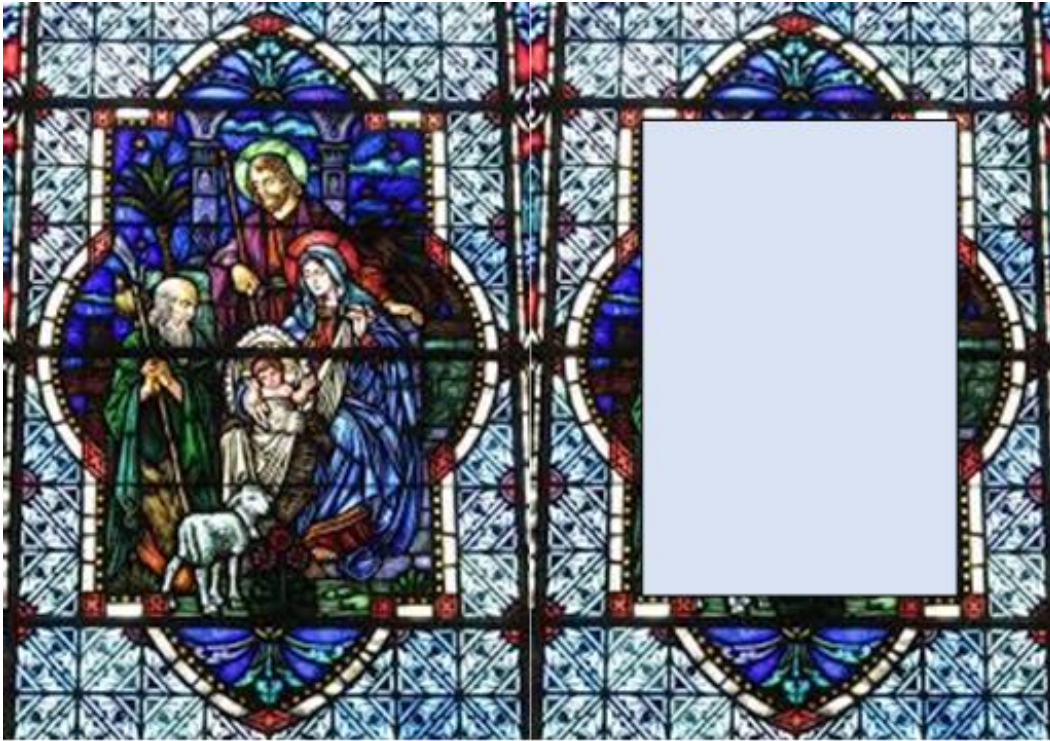


First Sunday of Christmas



December 26, 2021 + 10:00 am

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...
an adventure for life!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

In Preparation for Worship

- Within the sanctuary please remember that some people use this time of silence to prepare for worship.
- Whenever the cross is carried in procession through the congregation, we turn to face the cross to signify our way of life as followers of Jesus.
- Large-print bulletins and copies of the worship order are available; ask an usher for assistance.
- Assistive hearing devices are available from the ushers.

Love Your Neighbor

- In keeping with the current mask update for Columbus, masks are required at worship services and other group activities inside the Redeemer Lutheran Church building.
- The sanctuary is set up for social distancing.
- Those who wish may stand during the opening and closing hymns and the reading of the Gospel.
- During the passing of the peace, we suggest you place your palms together under your chin in the "namaste" posture as a way to share the peace in a distanced way.
- Individual communion elements are available to pick up inside the sanctuary door.
- If you wish to use one of the first-floor bathrooms, please follow instructions in the bathroom about disinfecting it after your use. Only one person at a time in the restrooms.

Please turn off your cell phone or set to airplane mode. This will help maintain our livestream.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence, arr. Mark Hayes



Welcome


Please stand in body or spirit

Hymn

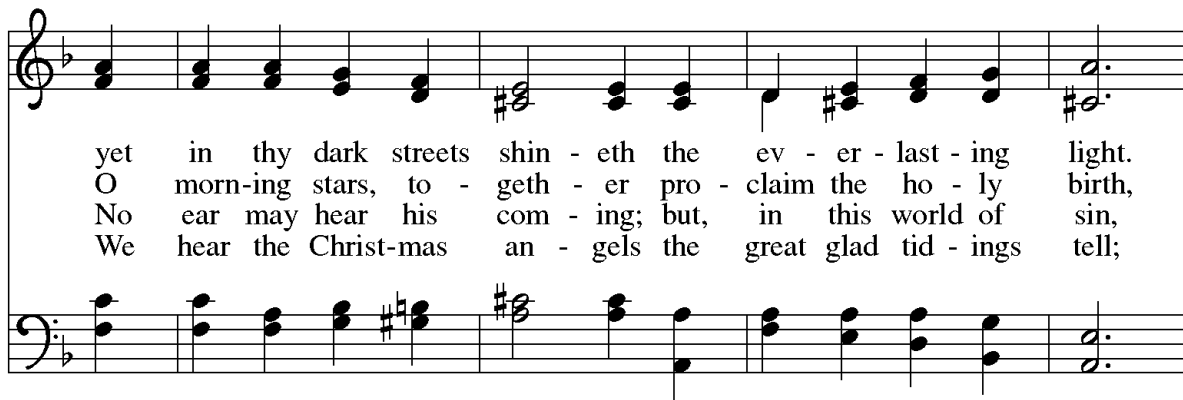
O Little Town of Bethlehem



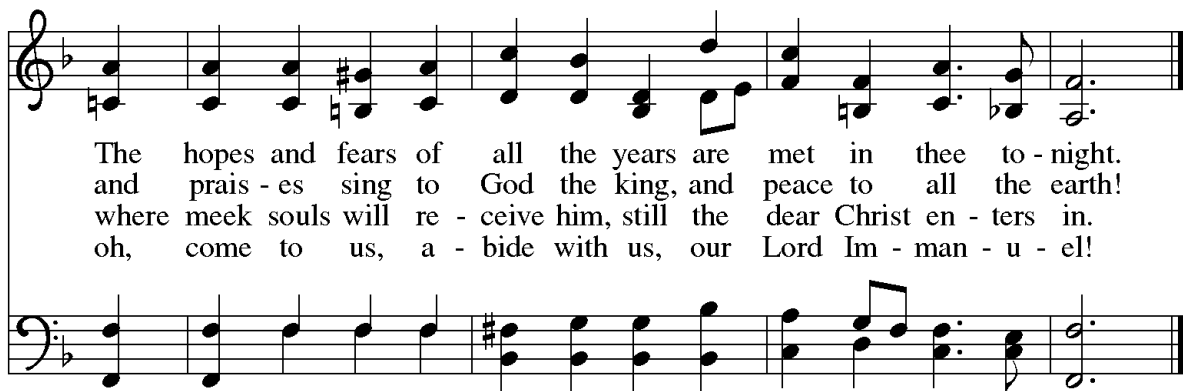
1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835-1893
Music: ST. LOUIS, Lewis H. Redner, 1831-1908

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the friendship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1:

Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great
peo - ple of God.

To refrain

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
To refrain
for ev - er.

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us peo - ple of God; to make
To refrain
all things new.

Please be seated

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

Reading

Colossians 3:12-17 (The Message, inclusivized)

A reading from the letter to the church at Colossae

Chosen by God for this new life of love, dress in the wardrobe God picked out for you: compassion, kindness, humility, quiet strength, discipline. Be even-tempered, content with second place, quick to forgive an offense. Forgive as quickly and completely as the Master forgave you. And regardless of what else you put on, wear love. It's your basic, all-purpose garment. Never be without it.

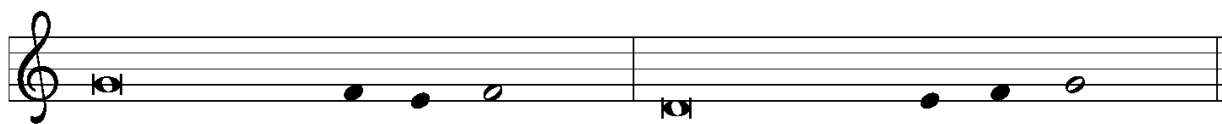
Let the peace of Christ keep you in tune with each other, in step with each other. None of this going off and doing your own thing. And cultivate thankfulness. Let the Word of Christ—the Message—have the run of the house. Give it plenty of room in your lives. Instruct and direct one another using good common sense. And sing, sing your hearts out to God! Let every detail in your lives—words, actions, whatever—be done in the name of the Master, Jesus, thanking God every step of the way.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.



Psalm 148



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
May be reproduced by permission for local use only.

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!**

Please stand in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation

Congregation:



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



Gospel **Luke 2:22-40** (Contemporary English Version, adapted)
The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The time came for Mary and Joseph to do what the Law of Moses says a mother is supposed to do after her baby is born.

They took Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem and presented him to the Lord, just as the Law of the Lord says, "Each first-born baby boy belongs to the Lord." The Law of the Lord also says that parents have to offer a sacrifice, giving at least a pair of doves or two young pigeons. So that is what Mary and Joseph did.

At this time a man named Simeon was living in Jerusalem. Simeon was a good man. He loved God and was waiting for God to save the people of Israel. God's Spirit came to him and told him that he would not die until he had seen Christ the Lord.

When Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple to do what the Law of Moses says should be done for a new baby, the Spirit told Simeon to go into the temple. Simeon took the baby Jesus in his arms and praised God,

“Lord, I am your servant,
and now I can die in peace,
because you have kept
your promise to me.
With my own eyes I have seen
what you have done
to save your people,
and foreign nations
will also see this.
Your mighty power is a light
for all nations,
and it will bring honor
to your people Israel.”

Jesus' parents were surprised at what Simeon had said. Then he blessed them and told Mary, “This child of yours will cause many people in Israel to fall and others to stand. The child will be like a warning sign. Many people will reject him, and you, Mary, will suffer as though you had been pierced by a dagger. But all this will show what people are really thinking.”

The prophet Anna was also there in the temple. She was the daughter of Phanuel from the tribe of Asher, and she was very old. In her youth she had been married for seven years, but her husband died. And now she was eighty-four years old. Night and day she served God in the temple by praying and often going without eating.

At that time Anna came in and praised God. She spoke about the child Jesus to everyone who hoped for Jerusalem to be set free.

After Joseph and Mary had done everything that the Law of the Lord commands, they returned home to Nazareth in Galilee. The child Jesus grew. He became strong and wise, and God blessed him.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

Message

THE HEART THAT PONDERES AND THE HEART THAT'S PIERCED

Ministry of Music

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day arr. Howard Helvey
Piano Duet, Karen Kent and Kathy Rapp

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, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Kathie and Nancy Ehrich and their niece and sister-in-law, Stan Heacock, Jeremy Davis, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Shirley and Jack Miller, Jon Denniss, Mary Bowling's sister Val, Grace and Ken Jones, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Kris Kauffman, Karen Kent, Beatrice Watts Young, Kathie Ehrich's sister Betty Weaver, Chad Eberle's mother, Ruth Murray's step-granddaughter Trina Shields, Pastor Al Debelak, Eric Hutton
The people of St. Luke Lutheran Church, Gahanna; Redeemer community members Nancy, Scott, and Andrea Steiner

Children's Time

Sharing the peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We take time to greet one another with words like Peace be with you.

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION

Jesus invited all who were hungry for food, healing, justice, and joy to share this communion meal.

Since this is his meal, and he is present to us in it, all are welcome.

On the last Sunday of the month, we're using a version of the Lord's Prayer that comes from the prayer book of the Anglican Church of New Zealand. We do so as a way to keep broadening our sense of who God is and giving fresh meanings to this familiar and beloved prayer. The Worship Team invites you to pray these new words with an open spirit. Listen for ways the Spirit speaks to you through it. Please share your experiences of praying this prayer with the Worship Team or Pastor Dave.

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 brokenness and beauty. You promised to stay with us wherever we might go.

In the winter of our longing, you came to the prophet Mary. Your Spirit met her, so together you could help make creation whole. She gave birth to Jesus, your beloved one. As he grew, and hear your call more clearly, he healed wounds. He blessed the lost and lonely with the gift of home. He showed hungry souls how they could follow him in love without fear. His presence in this meal offers the same power to us.

Holy One, shine upon us this day as you shone upon the faithful Mary and trusting shepherds. Shine upon us as you have always given light to your people in the darkest times and places. Lit by the star over the manger, we raise our voices with saints and angels in the 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!

This season we kneel by the manger and sit around the table with Jesus' disciples. This season we see this beautiful baby and we see the adult Jesus whose words, actions, and fearlessness made the powerful fear him enough to seek to silence him. Long after this holy night in Bethlehem, Jesus gathered with his friends in Jerusalem. He took bread, blessed it, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take and eat: This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me."

After supper, he took a cup of wine, gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is the blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink this, do so to remember me."

Therefore, God of all the things, we ask your Spirit to bless this meal. We gather with you at the manger and in the upper room, in the joy of this time and the betrayal of that time. Come among us! Open us to Jesus' presence in this meal and in each other. Nourish us to be his his body given for the world you love. Make these words alive in us as we pray:

Lord's Prayer

Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and
come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we [inflict and the hurts we] absorb, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and for ever. Amen.

Sharing the Meal

The gifts of God, for the people of God. Jesus welcomed all to this meal.
So do we.

The body of Christ, given for you. (*We eat the bread together.*)
The blood of Christ, given for you. (*We drink the cup together.*)

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

Please stand in body or spirit

Hymn

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain
Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

Blessing

Amen.

Announcements

Postlude

O Come, Little Children, arr. Mark Hayes

CCLI License # 11287796; One License A-728105

Communion liturgy adapted from one written by the Rev. Bill Loader of the Uniting Church in Australia.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Contemporary English Version (CEV) Copyright © 1995 by American Bible Society

The Message (MSG) Copyright © 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002 by Eugene H. Peterson

Pastor Shull Will Be on Vacation December 26-January 2

Pastor Dave Shull will be on vacation from Sunday afternoon, December 26, through Sunday, January 2. **Pastor Emlyn Ott** is preaching and presiding on January 2.

If you have a pastoral emergency between Sunday afternoon, December 26 and Wednesday, December 29, please contact **Pastor Brad Gee** from Epiphany Lutheran Church at 248-470-3185. Between Thursday, December 30 and Sunday, January 2, please contact **Pastor Julianne Smeck** from Hope Lutheran Church at 734-972-6126.

Happy New Year to you all!



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS ARE GIVEN BY:

DONOR

Kevin Bailey
Karen and Bruce Collins
Julie and John Guerard
John Kennedy

Emily Kent
Kathy and Tom Mimlitch
Cathy Oldham
LaVerna Reinoehl
Steiner Family
Wendy Stoica
Robin Stokes

Becky & Larry Trover
Linda Williams
Jennifer, Tim, and Colin Young
Kathleen Zwanziger

DONOR

Kay Ernsthausen

Dave Shull
Wendy Stoica
Linda Williams
Tone Chimes

IN MEMORY OF

Ruth Anna & Vyron Bailey
Parents
Hilda & Dick Kautz
Rev. and Mrs. John L. and
Marcelene A. Kennedy
Loved ones
Parents
Sue Baker and all loved ones
Dave Reinoehl
Loved Ones
Mike Binion
Rob Stokes, Geri Stokes, Hilda
Stokes, and Jane Cenci
Our parents
Loved ones
Robert Young
Al, Ethel, and Marie Zwanziger

IN HONOR OF

Celebrating the gathering of
families and friends
The resilience of Redeemer
Mary Binion
Family
Karen Kent

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding Minister	David Shull, Pastor
Assisting Minister	Karen Collins
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Crucifer	Skye Andree
Reader	Karen Collins
Cantor	Scott Steiner
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chimes Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Kathleen Zwanziger
Verger	Michelle Clemence
Producers	Tom Mimplitch, Scott Steiner

Noisy Offering will go to ELCA Disaster Relief.

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER DECEMBER 26 – JANUARY 2

Today	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
Next Sunday	8:45 am	Chime Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion
	11:15 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal



1555 South James Road, Columbus OH 43227
614.237.1263 + info@RedeemerLuth.com + www.RedeemerLuth.com
Office hours –9am-1pm, M-W and F
A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America