

Service of Lessons and Carols



First Sunday after Christmas

December 29, 2024 – 10:00 AM

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.redeemeronline.net

Welcome to Worship!

GATHERING SONGS

“Glory (Let There Be Peace)”
“Sussex Carol”

WELCOME

The assembly stands for the hymn

OPENING HYMN

“The First Noel”

No. 300

DIALOGUE

Jesus, the bright Morning Star, shines light in the world.

By day and night he shines for all to see.

Jesus was born in the midst of injustice and poverty

that the world may see the justice and richness of God.

God so loved the world that God sent Jesus,

so that all who believe in him may not perish but have eternal life.

Jesus is the light of the world.

Jesus is the light of our lives.

Sing to God a new song!

A song of hope, joy, and peace around the world.

OPENING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Gracious God of heaven and earth, you have thrown a lifeline to us in our darkness— a beam of light that shines through Jesus. Though born in a manger, he is the firstborn of all creation. Though crucified on a cross, he is the Lord of life. Fill us with the wonder and joy of his presence in the world and in our hearts. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Kathy Fiscella

SONG

“Emmanuel”

LESSONS AND CAROLS

1ST READING

Genesis 1:1-5, 14-18

The Creation Story

SONG

“I Wonder as I Wander”

2ND READING

Micah 5:2-5a

A savior will come from Bethlehem.

SONG

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

No. 279

3RD READING

Luke 1:26-35, 38

The angel appears to Mary

SONG

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”

No. 272

4TH READING

Matthew 1:18-25

The birth of Christ.

SONG

“Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella”

Kim Hopkins, Steve Snoke - duet

5TH READING

Luke 2:8-20

The shepherds announce Christ's birth.

SONG

"Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

No. 275

6TH READING

Matthew 2:1-11

INSTRUMENTAL PIECE

"Il Viaggio di Magi"

Zimarino

7TH READING

John 1:1-14

The Word became flesh and lived among us.

SONG

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

No. 270

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

It is you, loving God, who lights our path with truth.

Your Word, Jesus, is truth.

In his light, draw all to the manger

to gather in wonder with the shepherds.

In his light, draw all to the manger

to kneel in reverence with the wise ones.

In his light, draw all to the manger

to sing for joy with the angels.

In the brightness of his life

cast away the darkness of injustice, poverty, and hunger in the world.

It is you, loving God, who meets us on our way.

In the light of Jesus, show the world the way of life.

Amen.

The assembly is seated as the table is set.

OFFERING

Thank you for your faithful giving! Offerings may be made in the narthex as you leave. You may also give online at www.redeemeronline.net/give, or simply scan the code to the right to access online giving on your phone.



OFFERTORY “While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks”

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
 all seated on the ground,
an angel of the Lord came down,
 and glory shone around,
 and glory shone around.

"Fear not," said he for mighty dread
 had seized their troubled mind
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring
 to you and all mankind,
 to you and all mankind.

"To you, in David's town, this day
 is born of David's line
a Savior, who is Christ the Lord;
 and this shall be the sign,
 and this shall be the sign:

"The heavenly babe you there shall find
 to human view displayed,
all simply wrapped in swaddling clothes
 and in a manger laid,
 and in a manger laid."

Thus spoke the angel. Suddenly
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song,
addressed their joyful song:

"All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
to those on whom his favor rests
goodwill shall never cease,
goodwill shall never cease."

The assembly stands

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Good and loving God,
**we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to
bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your
gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field,
with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your
Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

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 for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus, the Christ, the bread of God comes down from heaven and gives life to the world. Come, eat, and live.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Holy Communion is a gift of God's grace, offered to all who are baptized and who desire to receive Christ in the bread and wine. Wine is offered by individual cup. Grape juice and gluten-free bread are available; please ask the server. Those not communing are invited to come forward and receive a blessing; indicate your desire for a blessing by crossing your hands over your heart.

COMMUNION HYMNS

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

No. 282

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 all,
from heav'n'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 heav'nly music floats
o'er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hov'ring wing,
and ever o'er its babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

And you, beneath life's crushing load,
whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way
with painful steps and slow:
look now, for glad and golden hours
come swiftly on the wing;
oh, rest beside the weary road
and hear the angels sing!

For lo! The days are hast'ning on,
by prophets 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 all the world give back the song
which now the angels sing.

“Good Christian Friends Rejoice”

No. 288

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

Once all have been fed, the assembly stands.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

IN MISSION *Community happenings and opportunities to serve*

BLESSING

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

Praise God, all creatures here below!

You are the shepherds telling the story.

We tell it in the streets and across the land.

You are the wise ones worshiping with thanksgiving.

We worship with gifts of song and service, talents and treasures.

You are the angels announcing peace.

We live with joy and go now in peace.

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

No. 289

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Your light has come.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Bill Cain

“Ostinato on ‘Sing We Now of Christmas’”

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