

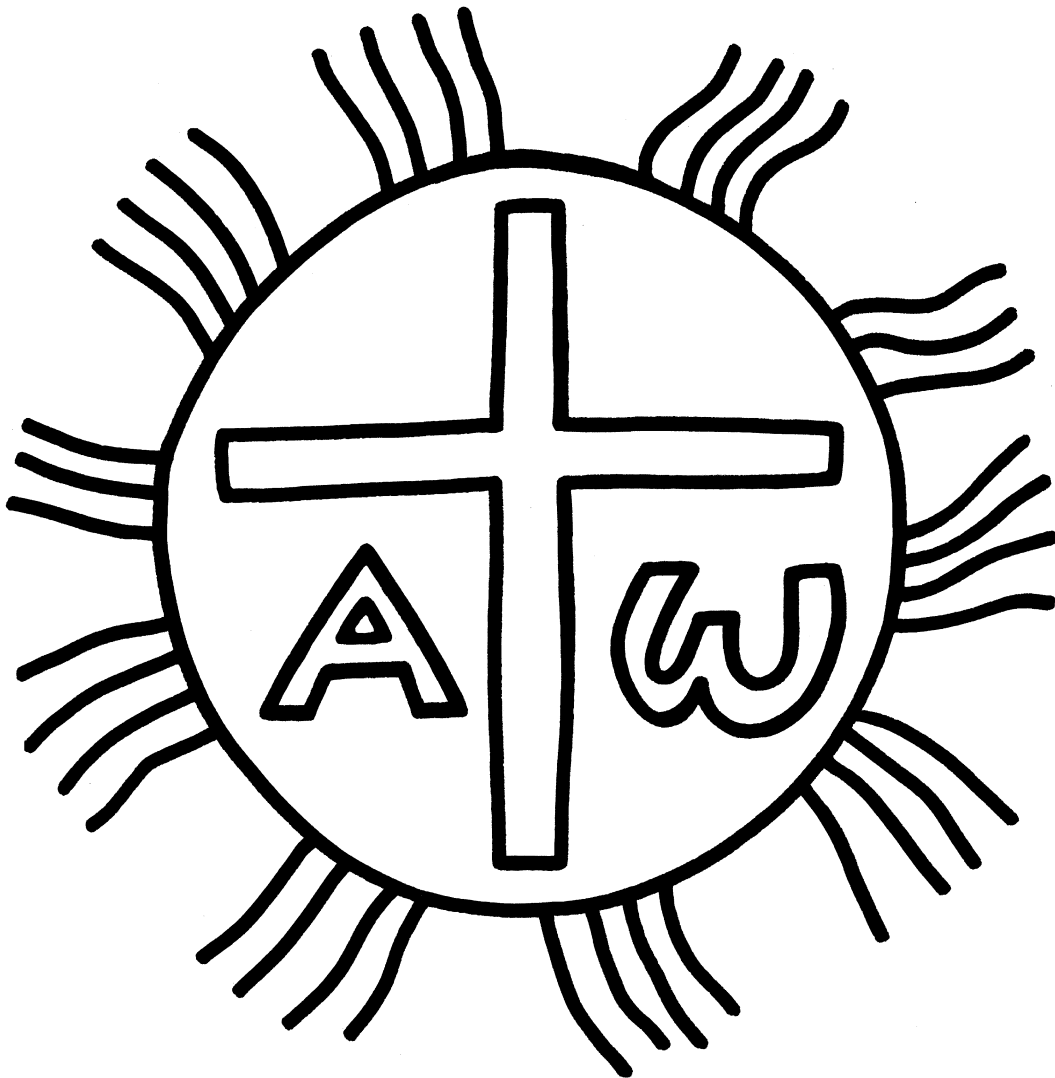
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

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

New Year's Eve, December 31, 2023

The Service at 5:00 pm

*At the turn of the year we meditate on endings and beginnings, knowing that all the world's time begins and ends in God.
We watch and keep vigil for the coming of God's justice.*



GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Lo How A Rose E'er Blooming" arranged by Mark Hayes

WELCOME

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
 2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
 4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
 seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
 ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4
 Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

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.**

Pastor O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.
 Congregation **His steadfast love endures forever.**

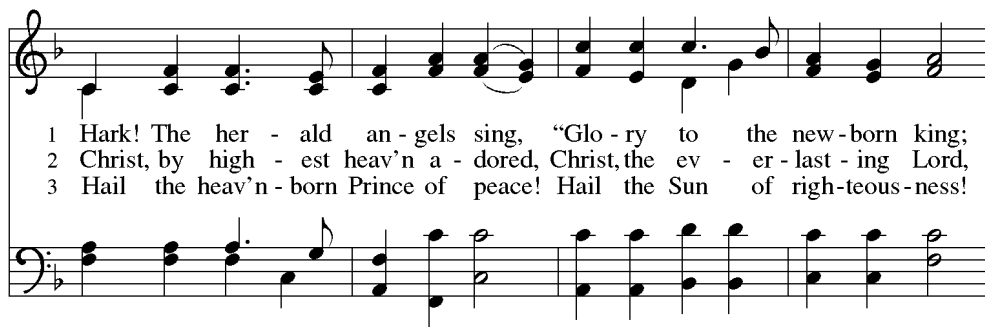
Pastor With the Lord at our side we do not fear.
 Congregation **It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to put our confidence in others.**

Pastor The Lord is our strength.
 Congregation **He is our salvation.**

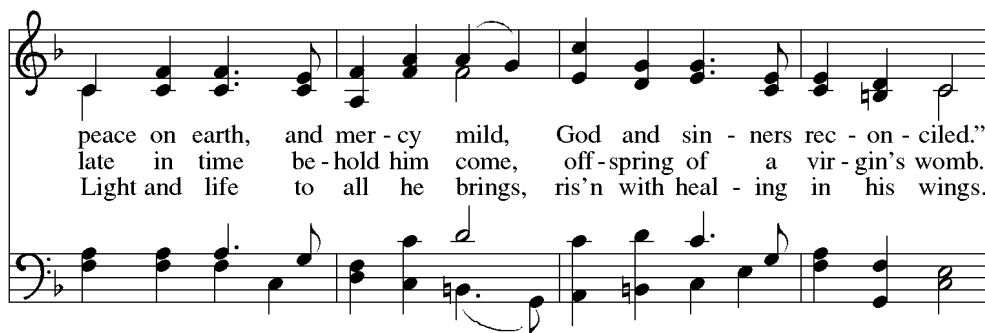
Pastor This is the day that the Lord has made.
 Congregation **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Pastor Let us pray,
 Eternal God, you have placed us in a world of space and time, and through the events of our lives you bless us with your love. Grant that in the new year we may know your presence, see your love at work, and live in the light of the event that gives us joy forever—the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
 Congregation **Amen.**

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



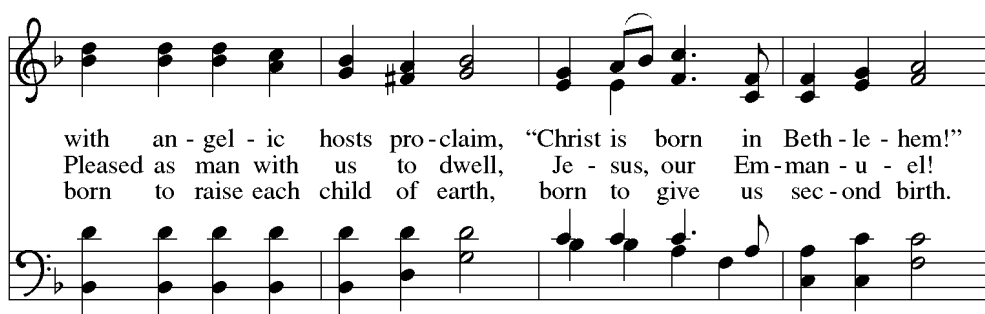
1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king;
2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ-teous-ness!



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!"

CONFESSION

Pastor While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
Through the power of the Holy Spirit,
God promises to heal us and forgive us.
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

The assembly kneels or sits. Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Pastor Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.

Congregation For self-centered living,
and for failing to walk with humility and gentleness:
**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

Pastor For longing to have what is not ours,
and for hearts that are not at rest with ourselves:
Congregation **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

Pastor For misuse of human relationships,
and for unwillingness to see the image of God in others:
Congregation **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

Pastor For jealousies that divide families and nations,
and for rivalries that create strife and warfare:
Congregation **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

Pastor For reluctance in sharing the gifts of God,
and for carelessness with the fruits of creation:
Congregation **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

Pastor For hurtful words that condemn,
and for angry deeds that harm:
Congregation **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

Pastor For idleness in witnessing to Jesus Christ,
and for squandering the gifts of love and grace:
Congregation **Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

People may come forward to be blessed by the pastor. Pastor will address you from a safe distance.

Pastor In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you in all goodness and bring you to everlasting life.
Individual **Amen.**

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor The peace of Christ be with you always.
Congregation **And also with you.**

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say, "Peace be with you" or similar words.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

a time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;
a time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to break down, and a time to build up;
a time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
a time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to throw away;
a time to tear, and a time to sew;
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
a time to love, and a time to hate;
a time for war, and a time for peace.

What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil.

Reader	Word of God, word of life.
Congregation	Thanks be to God.

Psalm 8

O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!—
you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;
you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.
When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?
Yet you have made them little less than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.
You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:
all flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts of the field,
the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.
O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Reader	Word of God, word of life.
Congregation	Thanks be to God.

Revelation 21:1-6a

I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.”

Reader	Word of God, word of life.
Congregation	Thanks be to God.



Matthew 25:31-46

[Jesus said to the disciples:] “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Reader	The gospel of the Lord.
Congregation	Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN #279

Please stand and sing.

O Little Town of Bethlehem

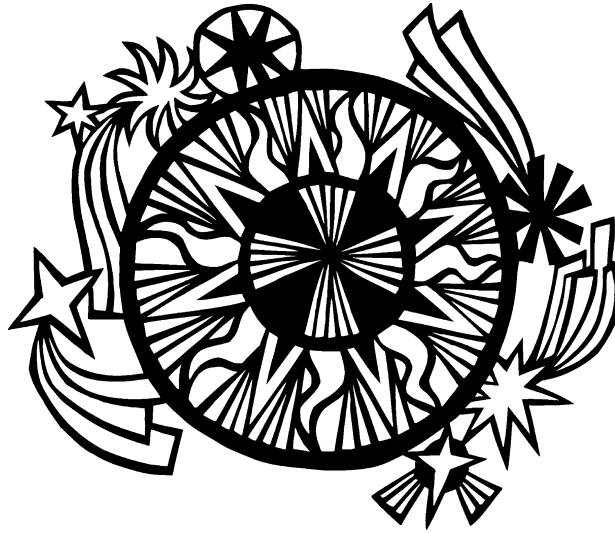
1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
 4 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

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



APOSTLES' CREED

Pastor With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
Congregation **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.**

PRAYERS

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

Pastor 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.**

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

OFFERTORY *"Brightest and Best" arranged by Mark Hayes*

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 pow'r 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.
--------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand.

Pastor	Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.
Congregation	Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor	In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.
--------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.
--------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Pastor	The bread of God comes down from heaven and gives life to the world. Come and eat for all is now ready.
--------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Please be seated.



INVITATION TO COMMUNE

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

We gather around the communion rail either kneeling or standing to receive communion.

Communion will be offered by intinction.

For those not comfortable receiving from the pastors' hands a separate tray with preset elements will follow.

Anyone not comfortable receiving the bread or the wine are invited to come forward for a blessing.

You are an important part of our faith community.

Pastor	The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Congregation	Amen.

Pastor	Let us pray. God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
--------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

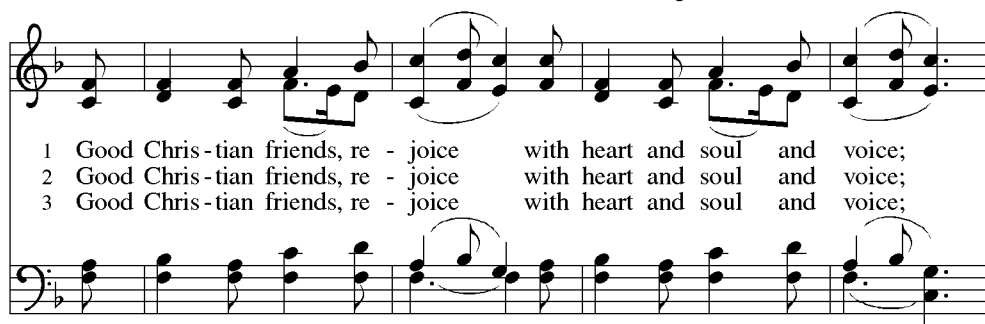
Congregation	Amen.
--------------	--------------

BLESSING

Pastor	The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
--------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Congregation	Amen.
--------------	--------------

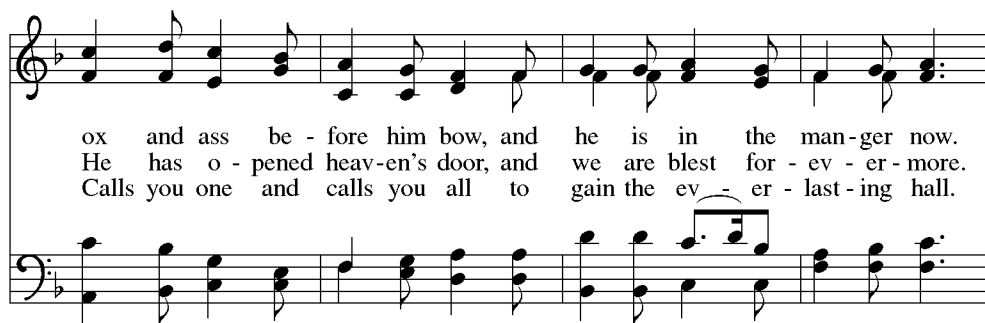
Good Christian Friends, Rejoice



1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.
He has o - pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866
Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.; arr. Robert L. Pearsall, 1795–1856

DISMISSAL

Pastor Go in peace. Share the good news.
Congregation **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

"I Heard The Bells On Christmas Day" arranged by Mark Hayes

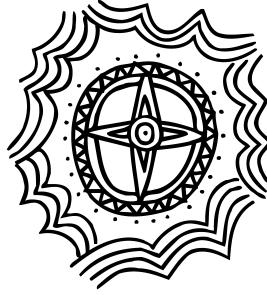
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, VA 22101

Children are 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.

Sunday Services at Redeemer

We resume our usual service times on January 7th.

8:30 am and 11 am for traditional services and 9:45 am for the contemporary service.

Special thanks to Roberta Pittman, our pianist today.

Return this bulletin to the entrance hall for recycling if you choose not to take it home.