

To Win and Save Souls for Christ

Redeemer Lutheran Church

265 Falconer Street – North Tonawanda, New York 14120

You Will



Greater Things

January 17, 2021 ~ Second Sunday after Epiphany
Divine Service Setting 4 ~ page 203 in the Lutheran Service Book
Office Phone 692-5734 ~ Office E-mail: rlcntoffice@yahoo.com
Church Website ~ www.rlcnt.com

Welcome to Redeemer Lutheran Church

We are delighted you've joined us.

May God's word today strengthen your faith,
inspire curiosity and learning,
and motivate your service of others.

We invite you to worship with us each Sunday at 10:30 AM.

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

[illegible]

To Ponder:

Live in the light!

Often we want to be able to see into the future. We say, “How will next year be for me? Where will I be five or 10 years from now?” There are no answers to these questions. Mostly we have just enough light to see the next step — what we have to do in the coming hour or the following day.

The art of living is to enjoy what we can see and not complain about what remains in the dark. When we are able to take the next step with the trust that we will have enough light for the step that follows, we can walk through life with joy and be surprised at how far we go. Let's rejoice in the little light we carry and not ask for the great beam that would take all our shadows away.

—Henri Nouwen, *Bread for the Journey*

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.

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Prayer before worship:

O Lord, my Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter,
as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth,
I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching
of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins,
believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior,
and grow in grace and holiness.
Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

Our Worship Service:

Officiant: Rev. Robert Spilman

Communion Assistant: Jim Ganschow

Readers: Kathy Jaenecke & Kathleen Beutel

Organist: Marlina Belstadt

Greetings and Announcements

Opening Hymn ~ Hymn # 524

“How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds”

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
In a believer's ear!
It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds,
And drives away our fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole
And calms the heart's unrest;
“Tis manna to the hungry soul”
And to the weary, rest.

Dear name! The rock on which I build,
My shield and hiding place;
My never-failing treasury filled
With boundless stores of grace.

O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend,
My Prophet, Priest, and King,
My Lord, my life, my way, my end,
Accept the praise I bring.

How weak the effort of my heart,
How cold my warmest thought!
But when I see Thee as Thou art,
I'll praise Thee as I ought.

Till then I would Thy love proclaim
With ev'ry fleeting breath;
And may the music of Thy name
Refresh my soul in death!

Invocation ~

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

Confession and Absolution ~

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? **C:**
But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared.

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit ~

P: I Have not hidden Your deliverance within my heart; I have spoken of Your faithfulness and Your salvation; I waited patiently for the Lord; He inclined to me and heard my cry. He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure. He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord. Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust, who does not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after a lie! You have multiplied, O Lord my God, Your wondrous deeds and Your thoughts toward us; none can compare with You! I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.

Kyrie ~

**Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.**

Gloria in Excelsis ~

**To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven
proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name, we sing –
Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heavenly King.
To You, O sole begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in power are seated
At God's right hand on high—
For You alone are holy;
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
Be Worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory,
“Amen!” our glad reply.**

Salutation ~

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

Collect of the Day ~

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Old Testament Reading ~ I Samuel 3:1-20

¹The boy Samuel ministered before the Lord under Eli. In those days the word of the Lord was rare; there were not many visions.

²One night Eli, whose eyes were becoming so weak that he could barely see, was lying down in his usual place. ³The lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the house of the Lord, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the Lord called Samuel.

Samuel answered, "Here I am." ⁵And he ran to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

But Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down." So he went and lay down.

⁶Again the Lord called, "Samuel!" And Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

"My son," Eli said, "I did not call; go back and lie down."

⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord: The word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him.

⁸A third time the Lord called, "Samuel!" and Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, "Here I am; you called me."

Then Eli realized that the Lord was calling the boy. ⁹So Eli told Samuel, "Go and lie down, and if he calls you, say, 'Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.'" "so Samuel went and lay down in his place.

¹⁰The Lord came and stood there, calling as at the other times, "Samuel! Samuel!"

Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening."

¹¹And the Lord said to Samuel: “See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make the ears of everyone who hears about it tingle.

¹²At that time I will carry out against Eli everything I spoke against his family – from beginning to end. ¹³For I told him that I would judge his family forever because of the sin he knew about; his sons blasphemed God, and he failed to restrain them. ¹⁴Therefore I swore to the house of Eli, ‘The guilt of Eli’s house will never be atoned for by sacrifice or offering.’ “

¹⁵Samuel lay down until morning and then opened the doors of the house of the Lord. He was afraid to tell Eli the vision, ¹⁶but Eli called him and said, “Samuel, my son.”

Samuel answered, “Here I am.”

¹⁷“What was it he said to you?” Eli asked. “Do not hide it from me. May God deal with you, be it ever so severely, if you hide from me anything he told you.” ¹⁸So Samuel told him everything, hiding nothing from him. Then Eli said, “He is the Lord; let him do what is good in his eyes.”

¹⁹The Lord was with Samuel as he grew up, and he let none of Samuel’s words fall to the ground. ²⁰And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba recognized that Samuel was attested as a prophet of the Lord.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 139:1-10

¹You have searched me, Lord,
and you know me.

²You know when I sit and when I rise;
you perceive my thoughts from afar.

³You discern my going out and my lying down;
you are familiar with all my ways.

⁴Before a word is on my tongue
you, Lord, know it completely.

⁵You hem me in behind and before,
and you lay your hand upon me.
⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too lofty for me to attain.
⁷Where can I go from your Spirit?
Where can I flee from your presence?
⁸If I go up to the heavens, you are there;
if I make my bed in the depths, you are there.
⁹If I rise on the wings of the dawn,
if I settle on the far side of the sea,
¹⁰even there your hand will guide me,
your right hand will hold me fast.

Epistle Reading: I Corinthians 6:12-20

¹²"I have the right to do anything," you say – but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything" – but I will not be mastered by anything. ¹³You say, "Food for the stomach and the stomach for food, and God will destroy them both." The body, however, is not meant for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴By his power God raised the Lord from the dead, and he will raise us also. ¹⁵Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ himself? Shall I then take the members of Christ and unite them with a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶Do you not know that he who unites himself with a prostitute is one with her in body? For it is said, "The two will become one flesh." ¹⁷But whoever is united with the Lord is one with him in spirit.

¹⁸Flee from sexual immorality. All other sins a person commits are outside the body, but whoever sins sexually, sins against their own body. ¹⁹Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. These things

are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Holy Gospel ~

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John,
the 1st chapter, verses 43-51

C: Glory be to You, O Lord.

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, “Follow me.”

⁴⁴Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida.

⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and told him, “We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote – Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.”

⁴⁶“Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?” Nathanael asked, “Come and see,” said Philip.

⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, “Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit.”

⁴⁸“How do you know me?” Nathanael asked.

Jesus answered, “I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you.”

⁴⁹Then Nathanael declared, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel.”

⁵⁰Jesus said, “You believe because I told you I saw you under the fig tree. You will see greater things than that.” ⁵¹He then added, “Very truly I tell you, you will see the ‘heaven open, and angels of God ascending and descending on’ the Son of Man.”

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

The Apostles' 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.

Sermon ~ You Will See Greater Things

**Prayer of the Church ~ after Pastor says “Lord in Your mercy”
the Congregation replies “Hear our prayer”**

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

Service of the Sacrament

Preface ~

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

C: It is to give him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus ~

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored; Heaven and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving ~

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh. We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**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.**

Words of our Lord/ Institution of the Sacrament

Pax Domini ~

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Agnus Dei ~

**C: O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,**

**You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
and grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Distribution of Communion

Nunc Dimittis:

**O Lord, now let Your servant depart in heavenly peace,
for I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace;
A light to lead the Gentiles unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.
All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.**

The Post-Communion Collect ~

**We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed
us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your
mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward
you and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ,
Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy
Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

Benedicamus ~

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Benediction ~

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn ~ Hymn # 737

“Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad And Sing”

Rejoice, my heart, be glad and sing, A cheerful trust maintain;
For God, the source of ev’ry thing, Your portion shall remain.

He is your treasure, He your joy, Your life and light and Lord,
Your counselor when doubts annoy, Your shield and great reward.

Why spend the day in blank despair, In restless thought the night?
On your Creator cast your care; He makes your burdens light.

Did not His love and truth and pow’r Guard ev’ry childhood day?
And did He not in threat’ning hour Turn dreaded ills away?

He only will with patience chide, His rod falls gently down;
And all your sins He casts aside In ocean depths to drown.

His wisdom never plans in vain Nor falters nor mistakes.
All that His counsels may ordain A blessed ending makes.

Upon your lips, then, lay your hand, And trust His guiding love;
Then like a rock your peace shall stand Here and in heav’n above.