

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH First Sunday of Christmas Sunday, December 27, 2020

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Order of Worship First Sunday of Christmas December 27, 2020, 9:30 a.m.

The psalmist calls on the natural world, celestial bodies, fire and earth, creatures, and all humanity, to praise God. The voices of Simeon and 84-year-old Anna join the chorus today, recognizing what God is doing in Jesus. Simeon's song is often sung after communion, for we have seen God's salvation in the assembled community and have held Jesus in our hands in the bread. Then, like the prophet Anna, we tell of Jesus to all who look for the healing of the world.

Key to hymnals:

ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red); page numbers are in front, hymns in back WOV = With One Voice (blue); page numbers are in front, hymns in back STS = Spirit Touching Spirit (grey)

* = Please rise

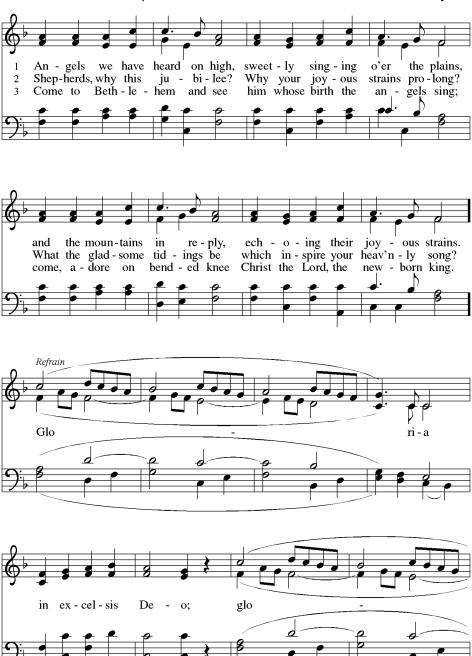
GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

We welcome all who are gathered with us for worship, whether in person or via the livestream! If you are worshipping with us via the livestream, please send a text message to Reid Froiland at 218-686-5265 to let us know from where you are worshipping. Please include your name.

All turn and face the processional cross as it is carried into the sanctuary.





Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, *The Crown of Jesus Music*, 1864 Music: GLORIA, French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887–1958

*Confession and Forgiveness

(All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, \pm one God, who was in the beginning, who makes a dwelling among us, who covers us with justice and mercy. **Amen.**

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

(Those who choose to may kneel.)

(Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.)

God of goodness and lovingkindness, we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors.

We have turned away from your invitation to new life.

We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden. In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins, those we know and those known only to you, for the sake of the one who came to live among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

(Water is poured into the baptismal font.)

Hear the good news of peace and salvation!
God forgives us all our sins,
not through our own work,
but through + Jesus Christ, made known to all people.
With all who come to the manger,

rejoice in this amazing gift of grace. **Amen.**

(Please rise.)

*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.

*Hymn of Praise

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

ELW #172





Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954 Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

*Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray...

C: Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

<u>WORD</u>

Hymn Christ, Be Our Light ELW #715





Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957
Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell
Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell.Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

John 1:1-9

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the

light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

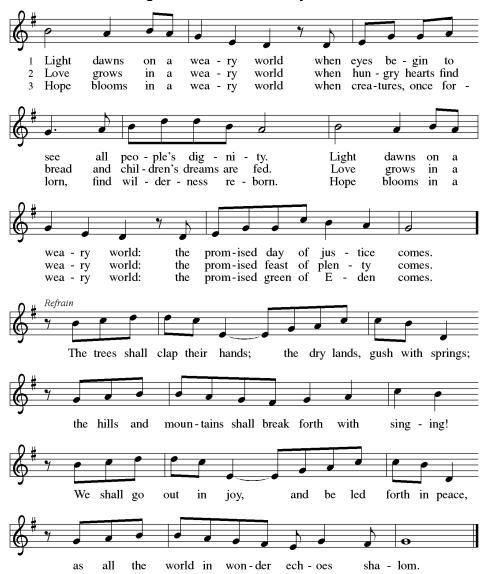
Isaiah 61:10--62:3

will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

62:1 For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch.
2 The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give.
3 You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953 Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951 Text © 2002 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Music © 2000 William P. Rowan, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.

www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Psalm 148

- ¹Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise God in the heights.
- ²Praise the LORD, all you angels; sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.
- ³Praise the LORD, sun and moon; sing praise, all you shining stars.
- ⁴Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.
- ⁵Let them praise the name of the LORD, who commanded, and they were created,
- ⁶who made them stand fast forever and ever, giving them a law that shall not pass away.
- ⁷Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;
- Second Fig. 8 show and fog, tempestuous wind, doing God's will;
- ⁹mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars:
- wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds;
- 11sovereigns of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;
- ¹²young men and maidens, old and young together.
- ¹³Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose name only is exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.
- ¹⁴The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise for all faithful servants.

the children of Israel, a people who are near the LORD. Hallelujah!

Galatians 4:4-7

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.



Text: Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561; tr. hymnal version Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress. *Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke...

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Joseph and Mary] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

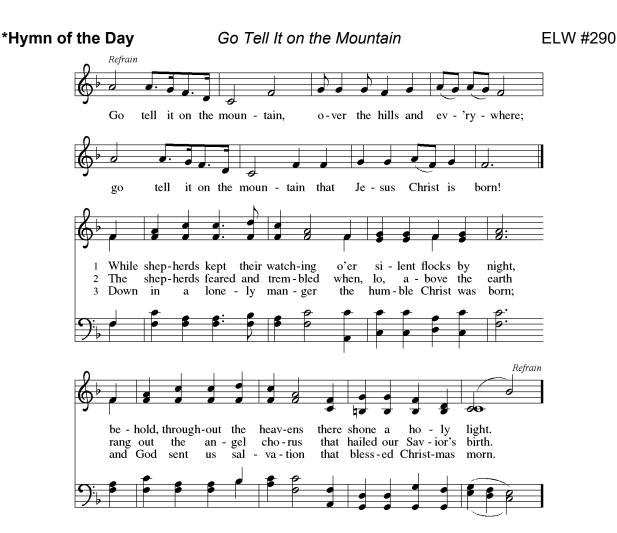
²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

- ²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;
- ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,
 - ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
- ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."
- ³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."
- ³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned

to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

P: The gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.



Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872–1925, stanzas, alt. Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual

*Apostles' Creed

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.

*Prayers of the Church

L: ...Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

*Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

C: And also with you.

<u>MEAL</u>

Offering

We welcome you to Redeemer Lutheran Church this day! In-person worshippers can place their offering in the offering box before the service or at this time. Your tithes and offerings submitted via the Postal Service or electronically are also gratefully appreciated.

*Offertory

Let the Vineyards



*The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

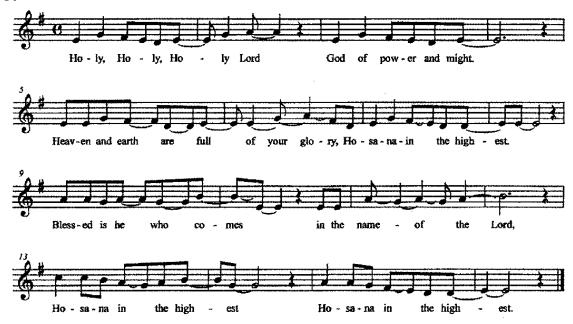
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*Sanctus

L: ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

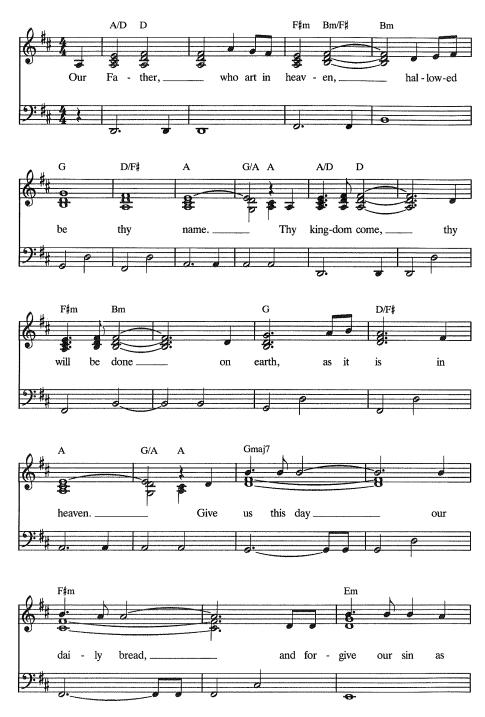
C:



In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

*Lord's Prayer STS #28





Music by Handt Hanson and Lyrics Paraphrased Scripture © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing. Used by Permission

Distribution

If you are worshipping with us via the livestream, we invite you to join in celebrating at Christ's table wherever you are, with bread and wine, grape juice, or water, as we remain physically separated yet "together met, together bound by all that God has done" and "the love that makes us one." ("I Come with Joy", ELW #482)

If you are worshipping with us in person today, know that all who come seeking Jesus are invited to receive these gifts of God. Please approach the serving station at the front of the church using the center aisle. One side of the church will be served at a time.

Please wait to leave your pew until the last person in the pew ahead of yours has reached the serving station, so that we maintain proper social distancing.

As you approach the serving station, please cup your hands together and stretch them out toward the server; the bread will be dropped into your hands. Then as you move to the wine, a server will remove an individual pre-filled cup, place it on the table, and step back; you may then pick up the cup from the table. Then return to your pew via the outside aisles. Be mindful of the cables for the livestream running across the floor.

Our bread is a new recipe that is gluten- and other allergen-free.

If you wish to receive grape juice instead of wine, please indicate that to the server; a cup of white grape juice will be given to you.



*Post-Communion Blessing

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

C: Amen.

SENDING

*Benediction

*Sending Hymn

Jesus, What a Wonderful Child
Sing three times

ELW #297 (next page)

All face the processional cross as it is carried from the sanctuary.

*Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

ASSISTING IN MINISTRY TODAY

Presiding: Reid Froiland Lector: Paula Adamson

Communion Minister: Jan Anderson

Serving at the Altar:

Musicians: Paula Adamson, Greg Dally, Dean Dalen

Acolyte/Video: Dave Ulrich

Portions of this order of service are from Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2015 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB136345.

Portions of this order of service are reprinted by permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727128.

Jesus, What a Wonderful Child



Text: African American traditional, alt. Music: African American traditional; arr. Jeffrey Radford, 1953–2002 Arr. from *The New Century Hymnal* (#136), © 1992 Pilgrim Press.

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

1300 Nora St. E., Thief River Falls, MN 56701 Phone: 218-681-3390; Fax: 218-681-3397 Office e-mail: redeemer@mncable.net

Website: redeemertrf.org

Facebook: Redeemer Lutheran Church!

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

<u>Our Mission Statement:</u> Being chosen by God and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, Redeemer Lutheran Church gathers together to worship, serve and proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all people, to provide meaning and purpose for daily living.

Our Staff:

Pastor Darrel Cory (phone: 218-791-0141, email:

darrelcory@gmail.com)

Director of Children, Youth,

Madison Crane (phone: 608-535-9151, email: rzyouthfam@gmail.com)

and Family Ministry

Wednesdays & Fridays at Redeemer Tuesdays & Thursdays at Zion

Administrative Assistant/ Volunteer Coordinator Vanessa VanDam (phone: 218-681-3390; email

redeemer@mncable.net)

Organist/Liturgist/ Choir Director Reid Froiland (phone: 218-681-3733; e-mail:

reid froiland@hotmail.com)

Cantor

Chris Cuppett (phone: 218-683-3420; e-mail:

sisterchris@mncable.net)

B.L.A.S.T. Coordinator

Megan Eickman (phone: 402-310-2192)

Custodian

Mike Lundgren

Financial Secretary

Marit Martell (e-mail: mknutson@mncable.net)

Church Council President

Jan Anderson (phone: 218-681-2641; e-mail:

randson@mncable.net)

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 27 2020-JANUARY 3,2021

Sunday, December 27 Final Day of the ELCA Good Gifts Campaign

9:30am Worship with Holy Communion

Thursday, December 31 Office Closed

Friday, January 1 Happy New Years!

Office Closed

Sunday, January 3 9:30am Worship with Holy Communion

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

In your prayers this week please remember David Grovum, David Jarvi (Susan Froiland's brother), Dan Parker (Mike Parker's brother), Tami Hanson, Julie Kiesow (Lavonne Forsberg's sister), Scott Hickerson, Karen Burgus (Chris Burnham's sister), Dale Folger, Joyce Froschheiser, Ken Poole, Mike Gilbertson, Rose Teie, Fern Melbye, Brooklyn Poe, Brenna Stenberg (Dale & Jan Dillon's great-granddaughter), Mark Thompson (Dale & Jan Dillon's son-in-law), Gloria Leach, Larry Forsberg, Annabelle Cuppett, Jeremy Johnson, Chad Gunderson, Shelley Steva, and Molly Dahlin and family.

Especially during these uncertain times, God calls us to certain tasks, and we call on God's help to fulfill them.

Dear Lord, we call on you now to guide us through the tasks ahead of us. Amen

Altar flowers this day are given by Jeff and Brenda Poe in memory of Donald Holmstrom

We give our Christian sympathy to the family of John T. Anderson. John T. died on Friday, December 18, in Mankato, MN. Funeral services will be in Thief River Falls at a later date.

We give our Christian sympathy to the family of Jerry Odegaard. Jerry died Saturday, December 19; funeral services will be held Monday, January 5, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. at Johnson Funeral Service in Thief River Falls.

Redeemer's Annual Meeting will be Sunday, January 31, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.

Year-end financial gifts need to be received in the office by Monday, January 4, to be counted toward the 2020 fiscal year. Please note on your gift that it is for 2020. We thank you for your continued support of the ministry of Redeemer Lutheran Church.

2021 Offering envelopes are now available for pickup, they are in the Narthex. Please pick up your envelopes by Wednesday, February 17th. You can pick them up anytime the church is open, either during business hours 8:30-1:30, even during another activity, or Sunday morning. If you are unable to pick up your envelopes by February 17, please let the church office know. Also, if you give electronically and would like to decline your envelopes, please let the church office know.

Anybody that does not pick up their envelopes or notify the office to hold their envelopes by February 17 will not receive envelopes for 2022.

Please complete an Estimate of Giving card as a sign of your commitment to the ministry of Redeemer Lutheran Church. A version of the card is on the last page of this bulletin; additional cards are available in the Narthex. Cards can be mailed to the church or dropped off anytime the building is open. Additionally, the card can be downloaded off of Redeemer's website, filled in on your computer, and e-mailed to the church office. Thank you for your commitment.

Altar flower purchases for 2021 are available now. Please contact the church office if you would like to purchase flowers. Any flowers that were purchased for the time when indoor public worship was suspended will be moved to the corresponding week in 2021.

Indoor public worship services! At this time there will be one service each week, at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays. You must call the church office each week by 8:00 a.m. the Friday prior to worship to reserve seats for your family unit; we are limited to 55 worshippers in the Sanctuary to allow for adequate spacing. Please see the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan for more information. The livestream of worship will continue.

BLAST will continue to be livestreamed at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. Families who have not yet picked up their packages of materials for BLAST can do so anytime the church is open.

We are now back to normal office hours, 8:30am-1:30pm. For your safety and the safety of our staff, we are requesting when you come to Redeemer that you wear a mask and practice social distancing.

Most other in-person events at Redeemer have been cancelled.

Church Announcements: Please make sure to have your announcements in every week to Vanessa VanDam by **Monday at 10:00 a.m.** so that the preparation of bulletins does not get delayed.

Quarterly statements are available upon request; please contact Vanessa at the church office.

Monthly Treasurer's Reports are available anytime for viewing. Contact Marit Knutson or the church office.

2020	January- March	April-June	July- September	October	November
Budget Income	\$75,096.25	\$75,096.25	\$75,096.25	\$25,031.25	\$25,031.25
Actual Income	\$63,477.59	\$56,975.22	\$48,728.37	\$20,427.52	\$18,110.14
Budget Expense	\$75,096.25	\$75,096.25	\$75,096.25	\$25,031.25	\$25,031.25
Actual Expense	\$73,382.89	\$63,663.69	\$73,060.50	\$21,951.00	\$21,968.45
Short Income	-\$9,905.30	-\$6,688.47	-\$24,332.13	-\$1,523.48	-\$3,858.51

Redeemer Lutheran Church Estimate of Giving 2021

LORD, STIR US TO DREAM

Redeemer Ministry in Action

Name(s)					
Address					
City/State/Zip					
Phone: HomeCell					
Email					
\Box I will pray for the mission and ministry of our church through financial support.					
☐ I will grow in my giving next year by increasing my support by%.					
☐ My yearly commitment: \$					
□ I plan to give: \$ weekly \$ monthly \$ quarterly \$ annually					
☐ I am interested in contributing online but need help. ☐ I contribute online.					
☐ I would like information on the Mission Endowment fund. (Contact information will be sent to you.)					
☐ I am able to help with: serving communion reading ushering greeting Altar Guild					