



The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer

1515 Boundary Street • Newberry, South Carolina 29108 • Tel: (803) 276-2003

December 13, 2015

3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:45 am

Your offering may be placed in the offering plate in the narthex.

LBW-Green Hymnal

WOV-Blue Hymnal

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

<We stand.>

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed by the holy Trinity, + one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us come before God in confession.

<We kneel.>

P: To you, O God

C: We lift up our souls. You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you. Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

<We stand.>

P: Sisters and brothers, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of + Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near!

C: **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

Hark, the Glad Sound!

LBW Hymn 35

GREETING

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

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray...

C: **Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

<We sit.>

THE BLESSING AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH (Verse 1, 2,3)



1 Light one can-dle to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
2 Light two can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
3 Light three can-dles to watch for Mes-si - ah: let the light ban-ish dark - ness.
4 Light four can-dles 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.
He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home-ward.
Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.
He is com - ing, tell the glad tid - ings. Let your lights be shin - ing!

WORD

FIRST LESSON

Zephaniah 3:14-20

¹⁴Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! ¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. ¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. ¹⁷The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing ¹⁸as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. ¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰At

that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

SECOND LESSON

Philippians 4:4-7

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

<We stand.>

GOSPEL

Luke 3:7-18

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

⁷John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” ¹¹In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” ¹³He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.” ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” ¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O Christ.

<We sit.>

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Matt

THE SERMON

Pastor Matt

<We stand.>

HYMN OF THE DAY

The King Shall Come

LBW Hymn 33

NICENE CREED

**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 OF INTERCESSION

P: Trusting the Spirit's power, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

<We kneel.>

A brief silence is kept.

Response after each petition: **P:** Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

*When the prayers have ended, we respond with **Amen.***

<We stand.>

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

At this time, you may greet one another in the name of Christ.

RECEPTION OF THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY **O Lord, How Shall I Meet You (verse 1)** **LBW Hymn 23**

O Lord, how shall I meet you, How welcome you aright?
Your people long to greet you, My hope, my heart's delight!
Oh, kindle, Lord most holy, Your lamp within my breast
To do in spirit lowly All that may please you best.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

DIALOGUE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P: Holy One, the beginning and the end, Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: **Christ has died.**

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

P: With this bread and cup.....We look with hope for his coming.

C: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

P: Holy God, we long for your Spirit....Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C: **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P: All praise and glory are yours, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

<We sit.>

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD – *(Participation in Holy Communion is open to all the baptized of this and other Christian congregations. We come in faith that Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and the wine. We receive this gift knowing that we are forgiven and are nourished to be sent to proclaim God's love to the world. At The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, we receive communion by intinction, receiving the bread and then dipping it into the chalice of wine.)*

<We stand.>

THE TABLE BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

POST- COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED TO LLOAN MCRACKEN

SUNG BLESSING

SENDING HYMN

Joy to the World

LBW Hymn 39

DISMISSAL *(Please face the rear of the nave.)*

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

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WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Presiding Minister	The Rev. Matthew Titus
Pianist	Lloan McRacken
Lector/Communion Assistant	Nancy Riggin
Usher	John Hammond
Communion Preparation Derrick	8:30-Carolyn/John Hammond/11:00-Beth Singletary/Briley

Announcements



Welcome to Redeemer! We are pleased to have you with us at worship this morning. If you have any questions or need any assistance, please see an usher.

The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God, and in honor of Bryan and Beth's 25th wedding anniversary by Beth Singletary.

The flowers in the Narthex are given in loving memory of Harriett Haltiwanger by her family.

Wednesday Advent Services

This year, we are happy to host Wednesday Advent Services at Redeemer. We will gather at 6:15pm in the Family Life Center on December 16th for a short meal (**please bring a dish to share**); then at 7pm we will gather for a short service of Holden Evening Prayer in the sanctuary. Come join in this mid-week pause from the hectic schedule of the holiday season, a time where we can continue to focus on the expectant hope to come on Christmas morning in the birth of Jesus.

SCLMM Needs your help! The South Carolina Lutheran Men in Mission are trying to raise money for the Pee Dee Indian Tribe. The Tribe has been given some land and are in need of a community/medical center. The SCLMM has set a goal of raising \$50,000 to go toward the building of this facility. Please consider helping us reach our goal. Please make checks payable to SC Synod ELCA and write "Pee Dee Indian Project" in the memo line. You may put your donations in the offering plate, or you may give them to Matt Bowers.

Angel Tree - Do you enjoy shopping? Do you like to buy clothes, toys, and needed stuff for those that you love? Do you enjoy caring for those in need around you? If so, we encourage you to support the Angel Tree this year! Soon the Angel Tree will be up in the narthex with ways you can help those in need in our area. This is a wonderful ministry to make sure that every child who is helped knows that they are loved and cared for. Angel Tree donations will run from through December 13.

Offering Envelopes are ready and are in the narthex. Please pick yours up at your convenience.

In lieu of a traditional Christmas pageant, we will be celebrating the birth of Jesus with an interactive lesson of the Christmas story and a “Birthday Party” this year. The event will be held on Sunday, December 13th, at 3:00 pm in the Family Life Center. While the children will be participating in the program, there is no need for us to meet prior to the event. Please consider bringing a “gift” of a food or hygiene item that can be donated to Manna House.

Christmas Eve services will be held at 4:00PM and 11:00PM and worship assistant opportunities are available. If you would like to serve as acolyte or crucifer for either service, please call the church office at 276-2003.

Calendar December 13-December 19

Today

- 8:45 am Worship
- 9:30 am Children’s and Junior Choir
- 9:45 am Sunday School
- 11:00 am Worship

Monday

Tuesday

6:45 pm Congregational Council Meeting

Wednesday

- 5:30 pm Handbell Choir
- 6:15 pm **Advent Service – bring a dish to share**
- 7:35 pm Senior Choir

Thursday

6:30 Library Reserved

Attendance for December 6

Sunday School	45
8:45 am	50
11:00 am	91
Total	141