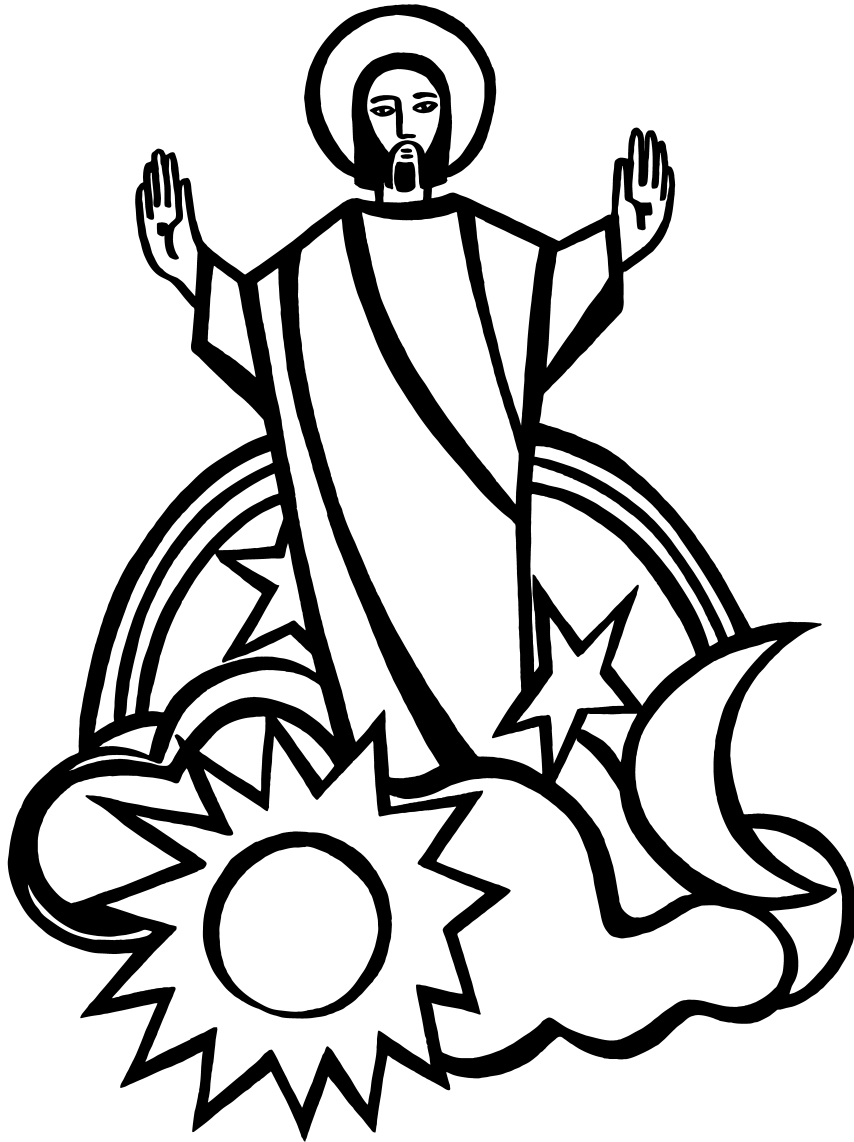


# Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

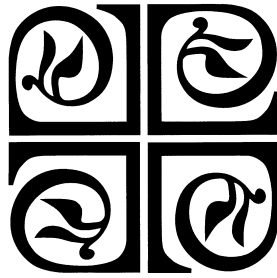
Our Mission: To share Christ's love with the greatest number of people.

First Sunday of Advent, December 3, 2023

The Service at 8:30 and 11 am



*Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.*



## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

*"Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme" - J.S. Bach*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*Please stand.*

Pastor Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sins, whose mercy endures forever.

Congregation **Amen**

Pastor God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone.  
Give us power of the your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Congregation **Amen**

Pastor Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Pastor Gracious God,  
Congregation **have mercy on us.**  
**We confess**  
**that we have turned from you**  
**and given ourselves**  
**into the power of sin.**  
**We are truly sorry**  
**and humbly repent.**  
**In your compassion**  
**forgive us our sins,**  
**known and unknown,**  
**things we have done,**  
**and things we have failed to do.**  
**Turn us again to you,**  
**and uphold us by your Spirit,**  
**so that we may live and serve you**  
**in newness of life**  
**through Jesus Christ,**  
**our Savior and Lord.**  
**Amen.**

Pastor In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins.  
As a called and ordained servant of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation **Amen**

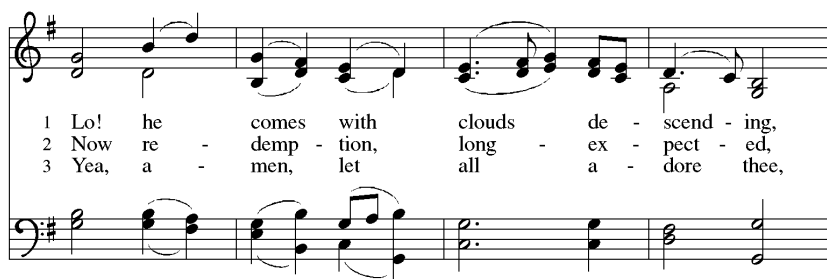
# GATHERING HYMN: LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING #435

*We invite you to turn and face the cross (as you are comfortable). Please turn to the front of the sanctuary after the cross has passed you. All sing.*

## Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

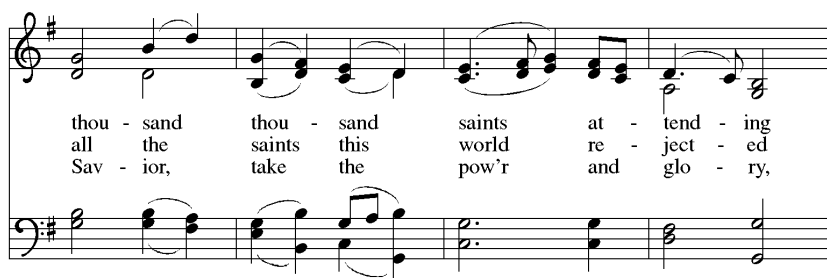
Music: HELMSLEY, Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799



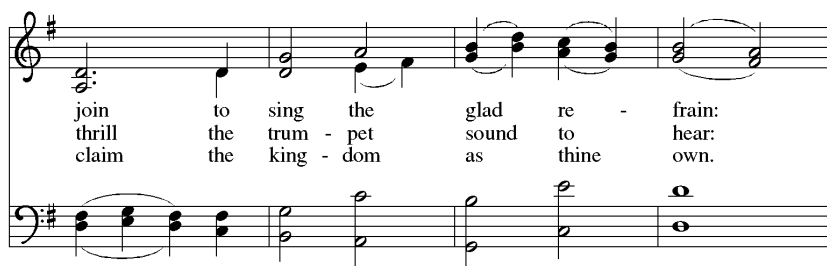
1 Lo! he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,  
2 Now re - demp - tion, long - ex - pect - ed,  
3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,



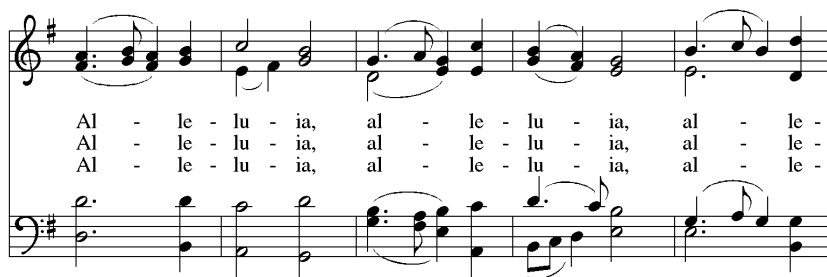
once for our sal - va - tion slain;  
comes in sol - emn splen - dor near;  
high on thine e - ter - nal throne;



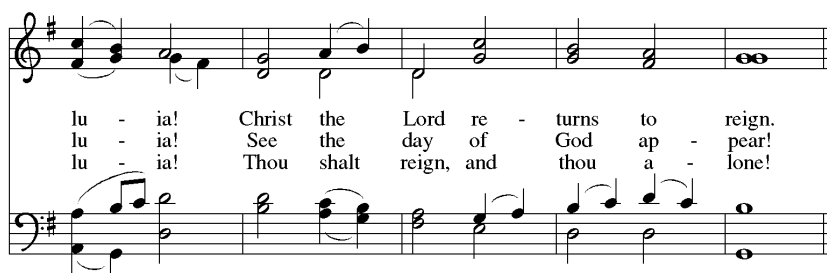
thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing  
all the saints this world re - ject - ed  
Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



join to sing the glad re - frain:  
thrill the trum - pet sound to hear:  
claim the king - dom as thine own.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
lu - ia! See the day of God ap - pear!  
lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone!

## 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.**

## KYRIE

*All sing.*

### O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Text: *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite  
Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

*Refrain*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor The Lord be with you.  
Congregation **And also with you.**  
Pastor Let us pray.  
Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
Congregation **Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### ADVENT WELCOME

Advent Wreath will be lit by:

8:30 am - Nic, Jackie, Ella, and Freddie Budde  
11:00 am - Diane Miller



### Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954  
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune

1 Light one can - dle to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the light ban - ish dark - ness.  
He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.



## THE WORD

### Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9

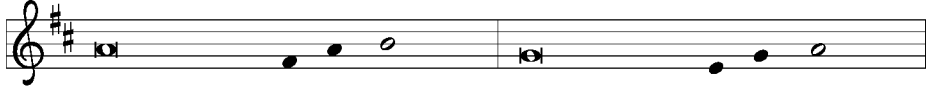
*This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.*

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,  
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—  
as when fire kindles brushwood  
and the fire causes water to boil—  
to make your name known to your adversaries,  
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!  
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,  
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.  
From ages past no one has heard,  
no ear has perceived,  
no eye has seen any God besides you,  
who works for those who wait for him.  
You meet those who gladly do right,  
those who remember you in your ways.  
But you were angry, and we sinned;  
because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
We all fade like a leaf,  
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.  
There is no one who calls on your name,  
or attempts to take hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us,  
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.  
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;  
we are the clay, and you are our potter;  
we are all the work of your hand.  
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,  
and do not remember iniquity forever.  
Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader  
Congregation

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

**Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19**  
*Congregation sings words in bold.*



Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph<sup>1</sup> like a flock;  
shine forth, you that are enthroned up-<sup>1</sup> on the cherubim.  
**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin,<sup>1</sup> and Manasseh,**  
**stir up your strength and<sup>1</sup> come to help us.**

Restore<sup>1</sup> us, O God;  
let your face shine upon us, and we<sup>1</sup> shall be saved.  
**O LORD<sup>1</sup> God of hosts,**  
**how long will your anger fume when your<sup>1</sup> people pray?**

You have fed them with the<sup>1</sup> bread of tears;  
you have given them bowls of<sup>1</sup> tears to drink.  
**You have made us the derision<sup>1</sup> of our neighbors,**  
**and our enemies laugh<sup>1</sup> us to scorn.**

Restore us, O<sup>1</sup> God of hosts;  
let your face shine upon us, and we<sup>1</sup> shall be saved.  
**Let your hand be upon the one at<sup>1</sup> your right hand,**  
**the one you have made so strong<sup>1</sup> for yourself.**

And so will we never turn a-<sup>1</sup> way from you;  
give us life, that we may call up-<sup>1</sup> on your name.  
**Restore us, O LORD<sup>1</sup> God of hosts;**  
**let your face shine upon us, and we<sup>1</sup> shall be saved.**

**Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

*As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.*

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader	Word of God, word of life.
Congregation	<b>Thanks be to God.</b>

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**  
Please stand and sing.

**The Magnificat**  
Luke 1: 46-55

*From the Holden Evening Prayer*  
*by Marty Haugen*

*All:*

1.3. My soul pro - claims your  
2. You have cast the might - y

great-ness, O God, and my spir - it re-joic - es in  
down from their thrones, and up lift - ed the hum - ble of

you,  
heart,  
You have looked with love on your  
You have filled the hun - gry with

*fine last time*  
ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.  
won-drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.

Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,  
Great and might - y are you, O Faith-ful One,

strong is your kind - ness ev - er - more.  
strong is your jus - tice strong your love,

How you fa - vor the weak and low - ly one,  
As you prom-ised to Sar-ah and A - bra - ham,

hum - bling the proud of heart.  
kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

The Gospel is announced.

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

Congregation **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel: Mark 13:24-37**

*In today's reading, Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.*

[Jesus said:] "In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Pastor The Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

*Come Down*  
*Pastor Sandy Kessinger*

**HYMN OF THE DAY: COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS #254**

*Please stand and sing.*

**Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus**



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;  
2 Born thy peo-ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.  
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,  
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.  
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788  
Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835



## APOSTLES' CREED

Seminarian  
Congregation

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

Seminarian      Merciful God,  
Congregation      **receive our prayer.**

*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.**

## 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.*

## OFFERING

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Please give as you are able. We appreciate those who give in-person and those who give electronically.*

*Please sign the red attendance book and pass it down the pew.*

## OFFERTORY

*"E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come by Paul Manz*

## COME TO THE TABLE

### OFFERTORY SONG

*Please stand and sing.*

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
 spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
 not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
 your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor

Congregation

Let us pray.

**God of all creation,**

**all you have made is good, and your love endures forever.**

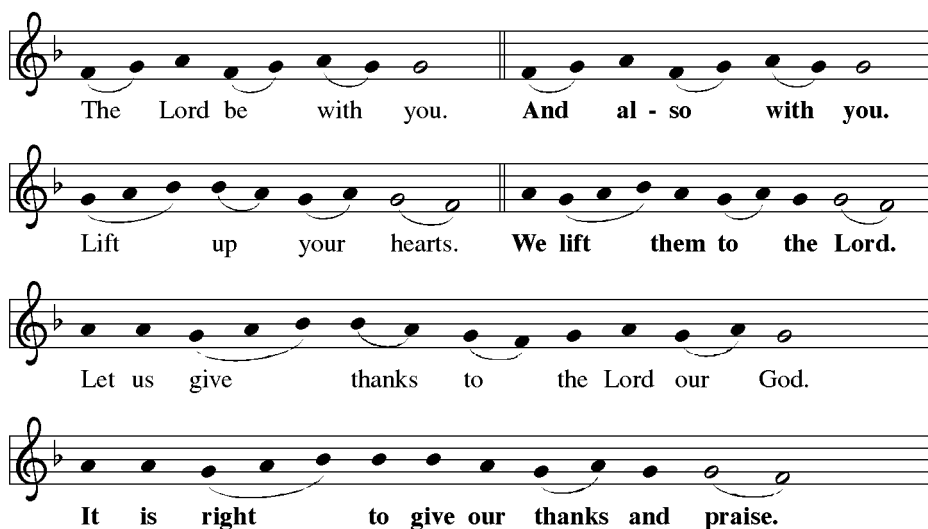
**You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine.**

**Nourish us with these gifts that we may be for the world**

**signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Please stand and sing words in bold.*



The Lord be with you. **And** al - so with you.  
 Lift up your hearts. **We lift** them to the Lord.  
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**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.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,

through whom you will also make all things new

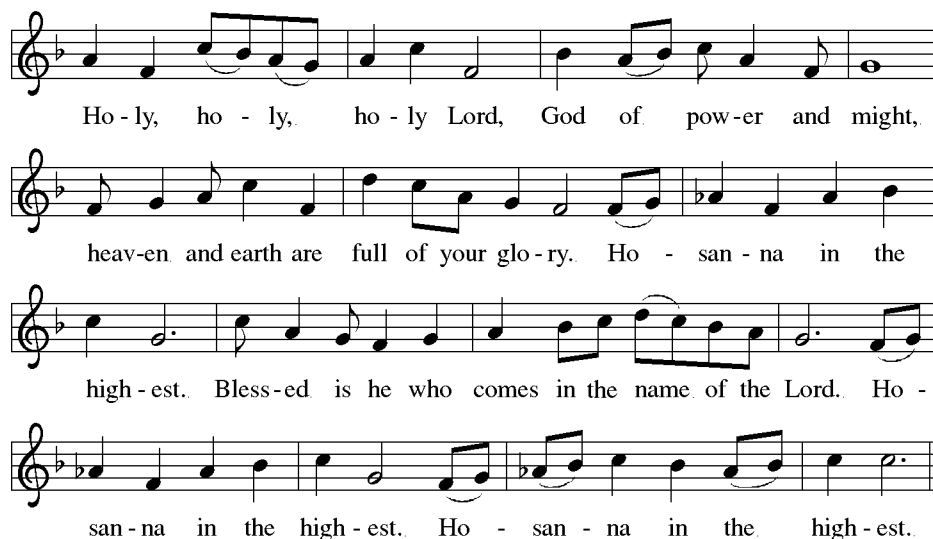
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

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:

*All sing.*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

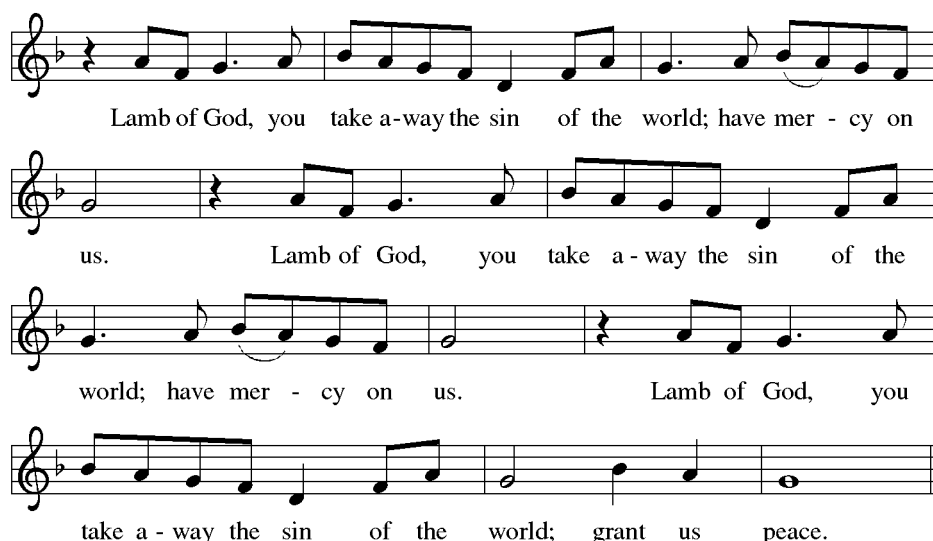
Pastor

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.**

*All sing.*



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNE

### COMMUNION

***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.*

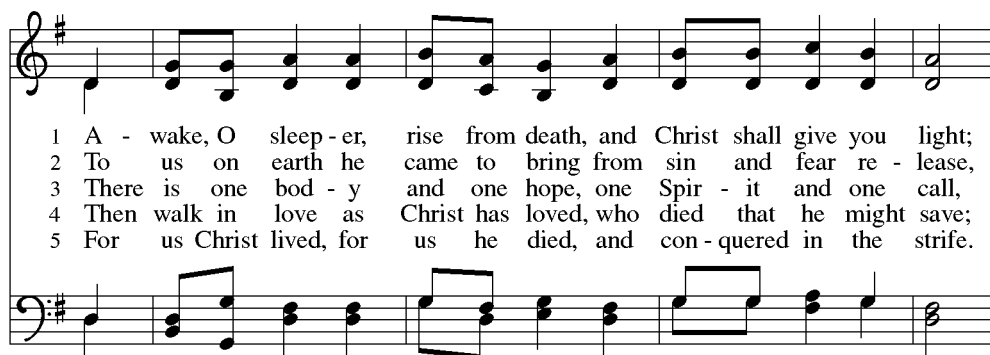
*Anyone not comfortable receiving the bread or the wine are invited to come forward for a blessing.*

*You are an important part of our faith community.*

COMMUNION HYMN: AWAKE, O SLEEPER, RISE FROM DEATH #452

*All sing.*

## Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light;  
2 To us on earth he came to bring from sin and fear re - lease,  
3 There is one bod - y and one hope, one Spir - it and one call,  
4 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, who died that he might save;  
5 For us Christ lived, for us he died, and con - quered in the strife.



so learn his love, its length and breadth, its full - ness, depth, and height.  
to give the Spir - it's u - ni - ty, the ver - y bond of peace.  
one Lord, one faith, and one bap - tism, one God who made us all.  
with kind and gen - tle hearts for - give as God in Christ for - gave.  
A - wake, a - rise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984  
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829  
Text © 1980 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

*Please stand.*

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

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

*Please stand and sing.*



Lord, now you let your ser- vant go in peace; your word has been ful -  
filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre -  
pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal you to the  
na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.  
Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now,  
and will be for - ev - er. A - men

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Seminarian

Let us pray.

Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Congregation

**Amen**

## THE SENDING

### 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.**

## SENDING HYMN: THE KING SHALL COME #260

*Please follow the cross, turning toward the cross as it passes by your pew. As the cross leads, so Christ leads us out into the community to share Christ's love.*

*All sing.*

### The King Shall Come

1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,  
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,  
3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose  
4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race  
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.

when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.  
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.  
and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.  
the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.  
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a clear harmonic structure. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves, with line numbers 1 through 5 corresponding to the verses. The piano accompaniment provides a steady harmonic foundation for the vocal parts.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003

Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission.

## DISMISSAL

Seminarian  
Congregation

Go in peace, share the good news.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*"Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying" -arr. Paul Manz*



### Winds of Grace

Have you ever experienced a powerful storm in which the sky grew increasingly dark and winds swirled the clouds or broke branches off trees? Our modern technology often allows us to prepare for storms like blizzards and hurricanes that develop slowly as they move toward us. Perhaps you've taken part in hastily boarding up windows, securing pets or farm animals, and gathering groceries and supplies in anticipation of being shut in or without power for a time.

The coming of the Son of Man will apparently not include advance warnings like those of meteorologists and weather apps, for Jesus says, "About that day or hour no one knows." It may be more like a tornado or thunderstorm, where we see that the conditions are right but can't be sure precisely when or where it will materialize. Our preparations for that type of storm are different, primarily focused on where and how we'll take shelter should lightning or a funnel cloud be spotted nearby. Many of us practiced tornado drills in school as kids; such practices, as well as storm watches and warnings, keep us aware of how to respond and alert about when to do so.

It is easy to hear Jesus' words and sound an alert for the end times. We might even spend time and energy worrying about the end and what it means for us. At the same time, the urgency of this proclamation is focused on the present, on what we can do here and now to be open to God's rule in our lives. This is a different kind of preparation, focused on loving God and loving our neighbors as ourselves.

In the sacraments of baptism and communion we are invited into regular practices of anticipating the presence of God with us. In Advent we bring a particular focus to this expectation. We are invited to think about the ways the winds of grace gather us in, and then send us out for the sake of the world.

# Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

**Children** are welcome in our worship. There is a children's worship bulletin for them. If you prefer, a nursery and/or childcare is available for children up to age 3 during all worship services.

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

**Church Phone: 703-356-3346**

**Email: [Church@redeermclean.org](mailto:Church@redeermclean.org)**

## *Sunday Services*

**8:30 and 11:00 am for the traditional service and 9:45 am for the contemporary service**

## **Christmas and New Year's Celebrations at Redeemer**

During the holiday season, Redeemer will offer several holiday services:

December 6, 13, and 20 — **Wednesday Noonday Prayer**  
Lunch at 11:30 am and Worship Noon—12:30 pm

December 6, and 13 - **Wednesday Evening Prayer**  
5:30 - 6 pm on Zoom

December 15 - **Living Nativity**, Friday at 6:30 pm  
and **Holiday Concert and Sing-Along** at 7:30 pm

December 20 — **Blue Christmas**, Wednesday  
Dinner at 6pm and Worship at 7 pm

December 24 - **Christmas Eve Services:**  
10 am — Advent Worship Service (one service only)  
4 pm — Children's Christmas Pageant  
6, 8, 10 pm — Traditional Candlelight Services

December 25 - **Christmas Day** Service at 10 am

December 31 - **Lessons and Carols**, Sunday at 10 am (one service only)  
**New Year's Eve** Service at 5 pm  
**All are welcome!**

Next Sunday's Scripture: Isaiah 40:1-11 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 2 Peter 3:8-15a Mark 1:1-8

*The flowers are given to the glory of God.*

*Today we are using Setting 2 from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal.*

CCLI License# 1850655

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