



REDEEMER

HELP, HOPE, HOME, IN THE BODY OF CHRIST.

December 8, 2019

The Second Sunday of Advent

Redeemer Lutheran Church-LCMS
Charleston, WV

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

One Deerwalk Lane, Charleston, WV 25314
A congregation of the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

Reverend Frank C. Ruffatto, Pastor
Mr. Ed Booten, Music Director
Mrs. Kelli Ruffatto, Communications Director

WORSHIP... All worship begins with God. He is our Creator and He desires us to be in relationship with Him. He reaches out to us, and, in worship, draws us closer to Him. Jesus whom we come to know through Word and Sacrament, is the way God reveals Himself to us. And more, it is in His name that we approach the throne of the Almighty. In worship the believer through Jesus Christ, reaches out to his heavenly Father. As the Holy Spirit works through Word and Sacrament, we become aware of our need for God, and seek fellowship with God in the company of fellow believers.

LUTHERAN... Originally a derogatory term for those who reminded the Church that it is **“by grace you are saved through faith; and that not of yourself; it is a gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”** (*Ephesians 2:8-9*) Now, we embrace Lutheran to mean we are disciples of Jesus Christ who agree with Dr. Luther’s teaching from the Bible as summarized in his Small Catechism.

... DECENTLY AND IN ORDER... (cf. 1 Corinthians 14:40)

Whether the service is closer to what some would call “traditional” or others “contemporary” - whether we are using hymns that may even pre-date the Reformation or music written in our lifetimes - there is an order to worship comprised of three parts: the Service of Preparation, the Service of the Word, and the Service of the Sacrament. Together, these three sections make up the whole worship order.

HELP, HOPE, HOME, IN THE BODY OF CHRIST... If you have no church home of your own, we encourage you to get to know us and we invite you to participate in the other activities here. And more, we cordially invite you to join God’s family here at Redeemer.



Explanation for the parts of the service come from *Worship Is Celebrating As Lutherans*, by Walter M. Schoedel & David W. Christian, (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Missouri, 1990) Worship Service adapted from “Divine Service Setting One,” *Lutheran Service Book* (Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis, Missouri, 2006).

THE DIVINE SERVICE

THE SERVICE OF PREPARATION

PRELUDE

Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come
Setting: The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Hark the Glad Sound

Hark the glad sound! The Savior comes,
The Savior promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne
And ev'ry voice a song.

He comes the pris'ners to release,
In Satan's bondage held.
The gates of brass before Him burst,
The iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,
The bleeding soul to cure,
And with the treasures of His grace
To enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,
Thy welcome shall proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring
With Thy belovèd name.

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WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

The sign of the cross ✝ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Ⓟ In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

🗨 **Amen.**

Matthew 28: 19b; [18: 20]

CANDLE FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT: PEACE

Ⓟ Today is the Second Sunday in Advent – a season, a time of waiting. And so, as we celebrate the first advent of Christ, coming near to us in the manger, we are thankful for His second advent – coming near to us in His Word and Sacraments; and, we have

our hope in the peace of His final advent, when He comes to bring us home.

Advent is a time of joyous anticipation.

C “Let [us] thank the Lord for His steadfast love, for His wondrous works to the children of men!” (Psalm 107:31)

P Lord we cry to You in our trouble.

C and You deliver us from our distress. (cf. Psalm 107:28)

P We seek God’s peace for our workplaces, for our nation, and for the world; peace for those caught up in violence, the displaced, the vulnerable; peace for those who are caught within relationships that tear down rather than build up; peace for the repentant whose only hope is in the salvation of God.

C Let [us] extol Him in the congregation of the people, and praise Him in the assembly of the elders. (Psalm 107:32)

P As we light the candle of Peace, let us remember that God is the God of Peace. Let us remember God’s peace in Jesus, the mediator, who even now, intercedes with the Father on our behalf. Let us remember the deeds of the Lord and His wondrous works as we anticipate the Father’s promise of peace in Christ.

The candles of Hope and Peace are lit.

Song Leaders: Lead us to Your light, lead us out of darkness Lead us to Your light;
Come Jesus, come.

Choir: Lead us to Your light, lead us out of darkness Lead us to Your light;
Come Jesus, come.

All: Lead us to Your light, lead us out of darkness Lead us to Your light;
Come Jesus, come.

P Let us pray... Come Holy Spirit,

C fill the hearts of Your faithful and kindle in us the fire of Your love and the anticipation of the coming of our Lord, Jesus, the light of the world. O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, instructs the hearts of the faithful grant that by the same Holy Spirit we would thank the Lord for His steadfast love, for His wondrous works and extol Him in the congregation of His people. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION


L If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Ⓐ Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

Ⓒ **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.**

The Leader faces the congregation:

Ⓐ 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.

[John 20: 19– 23]

Ⓒ **Amen.**

SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

SERVICE OF THE WORD

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

2 Timothy 4: 22

Ⓐ The Lord be with you.

Ⓒ **And also with you.**

Ⓐ Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day is spoken.

Ⓒ **Amen**

ANTHEM

Emmanuel, Expected Jesus

–Ruth Elaine Schram

THE READING OF GOD'S WRITTEN WORD

FIRST READING

Zechariah 9:14–17

After the reading:

Ⓐ This is the Word of the Lord.

Ⓒ **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

After the reading:

Ⓜ This is the Word of the Lord.

ⓐ **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

HOLY GOSPEL

Ⓜ The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 5th chapter.

ⓐ **Glory to You, O Lord.**

After the reading:

Ⓜ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

ⓐ **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON HYMN

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings
Glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;
Make straight the way for God within,
And let us all our hearts prepare
For Christ to come and enter there.

We hail Thee as our Savior, Lord,
Our refuge and our great reward;
Without Thy grace we waste away
Like flow'rs that wither and decay.

Lay on the sick Thy healing hand
And make the fallen strong to stand;
Show us the glory of Thy face
Till beauty springs in ev'ry place.

All praise, eternal Son, to Thee
Whose advent sets Thy people free,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit evermore.

SERMON

Reflected Light

TITHES & OFFERINGS

(Malachi 3:6-10; 2 Corinthians 9:7)

OFFERTORY

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

Genevan Psalter, 1551

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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2: 1– 4]

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(Matthew 6:7-13; 1 Chronicles 29:11-13)

☩ Our Father which 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.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

(Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25)

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My (†) body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My (†) blood, which is shed for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling

Now, my tongue, the myst'ry telling
Of the glorious body sing,
And the blood, all price excelling,
Which the Gentiles' Lord and King,
Once on earth among us dwelling,
Shed for this world's ransoming.

Giv'n for us, and condescending
To be born for us below,
He with us in converse blending
Dwelt, the seed of truth to sow,
Till He closed with wondrous ending
His most patient life of woe.

That last night at supper lying
Mid the Twelve, His chosen band,
Jesus, with the Law complying,
Keeps the feast its rites demand;
Then, more precious food supplying,
Gives Himself with His own hand.

Word made flesh, the bread He taketh,
By His word His flesh to be;
Wine His sacred blood He maketh,
Though the senses fail to see;
Faith alone the true heart waketh
To behold the mystery.

Glory let us give and blessing
To the Father and the Son,
Honor, thanks, and praise addressing,
While eternal ages run;
Ever too His love confessing
Who from both with both is One.

Once He Came in Blessing

Once He came in blessing,
All our sins redressing;
 Came in likeness lowly,
 Son of God most holy;
Bore the cross to save us;
Hope and freedom gave us.

Now He gently leads us;
With Himself He feeds us
 Precious food from heaven,
 Pledge of peace here given,
Manna that will nourish
Souls that they may flourish.

Soon will come that hour
When with mighty power
 Christ will come in splendor
 And will judgment render,
With the faithful sharing
Joy beyond comparing.

Come, then, O Lord Jesus,
From our sins release us.
 Keep our hearts believing,
 That we, grace receiving,
Ever may confess You
Till in heav'n we bless You.

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Beautiful Savior

Beautiful Savior,
 King of creation,
Son of God and Son of Man!
 Truly I'd love Thee,
 Truly I'd serve Thee,
Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows,
Fair are the woodlands,
Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine,
Fair is the moonlight,
Bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
Than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor,
Praise, adoration
Now and forevermore be Thine!
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TABLE THANKSGIVING

Ⓟ Now, may this the true body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, strengthen you in the one true faith unto life everlasting as you go in His peace and with His Spirit.

Ⓒ Amen.

POST COMMUNION COLLECT

Ⓟ Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Ⓒ Amen

BENEDICTION

(Numbers 6:24-26)

Ⓟ 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 His peace.

Ⓞ Amen.

RECESSIONAL

Savior of the Nations, Come

Savior of the nations, come,
Virgin's Son, make here Your home!
Marvel now, O heav'n and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.

Not by human flesh and blood,
By the Spirit of our God,
Was the Word of God made flesh—
Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.

From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.

Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.

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DISMISSAL

P: Go in Peace; Serve Your King!

Ⓞ Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Sleepers, Awake

–arr.by Lau

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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CONCERNING THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper was commanded by Jesus Himself. (1 Corinthians 11:23-25) It is celebrated at this altar in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. We are also called upon to examine ourselves before participating in this holy meal. (cf. 1 Corinthians 10:16; 11:23-29; Mathew 26:28; John 6:53-58)

Q. Do you acknowledge your sins and are you willing to turn from them with the aid and assistance of the Holy Spirit?

A. Yes, I acknowledge my sin and seek the Lord's mercy. (1 John 1:8-9)

Q. Do you believe that God, for Jesus' sake, has forgiven you all your sins?

A. Yes, Christ died for me and suffered the punishment that I deserved. (Isaiah 53:4-6; Romans 6:21-23)

Q. Do you believe that the Lord offers Christian His body and blood, in, with, and under the bread and the wine for the strengthening of faith and the forgiveness of sins?

A. Yes, I believe the Scripture which teaches, "Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a participation in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a participation in the body of Christ?" (2 Corinthians 10:16)

Members of the LCMS and Redeemer Lutheran Church believe that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior and affirm the statements above. If you agree, without reservation, to these statements above, you are invited to come to His Table. If you do not agree with one or more of these statements, please refrain from participating in Holy Communion. Our communion practice is not intended to offend or exclude, but is an expression of our concern for people and our high regard for the Sacrament as Christ instituted it. We encourage you to speak with our Pastor or Elders about any statement(s) of disagreement and/or regarding the Holy Supper and the process of joining our congregation.

Q. Why did Jesus willingly sacrifice Himself on behalf of lost and condemned sinners like us?

A. For His great love for the Father and for me and other sinners as it is revealed in John 3, John 11, Romans 5, and 1 John 3.

Q. Should Christians with weak faith receive the sacrament?

A. The Sacrament is especially offered for those of weak faith. (Isaiah 42:3; John 6:37)

Q. What conditions should cause a Christian to refrain from receiving the Sacrament?

A. Disbelief (Hebrews 11:6), unwillingness to forgive another (Matthew 6:14-15), hatred (John 4:19-21), a refusal to repent (Acts 17:30), and refusal to recognize the body and blood of the Lord in the Sacrament. (1 Corinthians 11:28-29)

Q. How then, does the Christian live?

A. The entirety of the Christian's life is offered to the Lord as a "living sacrifice." (Romans 12:1-2)