



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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First Sunday of **CHRISTMAS**



Mother and Child, Mosaic
Elizabeth Chan, Philippines

December 27, 2020

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

an adventure for life!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

In the Bleak Midwinter, arr. Lloyd Larson

Christmas Wreath Lighting

On Christmas Night

1 On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing to hear the news the
4 All out of dark-ness we have light, which made the an-gels
an-gels bring. On Christ-mas night all Chris-tians sing to
sing this night. All out of dark-ness we have light, which
hear the news the an-gels bring: news of great joy, news of great
made the an-gels sing this night: "Glo-ry to God in high-est
mirth, news of our mer-ci-ful king's birth.
heav'n; peace on earth, and good-will. A-men."

Text: Luke Wadding, d. 1686, alt.
Music: SUSSEX CAROL, English traditional

Welcome



Hymn

Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.
 heav'n and na - ture sing,

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

First Reading

Galatians 4:4-7 (The Inclusive New Testament)

A reading from Galatians

When the designated time had come, God sent forth the Only Begotten – born of a woman, born under the Law – to deliver from the Law those who had been subjected to it, so that we might receive our status as adopted heirs. The proof that you're children of God is the fact that God has sent forth into our hearts the Spirit of the Child who calls out "Abba!" You're no longer slaves, but daughters and sons! And if you're daughters and sons, you're also heirs, by God's design.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.



Psalm 148



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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Hallelujah! Praise the LORD | from the heavens;
praise God | in the heights.

**Praise the LORD, | all you angels;
sing praise, all you | hosts of heaven.**

Praise the LORD, | sun and moon;
sing praise, all you | shining stars.

**Praise the LORD, heav- | en of heavens,
and you waters a- | bove the heavens.**

Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
who commanded, and they | were created,
**who made them stand fast forev- | er and ever,
giving them a law that shall not | pass away.**

Praise the LORD | from the earth,
you sea monsters | and all deeps;
**fire and hail, | snow and fog,
tempestuous wind, do- | ing God's will;**

mountains | and all hills,
fruit trees | and all cedars;
**wild beasts | and all cattle,
creeping things and | flying birds;**

sovereigns of the earth | and all peoples,
princes and all rulers | of the world;
**young | men and maidens,
old and | young together.**

Let them praise the name | of the LORD,
whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over | earth and
heaven.

**The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for
all | faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. | Hallelujah!**

Gospel

Luke 2:22-40 (The Message)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

Glory to you, O Lord.

When the days stipulated by Moses for purification were complete, they took him up to Jerusalem to offer him to God as commanded in God's Law: "Every male who opens the womb shall be a holy offering to God," and also to sacrifice the "pair of doves or two young pigeons" prescribed in God's Law.

In Jerusalem at the time, there was a man, Simeon by name, a good man, a man who lived in the prayerful expectancy of help for Israel. And the Holy Spirit was on him. The Holy Spirit had shown him that he would see the Messiah of God before he died. Led by the Spirit, he entered the Temple. As the parents of the child Jesus brought him in to carry out the rituals of the Law, Simeon took him into his arms and blessed God:

God, you can now release your servant;
release me in peace as you promised.
With my own eyes I've seen your salvation;
it's now out in the open for everyone to see:
A God-revealing light to the non-Jewish nations,
and of glory for your people Israel.

Jesus' father and mother were speechless with surprise at these words.

Simeon went on to bless them, and said to Mary his mother,

This child marks both the failure and
the recovery of many in Israel,
A figure misunderstood and contradicted—
the pain of a sword-thrust through you—
But the rejection will force honesty,
as God reveals who they really are.

Anna the prophetess was also there, a daughter of Phanuel from the tribe of Asher. She was by now a very old woman. She had been married seven years and a widow for eighty-four. She never left the Temple area, worshiping night and day with her fastings and prayers. At the very time Simeon was praying, she showed up, broke into an anthem of praise to God, and talked about the child to all who were waiting expectantly for the freeing of Jerusalem.

When they finished everything required by God in the Law, they returned to Galilee and their own town, Nazareth. There the child grew strong in body and wise in spirit. And the grace of God was on him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Message

STAYING MARY

Jesus says, "Mother I couldn't stay another day longer,"
flies right by and leaves a kiss upon her face.
While the angels are singin' his praises in a blaze of glory,
Mary stays behind and starts cleaning up the place...

Mary you're covered in roses, you're covered in ruin
you're covered in secrets,
you're covered in treetops, you're covered in birds
who can sing a million songs without any words
You cast aside the sheets, you cast aside the shroud
of another man, who served the world proud.

You grieve another son, you lose another one
on some sunny day, and always you stay Mary.

"Mary" by Patty Griffin



Ministry of Music

The Virgin's Slumber Song

Reger/Boelitz
Emlyn Ott

Amid the roses Mary sits and rock her Jesus child,
While amid the tree-tops sighs the breeze so warm and mild.
And soft and sweetly sings a bird upon the bough;
Ah, baby, dear one, slumber now!

Happy is Thy laughter, holy is Thy silent rest,
Lay Thy head in slumber, fondly on Thy Mother's breast!
Ah, baby, dear one, slumber now!

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 Klea 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 Ernsthause, Kristi Hildebrand's grandmother Hazel Plice, Ken Jones, Skye Andre, Michelle Clemence's roommate Courtney, Dora Pinder and family, Bill Boys, Ruth Murray's brother Allen Harju, Kim and Kendall Meyer-Turner, Greg Williams.

Children's Time



WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION

Sharing the peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

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.

Holy God, Mother and Father of all life, from the beginning of time your Spirit breathed light over darkness. You scattered stars in the heavens and raised up the mountains. You poured out great rivers and blessed the earth with life. You made humans in your image, and loved us in our weakness, promising to stay with us wherever we go.

In the winter of our longing, you came to the prophet Mary, offering your Spirit to make creation whole. You gave her a child, Jesus, your beloved son, to turn the broken world upside-down. Jesus stayed with us, healing the sick and feeding the hungry, unbinding prisoners and raising the dead. He ate with strangers, showed mercy to sinners, and taught us to follow him in love without fear.

Shine upon us as you shone upon the faithful Mary, and as you shine upon your people in the darkest times and places. Lit by your love, may raise our voices with saints and angels in this heavenly song:

Congregation:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it and gave it to his friends and said — “Take, eat: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them and said — “Drink this, all of you: This is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this to remember me.”

God of all the things, we ask your Spirit to bless this meal. We offer ourselves to you, remembering Christ’s death and resurrection, his birth in Bethlehem, and rest in the manger, his welcome to shepherds and strangers. Come among us and make your home with us that we may be the body of Christ for the world you love, making real the prayer 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

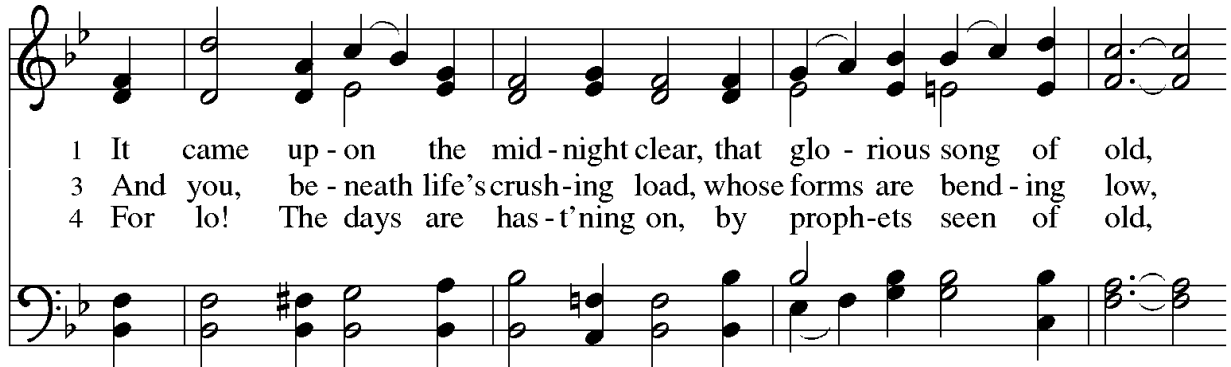
O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell. Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

Amen.

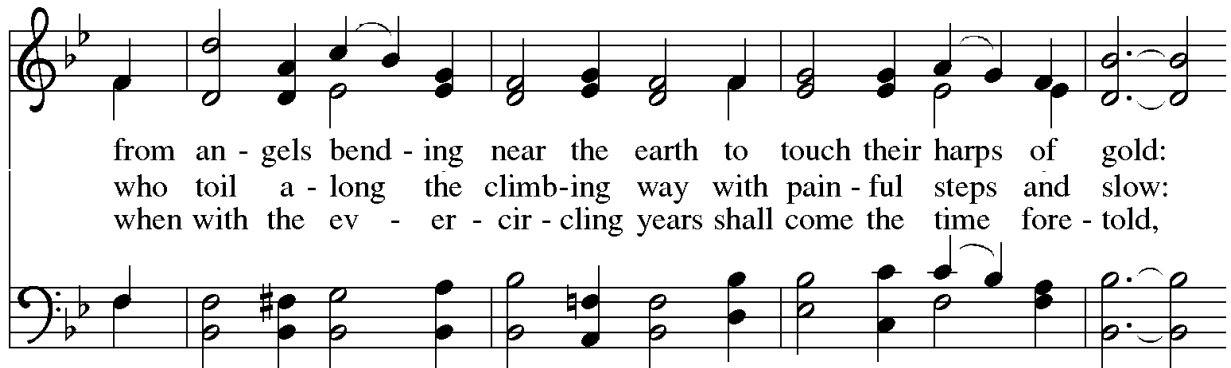
WE ARE SENT

Hymn

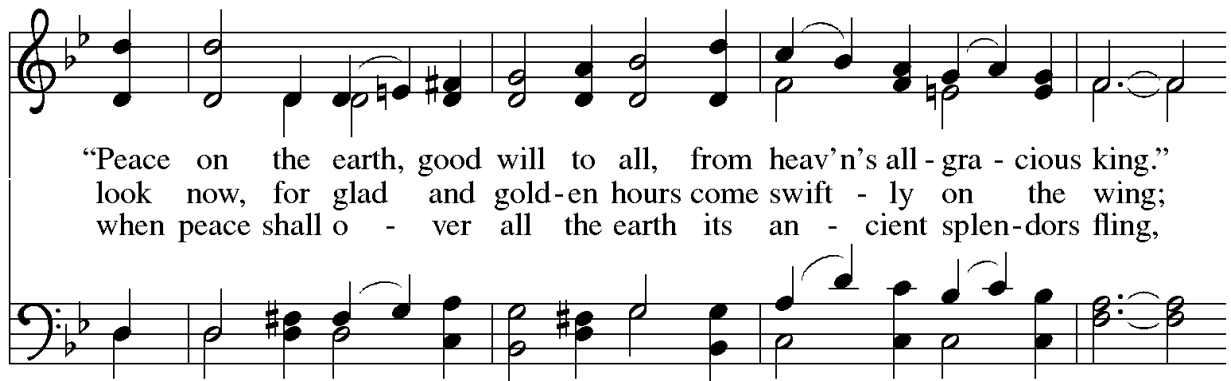
It Came upon the Midnight Clear



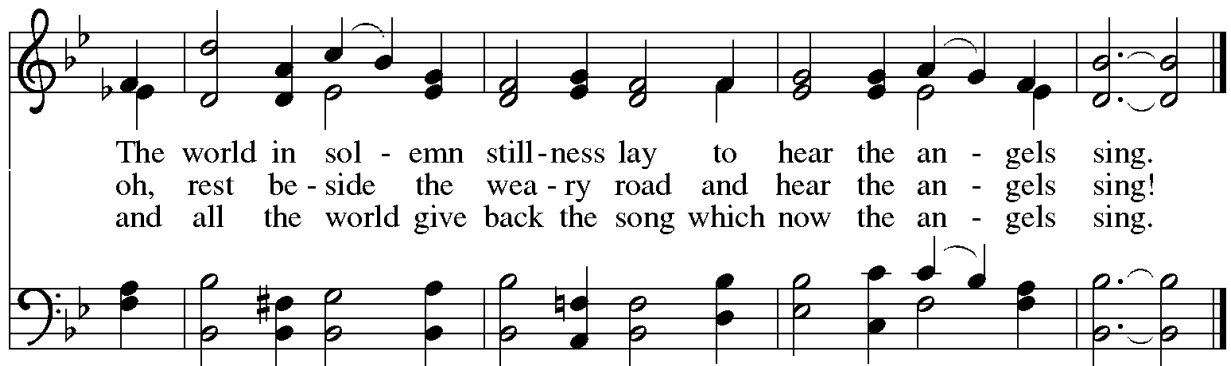
1 It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
3 And you, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
4 For lo! The days are has - t'ning on, by proph - ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow:
when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,



“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav’n’s all - gra - cious king.”
look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing;
when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,



The world in sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
oh, rest be - side the wea - ry road and hear the an - gels sing!
and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Text: Edmund H. Sears, 1810–1876
Music: CAROL, Richard S. Willis, 1819–1900

Blessing

Amen.

Announcements

Postlude

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice, arr. Mark Hayes

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Adult Sunday School

11:15 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=S3hqdl1dQR3lUbjdvYU9nWGk3MnI0dz09>

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

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding Minister	David Shull, Pastor
Assisting Minister	Judith Bird
ASL Interpreter	Tori Reed
Reader	Judith Bird
Cantor	Emily Kent
Soloist	Emlyn Ott
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chimes Choir Director	Karen Kent

Noisy Offering will go to Kaleidoscope Youth Center.

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER DECEMBER 27 – JANUARY 3

Today	10:00 am	LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	ZOOM Adult Education
Tuesday	1:00 pm	ZOOM Bible Study
Next Sunday	10:00 am	LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	ZOOM Adult Education

