He told the plain truth: "I am not the Messiah."

They pressed him, "Who, then? Elijah?"

"I am not."

"The Prophet?"

"No."

Exasperated, they said, "Who, then? We need an answer for those who sent us. Tell us something—anything!—about yourself."

"I'm thunder in the desert: 'Make the road straight for God!' I'm doing what the prophet Isaiah preached."

Those sent to question him were from the Pharisee party. Now they had a question of their own: "If you're neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet, why do you baptize?"

John answered, "I only baptize using water. A person you don't recognize has taken his stand in your midst. He comes after me, but he is not in second place to me. I'm not even worthy to hold his coat for him."

These conversations took place in Bethany on the other side of the Jordan, where John was baptizing at the time.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.**Message*****PREPARING TO PREPARE HIM ROOM*****Ministry of Music*****Impressions on an Advent Carol***arr. Susan Ullom-Berns
Chime Choir

Apostles Creed

Let us confess our faith in the Triune God as expressed in these historic words:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Community Prayers

Let us pray....

Amen.

Included in our daily prayers are those with special needs or concerns:

Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Lea Spang, Bonnie Hegreness, Heidi Carman, Cora Marquez, Mary Kennedy, Kelly Scott, Diane Louangrath, Sue Baker, Julie Denniss' uncle Ed Stewart, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleeta Childs, Kathie and Nancy Ehrich, Stan Heacock, Jeremy Davis, Val Farnham, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt, Brittany Parsons, Lynn Belhorn's friend MaryAnn, Laura Warren's brother Walter Hudson and his wife Jan, Doretha Holland, Shirley and Jack Miller, Deidre (DJ) Zimmer, Jon Denniss, Mary Bowling's sister Val, Carolyn and Ed Klopfer, Nancy Stinson's brother Tom Starkey, Kathleen Zwanziger's brother Mark Zwanziger, Larry Trover, Earl Bradley's brother Fay Bradley, David Hairston, Kay Ernsthausen, Kristi Hildebrand's grandmother Hazel Plice, Ken Jones, Skye Andre, Michelle Clemence's roommate Courtney.

Children's Time

Sharing the peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

Lift up your hearts.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

And also with you.

We lift them to the Lord.

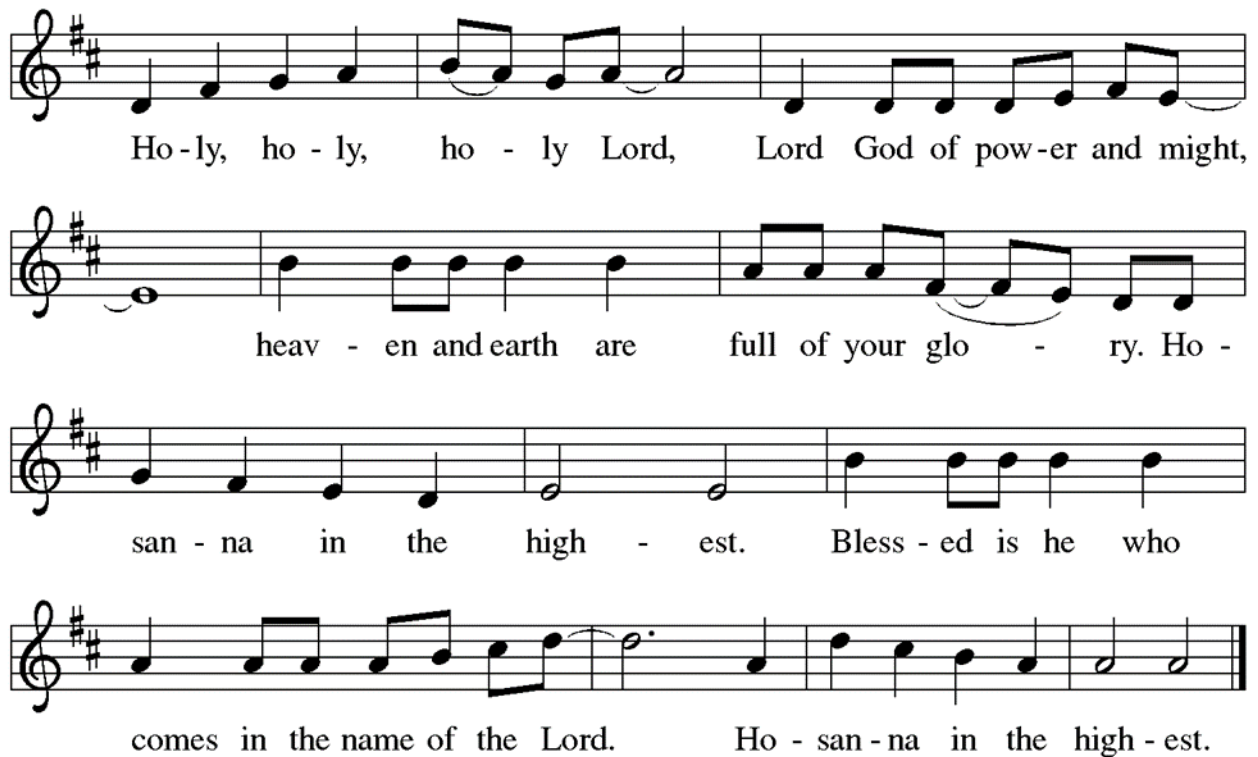
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

This is the table of Emmanuel – a place where bread and wine remind us how to live and love as those who inhabit God’s time, and work to build God’s Kingdom. A place where we recognize that the one for whom we wait is also the one who is already, and always, here with us.

So come whether you are watching for the dawn, or dreading first light, whether you are waiting with hope, or hiding your face, come with quiet confidence because here it is Emmanuel who watches for our coming, and who waits with love and joy to welcome us in.

The story of Emmanuel is the story of God – waiting to inhabit time, who took on flesh and form, and lived among us, so that we might re-imagine life. It is the story of Jesus – waiting to be betrayed, who shared supper with his friends, where he took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take this and eat. This is my body, broken for you. Do this to remember me.” And after supper he took the cup and gave it to them, saying, “This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. It is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me.”

And so, taking this bread and wine, we remember and celebrate the waiting which began to change the world; and we join our voices with all who still wait and work for that change to come to completion:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, Lord God of pow-er and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-
san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

God of grace, as we follow the example of Jesus, send your Holy Spirit upon us, and on these gifts of bread and wine, that we may find the imagination, the courage, and the strength to use our waiting times to build your Beloved Community of joy, justice and peace, for which we now pray as Jesus taught us:

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Sharing the Meal



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy Mystery, the earth still waits for its healing. May we who are part of that waiting take and use the dreaming times to re-imagine the world; may we inhabit and use the quiet times to discover your patterns. Open our hands and hearts to embrace and use the quickening times to learn how to live and love. So may our watching and waiting join with that of Emmanuel to realize your beloved community here on earth. Amen.

Amen.

WE ARE SENT

Hymn

All Earth Is Hopeful



1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the
new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946

Music: TODA LA TIERRA, Alberto Taulé

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Blessing

Amen.

Announcements

Postlude

***Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*, arr. Mark Hayes**

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Adult Sunday School

10 am Sundays
Via ZOOM



WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT ___?

Topic: Redeemer Sunday adult ed Zoom Meeting
Time: Sunday mornings 11:15 AM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83783266885?pwd=S3hqdlQR3lUbjdvYU9nWGk3MnI0dz09>

Meeting ID: 837 8326 6885

Passcode: 043099

Phone only: 646 876 9923



Tuesdays 1- 2:30 pm
The Book of Genesis
We'd love to have you join us via ZOOM!

Topic: Tuesday Bible Study Zoom Meeting
Time: Tuesdays 1:00 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87137366983?pwd=T0NoUU5ORmNYN1YrajhpZ2hGR09pdz09>

Meeting ID: 871 3736 6983

Passcode: 619946

Phone only: 646 876 9923



Coffee and Conversation

Third Wednesday of the month
11:00 AM-12:30 PM

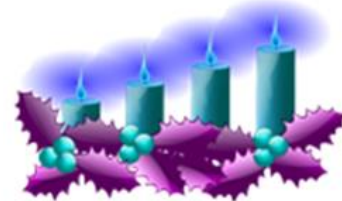
Via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83642944204?pwd=NXg3V1BBaVRsRzZvcnlUK2lGcE9uZz09>

Meeting ID: 836 4294 4204

Passcode: 919121

Honest exploration of questions
about faith and life



Advent Wednesday evenings

December 2, 9, 16

7:30 Holden Evening Prayer

Livestream:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7sGE88YtJrLWuGWO0sS-yw>

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding Minister	David Shull, Pastor
Assisting Minister	Michele Disbro
ASL Interpreter	Tori Reed
Reader	Katie Jacobs
Cantor	Scott Steiner
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chimes Choir Director	Karen Kent

*Flowers are dedicated by **Kathleen Zwanziger**, celebrating **Eric's** birthday.
Noisy Offering will go to Kaleidoscope Youth Center.*

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER DECEMBER 13 - 20

Today	10:00 am	LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	ZOOM Adult Education
Tuesday	1:00 pm	ZOOM Bible Study
Wednesday	11:00 am	ZOOM Coffee and Conversation
	7:30 pm	LIVESTREAM Advent Worship
Thursday	7:00 pm	ZOOM Congregation Council
Next Sunday	10:00 am	LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	ZOOM Adult Education

