To Win and Save Souls for Christ

Redeemer Lutheran Church

265 Falconer Street - North Tonawanda, New York 14120



December 27, 2020 ~ 1st Sunday After Christmas Contemporary Service Office Phone 692-5734 ~ Office E-mail: <u>rlcntoffice@yahoo.com</u> Church Website ~ www.rlcnt.com

Welcome to Redeemer Lutheran Church We invite you to worship with us each Sunday at 10:30 AM.

Our Sunday Education & Bible Classes begin at 9:15 AM.

Please join us!

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Something To Ponder:

May our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father encourage you and strengthen you in every good thing you do and say.
God loved us, and through His grace
He gave us a good hope and encouragement that continues forever.
II Thessalonians 3:3

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Something To Smile About:

A Sunday school teacher asked his class why Joseph and Mary took Jesus with them to Jerusalem. One confident child replied, 'They couldn't get a babysitter.'

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Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.

It always protects,
always trusts,
always hopes,
always perseveres.
1 Corinthians 13:6-7(NIV)

Before communing, we follow our Lord's directions and examine ourselves as it says in I Corinthians 11. We ask ourselves: Am I baptized and do I believe in Jesus as my Savior? Do I admit I am a sinner in need of forgiveness? Am I ready and willing to repent of my sin, to turn away from it, and with God's help intentionally try to live in a way which pleases Him? Have I forgiven everyone who has sinned against me? Am I free of all grudges? Do I believe in His presence, that I am receiving Jesus' Body and Blood as He says? Do I believe His promise that if I confess my sins, He will forgive me completely? If you respond in a positive manner to these questions and feel led by the Holy Spirit to commune then receive the Holy Supper Jesus offers.

Prayer Before Worship:

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Greetings and Announcements

Our Worship Service:

Officiant: Rev. Robert Spilman Communion Assistant: Janet Zehr Readers: Kathleen Beutel & Don Hajdufi Organist: Kathleen Beutel

Opening Hymn: "A Hallelujah Christmas"

I've heard about this baby boy
Who's come to earth to bring us joy
And I just want to sing this song to you
It goes like this, the fourth, the fifth
The major fall, the major lift
With every breath I'm singing Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

A couple came to Bethlehem
Expecting child, they searched the inn
To find a place for You were coming soon
There was no room for them to stay
So in a manger filled with hay
God's only Son was born, oh Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

The shepherds left their flocks by night
To see this baby wrapped in light
A host of angels led them all to You
It was just as the angels said
You'll find Him in a manger bed
Immanuel and Savior, Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

A star shone bright up in the east
To Bethlehem, the Wisemen three
Came many miles and journeyed long for You
And to the place at which You were
Their frankincense and gold and myrrh
They gave to You and cried out Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

I know You came to rescue me
This baby boy would grow to be
A man and one day die for me and you
My sins would drive the nails in You
That rugged cross was my cross, too
Still every breath You drew was Hallelujah
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

Invocation ~

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit ~

The 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.

Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things! His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.

The Lord has made known His salvation;
He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the

house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Old Testament Reading ~ <u>Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3</u>

¹⁰I delight greatly in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God.

For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of his righteousness,

as a bride groom adorns his head like a priest, as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow,

so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.

for Zion's sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet,

till her vindication shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch.

²The nations will see your vindication, and all kings your glory;

you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will bestow.

³You will be a crown of splendor in the Lord's hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Psalm ~ Psalm 111

our Reader will read the odd numbered verses

Congregation reads the even numbered verses

¹Praise the Lord.

I will extol the Lord with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

²Great are the works of the Lord; they are pondered by all who delight in them.

³Glorious and majestic are his deeds, and his righteousness endures forever.

⁴He has caused his wonders to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and compassionate.

⁵He provides food for those who fear him; he remembers his covenant forever.

⁶He has shown his people the power of his works, giving them the lands of other nations.

⁷The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

⁸They are established for ever and ever, enacted in faithfulness and uprightness.

⁹He provided redemption for his people; he ordained his covenant forever -holy and awesome is his name.

¹⁰The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise.

New Testament Reading ~ <u>Galatians 4:4-7</u>

⁴But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship. ⁶Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out,

"Abba, Father." ⁷So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel ~

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd chapter, verses 22-40

²²When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons."

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

²⁹"Sovergein Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace.

³⁰For my eyes have seen your salvation,

which you have prepared in the sight of all nations:

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel."

³³The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷and then was a widow until she was eightyfour. She never left the temple but worshipped night and day, fasting and praying. ³⁸Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Glory be to You, O Lord, Praise to You, O Christ.

The Apostle's Creed:

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.



Hymn: "Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King; Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies;

With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity! Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Jesus our Immanuel! Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Hail, the heav'nly Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.

Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,

Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Sermon ~ "A Child Sent to a Sinful World."

Offertory ~
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence,
and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation,
and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

(Please place Offerings in the plate at the entrance upon leaving)

Collect of the day ~

O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

when Pastor says "Let us pray to the Lord" we reply "Lord have mercy"

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.

Confession and Absolution ~

- P: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven; whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- C: For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said; "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- P: Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to You at a time when You may be found. Let us confess our sins, confident that our gracious God forgives us.
- C: Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name; deliver us, and atone for our sins, for Your name's sake!
- P: Peace be with you! Our crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ tells his Church," If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven." I, therefore, as a called pastor of His Church, by His authority, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen. Thanks be to God!

Words of Institution

The Distribution

The Nunc Dimittis ~

Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace
according to Your word,
for my eyes have seen Your salvation,
which You have prepared before the face of all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles
and the glory of Your people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever will be, world without end.

Amen.

Prayer and the Benediction ~

P: O give thanks to the Lord; call upon His name; make known his deeds among the peoples!

C: He remembers His covenant forever, the covenant that He made with Abraham.

P: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Closing Song ~ "Twelve Days of Christmas"

On the first day of Christmas we gather now to sing, "We praise you, Christ the King."

On the second day of Christmas we gather now to sing, "Emmanuel, we praise you, Christ the King."

On the third day of Christmas we gather now to sing, "God with us, Emmanuel, we praise you, Christ the King."

On the fourth day of Christmas we gather now to sing, "Bright Morning Star, God with us, Emmanuel, we praise you, Christ the King."

On the fifth day of Christmas we gather now to sing, "Prince of Peace, Bright Morning Star, God with us, Emmanuel, we praise you, Christ the King."

On the sixth day of Christmas we gather now to sing, "Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Bright Morning Star, God with us, Emmanuel, we praise you, Christ the King."

On the seventh day of Christmas we gather now to sing, "Almighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Bright Morning Star, God with us, Emmanuel, we praise you, Christ the King."

On the eighth day of Christmas we gather now to sing, "Counselor, Almighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Bright Morning Star, God with us, Emmanuel, we praise you, Christ the King." On the ninth day of Christmas we gather now to sing, "Wonderful, Counselor, Almighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Bright Morning Star, God with us, Emmanuel, we praise you, Christ the King."

On the tenth day of Christmas we gather now to sing, "Lord of Lords, Wonderful, Counselor, Almighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Bright Morning Star, God with us, Emmanuel, we praise you, Christ the King."

On the eleventh day of Christmas we gather now to sing, "King of Kings, Lord of Lords, Wonderful, Counselor, Almighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Bright Morning Star, God with us, Emmanuel, we praise you, Christ the King."

On the twelfth day of Christmas we gather now to sing, "Alpha and Omega, King of Kings, Lord of Lords, Wonderful, Counselor, Almighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Bright Morning Star, God with us, Emmanuel, we praise you, Christ the King."

