



# REDEEMER

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

December 1, 2019

The First 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

*Of the Father's Love Begotten*

Plainsong, 13th century

### PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*The Advent of Our King*

The advent of our King  
Our prayers must now employ,  
And we must hymns of welcome sing  
In strains of holy joy.

The everlasting Son  
Incarnate deigns to be,  
Himself a servant's form puts on  
To set His servants free.

O Zion's daughter, rise  
To meet your lowly King,  
Nor let your faithless heart despise  
The peace He comes to bring.

As judge, on clouds of light,  
He soon will come again  
And His true members all unite  
With Him in heav'n to reign.

Before the dawning day  
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,  
The sinful self be put away,  
The new self now put on.


All glory to the Son,  
Who comes to set us free,  
With Father, Spirit, ever one  
Through all eternity.

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### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## INVOCATION

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

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

**C** Amen.

Matthew 28: 19b; [18: 20]

## CANDLE FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT: HOPE

**P** Today is the First Sunday in Advent. Advent means ‘a coming’ or ‘an arrival.’ And so, as we celebrate the first advent of Christ, coming in the manger, we are thankful for His second advent to us in His Word and Sacraments and we have our Hope in His final advent, when He comes to bring us home.

The season of Advent hears the past and looks in Hope to the future.

**C** **“Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son ...”**  
(Hebrews 1:1-2a)

**P** In hope we wait for You, O God because you are our righteousness and our hope. We quietly rejoice that You appointed Jesus “the heir of all things, [and] through whom also You created the world.  
(cf. Hebrews 1:2b)

**C** **“In these last days [God] has spoken to us by His Son ...”**  
(Hebrews 1:2a)

**P** As we light the candle of Hope, let us remember that God is the God of Hope. Let us remember God’s awesome deeds that brought light out of darkness, life from death, a Savior who took on our likeness and is our righteousness. Let us anticipate God’s awesome future for us – in the near days to come and the mission and ministry He will do here at Redeemer – and that Last Day when everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him will have eternal life and will be raised up in Him.

**C** **“He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of His nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of his power.”**  
(Hebrews 1:3)

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.

**C** **Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in us the fire of your love and the anticipation of the coming of our Lord and King, Jesus who is our righteousness. O God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit instructs the hearts of the faithful, grant that by**

the same Holy Spirit we may hope and quietly wait for Your salvation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

- Ⓐ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- Ⓒ **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

1 John 1: 8–9

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

- Ⓐ 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

*Prepare the Way of the Lord*

–William Rowan

# THE READING OF GOD'S WRITTEN WORD

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

*After the reading:*

Ⓜ This is the Word of the Lord.

ⓐ **Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

Romans 13:8-14

*After the reading:*

Ⓜ This is the Word of the Lord.

ⓐ **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## HOLY GOSPEL

Ⓜ The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

ⓐ **Glory to You, O Lord.**

*After the reading:*

Ⓜ This is the Gospel of the Lord.

ⓐ **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## SERMON HYMN

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,  
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver;  
Born a child and yet a king!  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit

Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all-sufficient merit  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

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## SERMON

*Rising Light*

## TITHES & OFFERINGS

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

## OFFERTORY

*Arise, O Christian People*

## 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:

## *What Feast of Love*

What feast of love is offered here,  
what banquet come from heaven?  
What food of everlasting life,  
what gracious gift is given?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
the bread come down from heaven.  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
How sweet the manna given!

What light of truth is offered here,  
what covenant from heaven?  
What hope of everlasting life,  
what wondrous word if given?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
the sun come down from heaven.  
Oh, see and hear and sing!  
The Word of God is given.

What wine of love is offered here,  
what crimson drink from heaven?  
What stream of everlasting life,  
what precious blood is given?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
the sweetest wine of heaven.  
Oh, taste and see and sing!  
The Son of God is given!



## ***God Hath Spoken by His Prophets***

God has spoken by the prophets,  
Spoken an unchanging word;  
Each from age to age proclaiming  
God, the one, the righteous Lord.  
In the world's despair and turmoil,  
One firm anchor holds us fast;  
God is King, enthroned eternal;  
God the first, and God the last.

God has spoken by Christ Jesus,  
Christ, the everlasting Son,  
Brightness of the Father's glory,  
With the Father ever one;  
Spoken by the Word Incarnate,  
God of God, before time was;  
Light of light, to earth descending,  
Christ reveals our God to us.

God is speaking by the Spirit,  
Speaking to the hearts of all,  
In the ageless word expounding  
God's own message for us all.  
Through the rise and fall of nations  
One sure faith yet standing fast;  
God abides in word unchanging;  
God the first, and God the last.

## ***It Came Upon a Midnight Clear***

It came upon the midnight clear,  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth  
to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,  
from heaven's all-gracious King."  
The world in solemn stillness lay,  
to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come  
with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heavenly music floats  
o'er all the weary world;  
above its sad and lowly plains,  
they bend on hovering wing,  
and ever o'er its Babel sounds  
the blessed angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on,  
by prophet seen of old,  
when with the ever-circling years  
shall come the time foretold  
when peace shall over all the earth  
its ancient splendors fling,  
and the whole world send back the song  
which now the angels sing

### 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

Ⓟ O Lord our God,  
make us watchful and keep us faithful  
as we await the coming  
of your Son our Lord;  
that, when he shall appear,  
he may not find us sleeping in sin but active in his service  
and joyful in his praise;  
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

## *The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns*

The King shall come when morning dawns  
And light triumphant breaks,  
When beauty gilds the eastern hills  
And life to joy awakes.

Not as of old a little child,  
To bear and fight and die,  
But crowned with glory like the sun  
That lights the morning sky.

Oh, brighter than the rising morn  
When Christ, victorious, rose  
And left the lonesome place of death  
Despite the rage of foes.

Oh, brighter than that glorious morn  
Shall dawn upon our race  
The day when Christ in splendor comes  
And we shall see His face.

The King shall come when morning dawns  
And light and beauty brings.  
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:  
Come quickly, King of kings!

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## DISMISSAL

P: Go in Peace; Serve Your King!

**G** 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)**