

Christmas Day
Christ, the Savior, is born.
Glory to God in the highest.



Lutheran Church of the Redeemer
Our Mission: To share Christ's love with the greatest number of people.

December 25, 2020 The Service at 10:00 am

Christmas Day Service

PRELUDE

WELCOME

APOSTOLIC GREETING

Pastor The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

Congregation **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Let us pray.
All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened
weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of
your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation **Amen.**

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!"

THE WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 52:7-10

Isaiah proclaims news of great joy: "Your God reigns!" Just as God saved the people from oppression in Egypt, God delivers Israel from exile. All the earth will witness the saving acts of God.

⁷How beautiful upon the mountains
are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news,
who announces salvation,
who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."
⁸Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices,
together they sing for joy;
for in plain sight they see
the return of the LORD to Zion.
⁹Break forth together into singing,
you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the LORD has comforted his people,
he has redeemed Jerusalem.
¹⁰The LORD has bared his holy arm
before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see
the salvation of our God.

Pastor Word of God, word of life.
Congregation **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-12

This letter opens with a lofty declaration of Jesus' preeminent status as the Son through whom God created the world and through whom our sins are cleansed. God speaks to us now through the Son, who is exalted even above the angels.

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. ³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.
⁵For to which of the angels did God ever say,
"You are my Son; today I have begotten you"?
Or again,
"I will be his Father, and he will be my Son"?
⁶And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,
"Let all God's angels worship him."
⁷Of the angels he says, "He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire."
⁸But of the Son he says,
"Your throne, O God, is forever and ever,
and the righteous scepter is the scepter of your kingdom.
⁹You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you
with the oil of gladness beyond your companions."
¹⁰And,
"In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth,
and the heavens are the work of your hands;
¹¹they will perish, but you remain;
they will all wear out like clothing;
¹²like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed.
But you are the same, and your years will never end."

Pastor Word of God, word of life.
Congregation **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel is announced.

Vicar

The Holy Gospel according to St. John. Congregation **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: John 1:1-14

The prologue to the Gospel of John describes Jesus as the Word of God made flesh, the one who reveals God to be "full of grace and truth."

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Vicar

The Gospel of the Lord. Congregation **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Vicar Hephzibah Penumaka

CAROL #296

The cantor sings the carol.

What Child Is This

Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

NICENE CREED

Vicar With the whole church, let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.
Congregation **We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS

*Prayers are included for the whole Church, the nations, those in need, the parish and special concerns.
After each portion of the prayers:*

Vicar Hear us, O God.
Congregation **Your mercy is great.**

At the end of the prayer:

Pastor Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
 trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.
Congregation **Amen.**

SHARING THE LORD'S PEACE

Pastor: May the peace of the Lord be with you always.
Congregation **And also with you.**

Please greet one another with God's peace.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Our offerings to God are first of all just that – offerings of thanksgiving to God. As you are able please continue to support our ministry with your financial gifts. Our work continues even when we are physically apart from one another.

OFFERING MUSIC

CAROL #272

Cantor sings the carol.

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten-der stem hath
2 I - sai - ah had fore - told it, the rose I have in
3 This flow'r, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the
4 O Sav - ior, child of Mar - y, who felt our hu - man

sprung! Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as
mind; with Mar - y we be - hold it, the
air, dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the
woe; O Sav - ior, king of glo - ry, who

seers of old have sung, it came, a flow'r so bright, a -
vir - gin moth - er kind. To show God's love a - right, she
dark-ness ev - 'ry - where. True man, yet ver - y God, from
dost our weak - ness know: bring us at length, we pray, to

mid the cold of win - ter, when half - spent was the night.
bore to us a Sav - ior, when half - spent was the night.
sin and death he saves us and light - ens ev - 'ry load.
the bright courts of heav - en and in - to end - less day.

Text: German carol, 15th cent.; tr. Theodore Baker, 1851–1934, sts. 1-2; Harriet R. Krauth, 1845–1925, st. 3; John C. Mattes, 1876–1948, st. 4

Music: ES IST EIN ROS, *Alle catholische geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1599; arr. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand.

Pastor The Lord be with you
Congregation **And also with you.**

Pastor Lift up your hearts,
Congregation **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God,
Congregation **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.
In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh
you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory,
that, beholding the God made visible,
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Congregation **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
Congregation **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.**

BLESSING

Stand
Pastor May the God of Christmas be a blessing to you throughout the year.
Congregation **May we share with people everywhere the love, and the compassion, of our gracious God.**
Pastor May the blessing of the Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you, now and always.
Congregation **Amen.**

COMMUNION MUSIC

Piano Selections

INVITATION TO COMMUNE

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion

*Individuals and/or families will come forward keeping six feet apart.
Anyone not comfortable receiving the bread or the wine are invited to come forward for a blessing.
To receive a blessing, please cross your arms. You are an important part of our faith community.*



Once you arrive at the table you can pick up the host and the cup of wine/grape juice. Please move by the basket that stands next to the table.

Pastor will say "The body and blood of Christ for you. Go in peace and serve the Lord."

Once you have communed you can leave by the open side door and exit the building. Those who wish to have a time of prayer can return to your pew by the side aisles. When you are ready to leave then just keep a safe distance from others. We ask that you not gather in the Crossroads but you are free to greet others outside.

At the end of the service pastor will offer a final word of peace for those who are watching the videos.

Pastor Go in peace to share the good news. Christ, the Savior, is born.
Congregation Glory to God in the highest. Amen! Alleluia!

Have a Blessed and Merry Christmas!

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Children are always welcome in our worship.

Church Phone: 703-356-3346

Email: Church@redeermclean.org

Hearing help available: We have for your use, personal hearing amplification units available in the narthex. Please refer questions or comments to an usher.

Christmas Blessings to Everyone!

May the holy light that surrounds our Lord's birthplace illuminate your spirit and warm your heart.

May you welcome Jesus Christ, the heart of Christmas, into your life more fully.

May the love of God move you to love others, especially those most difficult to love.

And may Christ's peace, joy, and hope be yours at Christmas and in the New Year!

Pastor Sandy Kessinger and the Staff of Redeemer Lutheran Church

Next Sunday: December 27 (one service only) at 9 am

2021-22 Preschool Registration due date is February 3, 2021.

More info at www.redeermclean.org/preschool or 703-356-3567.

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