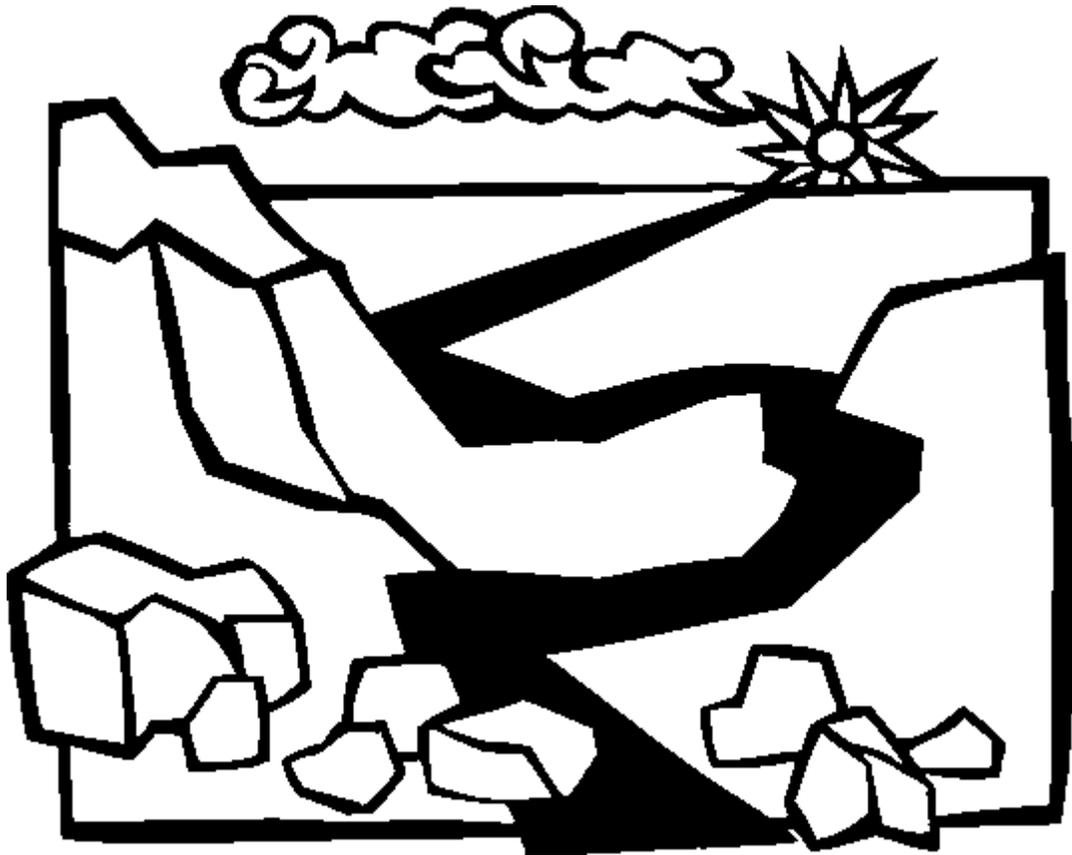


Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

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

Second Sunday of Advent, December 9, 2018

The Services at 8:30 am and 11:00 am



Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Lord Jesus as forerunner of the Lord of hosts. Finally all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of the Lord and assist all flesh in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand.

Deacon In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation **Amen**

Deacon Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Congregation **Amen**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Deacon Most merciful God,

Congregation **have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we are in bondage to sin
and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

Pastor God, who is rich in mercy,
loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of + Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Congregation **Amen**

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Deacon 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.

GATHERING HYMN #264

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.

Prepare the Royal Highway

1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way: the King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom: it comes from heav'n a - bove.

Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.

Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him: their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Hesitate
 Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Lundén, 1777-1842 in *Litiska sången för de döpta*
 Musik: BJERLIDEN VÅG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish Folk music, 17th cent.
 Text © 1978 by the Board of Christian Music, Augsburg Conf. U.S.A.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

Deacon 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: Psalms 138 and 139; Luke 1:32-33
Music: VENEI 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Deacon The Lord be with you.

Congregation **And also with you.**

Deacon Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Congregation **Amen.**

Please sit.

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The Jesse Tree is an Advent tradition that describes Jesus' family heritage. Isaiah 11:1 refers to Jesus as a shoot coming up from the stump of Jesse, Jesse was the father of King David. We place ornaments on the Jesse tree to describe the events leading to Jesus' birth.

LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH

All sing.

8:30 am - Lara and Nathan Paukovits / Anna and Julia

11:00 am - Sabine and David Detweiler / Anna and Clara and Max

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

Text: Wayne L. Wood, 1954
Music: THE ISRAELITE, Yiddish folk tune

2 Light two can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah - let the light ban - ish dark - ness,
He shall feed the flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.



THE WORD

Reading: Malachi 3:1-4

The Lord announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means “my messenger”) shall prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God’s people, as silver and gold are refined.

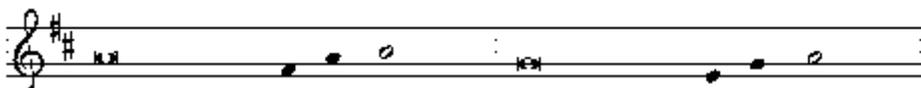
¹See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

Psalm Luke 1:68-79

Congregation sings words in bold.



⁶⁸Blessed are you, Lord, the | God of Israel,
you have come to your people and | set them free.
⁶⁹**You have raised up for us a | mighty Savior,**
born of the house of your | servant David.
⁷⁰Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us | from our enemies,
⁷¹from the hands of | all who hate us,
⁷²**to show mercy | to our forebears,**
and to remember your | holy covenant.
⁷³This was the oath you swore to our | father Abraham:
⁷⁴to set us free from the hands of our | enemies,
free to worship you | without fear,
⁷⁵**holy and righteous before you, all the days | of our life.**
⁷⁶And you, child, shall be called the prophet of | the Most High,
for you will go before the Lord to pre- | pare the way,
⁷⁷**to give God’s people knowledge | of salvation**
by the forgiveness | of their sins.
⁷⁸In the tender compassion | of our God
the dawn from on high shall | break upon us,
⁷⁹**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shad- | ow of death,**
and to guide our feet into the | way of peace.

Reading: Philippians 1:3-11

The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.

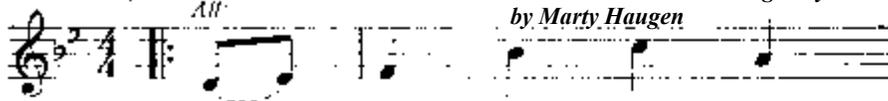
³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God’s grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

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

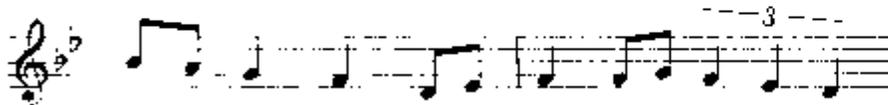
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Please stand and sing.

The Magnificat
Luke 1: 46-55

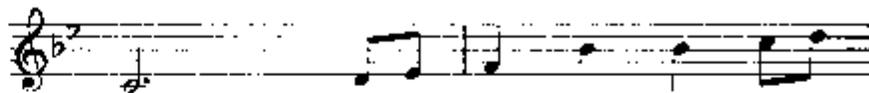
From the Holden Evening Prayer
by Marty Haugen



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



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



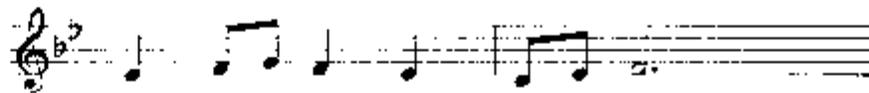
you, You have looked with love on your
heart, You have filled the hun - gry with



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
Congregation

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

John the Baptist is a herald of the saving Lord, whose way is prepared by “repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Iturea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
⁵Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth;
⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

Pastor
Congregation

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

SERMON

Zechariah
Pastor Sandy Kessinger

HYMN OF THE DAY #250

Please stand and sing.

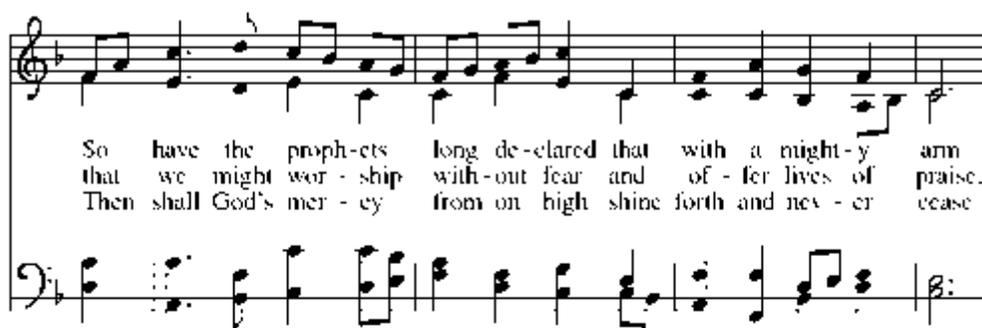
Blessed Be the God of Israel



1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free
2 With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call.
3 My child, as proph-et of the Lord you will pre-pare the way.



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da-vid's tree.
the oath once sworn to A - bra-ham, from foes to save us all;
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph-ets long de-clared that with a night-y arm
that we might wor - ship with-out fear and of - fer lives of praise.
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
in ho - li - ness and right - teous-ness to serve God all our days.
to drive a way the gloom of death and lead us in to peace.

Text: Carl P. Haw Jr., b. 1944

Musik: BERT STURZEN, English folk tune, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

Text © 1989 Dove Publishing Company, 1 and Siscam II, 00108. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Orneca USA: Arr. from the English Hymnal © Oxford University Press 1996. All names reserved.

APOSTLES' CREED

Deacon
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:*

Assisting Minister Lord, in your mercy,
Congregation **hear our prayer.**

At the end of the prayer:

Deacon 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.
Please sign the red Attendance Book and pass it down the pew.*

OFFERTORY

'Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring' by J.S. Bach

COME TO THE TABLE

OFFERTORY SONG

Please stand and sing.

Music: Richard W. Gilbert, b. 1923
Music: © 1982 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 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

Assisting Minister Let us pray.

Congregation **Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.**
Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:
our selves, our time, and our possessions.
Use us, and what we have gathered,
in feeding the world with your love,
through the one who gave himself for us,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

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.
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.

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.**

Please be seated.

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 who are baptized are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Those who are not baptized are invited to come forward for a blessing. Simply indicate this to the Pastor when you come forward. You may take a small cup from the tray in the center aisle as you approach the altar, and the Communion assistants will fill your cup with wine (first chalice) or grape juice (second chalice). Or, you may use intinction, where the wafer is retained and touched lightly either to the wine (red) or to the grape juice (white). Gluten-free wafers are available from the Pastor.

COMMUNION HYMN #255

All sing.

There's a Voice in the Wilderness

1 There's a voice in the wil-der-ness cry-ing, a-
2 O Je-ru-sa-lem, her-ald good tid-ings, us-
3 But the word of our Sav-ior is faith-ful, the

call from the ways un-trod; Pre-pare in the des-ert a
cead to the heights and sing! Pro-claim to a des-o-late
arm of our God is strong, who stands in the midst of the

high-way, a high-way for our God!
peo-ple the com-ing of their king.
na-tions and soon will right the wrong.

The val-leys shall be ex-alt-ed, the
Like flow'rs of the field we per-ish, like
Lord, feed your flock like a shep-herd, the

left-y hills brought low; make straight all the crook-ed
grass our works de-cay; the pow'r and the pomp of
lambs so gent-ly hold; in pas-tures of peace now

plac-es where God, our God, may go!
na-tions shall pass like a dream a-way,
lead them, and bring them to your fold.

Lyrics: James Lewis Mblizian, 1876-1961, alt.
Music: ASCENSION, Henry Hugh Russett, 1902-1988
Music: © 1984 by Ethel Mauder, The Brethren Press, Inc.

COMMUNION HYMN # 247

All sing.

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

Ososō, ososō

O - so - sō o - so - sō, pyong-hwa - ū - im - gwan
 1 Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one bod - y.
 2 Come now, O God of love, make us one bod - y.
 3 Come now and set us free, O God, our Sav - ior.
 4 Come, Hope of u - ni - ty, make us one bod - y.

a - ri - ga han - mom i - ru - ge ha - so - sō.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - om - eile your peo - ple.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - om - eile your peo - ple.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - om - eile all na - tions.
 Come, O Lord Je - sus, rec - om - eile all - na - tions.

Text: Geonyong Lee, b. 1947; tr. Marion Pope
 Music: 4950880, Geonyong Lee, b. 1947
 Rev. and Mrs. Lee, Seoul, S. Korea

Please stand.

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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Assisting Minister Let us pray.
 Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness,
 water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as
 witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through
 Jesus Christ, our risen 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 #239

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.

Hark, the Glad Sound!

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - ers to re - lease, in Su - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song,
 fore him hurst, the i - ron fet - ters yield,
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor,
 arch - es ring with your be - low - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751
 Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Hawes, 1774-1820

DISMISSAL

Assisting Minister Go in peace. Share the good news.

Congregation **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE Kingsfold Trumpet- Alfred Fedak

*Please join the Redeemer family in the Crossroads foyer area
for fellowship and refreshments.*

Power Upended

Today's gospel begins with a list of seven national, regional, and religious rulers. If you want to know power, look no further than these names. And yet, plunked down next to these power brokers is John, a ragamuffin in the wilderness. God chose John as his messenger, dismantling any ideas that we need political or social power in society to be useful to God's mission.

John may not be a political titan, but his message is authoritative. John commands us to "prepare the way of the Lord" (Luke 3:4), to begin major construction on the systems and structures of our world. Valleys will be filled, mountains will be leveled, and crooked ways will be straightened out. This is no small project that John has in mind!

But before we go rounding up the bulldozers, notice how this upending is going to take place. John doesn't arrive with heavy equipment, nor with the power of armies or wealth. Instead, God empowers the wilderness wanderer with nothing but the word *repent*. John arrives with a call to stop looking to the power brokers for our peace but instead to return to God, who can level mountains with a few ordinary folks willing to claim a different kind of power.

This call to return to God is a radical notion inviting us to enter God's vision for a world ruled not by power over others or by false peace, but by love. It is a call not to overthrow, but to clear the path in our hearts and in our world to receive God, who provides ultimate peace. Returning to God, we see possibility where before we saw hopelessness. Returning to God, we enter a place of desolation—the wilderness—and see that God transforms it into a place of redemption, new life, and abundance. As we prepare to welcome the Christ child, let us answer John's call to repent, embracing God's ultimate peace as we fervently pray, "Come, Lord Jesus, come."

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Children are welcome in our worship. There is a children's worship bulletin for them. Also, a special cart of books is in the back of the nave. Your children are welcome to borrow books for the service. If you prefer, a nursery and/or childcare is available for children up to age 3 during all worship services. A pager is available from the nursery.



Visitors are invited to sign the red Attendance Book at the end of the pew.

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

Sunday Services

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

Christmas Celebrations at Redeemer

December 11, 18 - Tuesday Chapel Service:
Lunch at 11:15 am and Service at 12:00 pm

December 14 - Living Nativity, Friday at 6:30 pm
and Holiday Concert at 7:30 pm

December 16—Blue Christmas at 5 pm

December 23 – Regular Service times at 8:30 am, 9:45 am, and 11:00 am

December 24 - Christmas Eve Services:

4 pm — **Children's Christmas Pageant**

6, 8, 10 pm — Traditional Candlelight Service

December 25 - Christmas Day Service at 10 am

December 30 - Lessons and Carols, Sunday at 10 am (one service only)

December 31 - **New Year's Eve Service, Monday at 5 pm**

All are welcome!

Next Sunday's Scripture: Next Sunday's Scripture: Zephaniah 3:14-20 Isaiah 12:2-6 Philippians 4:4-7 Luke 3:7-18

Assisting with Worship at 8:30 am

Cantor: Chris Tribié

Assisting Minister: Robin Taylor

Acolyte/Crucifer: Peter Kratz

Reader: Lara Paukovits

Ushers: Rebecca and Arash Behravesh

Chancel Care: Jane Skotzko

Coffee Hour: Gerri Swarm

Assisting with Worship at 11:00 am

Cantor: Chris Tribié

Assisting Minister: Sara Egeland

Acolyte/Crucifer: Greta Lawler

Reader: Clint Lawler

Ushers: Kate and Gordon Jones

Chancel Care: Nancy Power

Coffee Hour: Gerri Swarm

Others will faithfully serve as Communion Assistants

Others will faithfully serve as Communion Assistants

*The flowers are given by Craig and Elizabeth Carroll to the glory of God
and in celebration of their 12 year wedding anniversary.*

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

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