

+ SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE +

	<u>ELDER</u>	<u>ORGANIST</u>	<u>ALTAR GUILD</u>
<i>This Week, 12/13 & 12/16</i>			
<i>Sunday, 8:00 A.M.</i>	Gary P.	Don H.	Sue R. & Tracy V.
<i>Sunday, 10:30 A.M.</i>	Mark M.	Don H.	Sue R. & Tracy V.
<i>Wednesday, 7:00 P.M.</i>	David M.	N/A	Sue R. & Tracy V.
<i>Next Week, 12/20, 12/24, & 12/25</i>			
<i>Sunday, 8:00 A.M.</i>	Ed T.	Marian V.	Ed T. & Carol T.
<i>Sunday, 10:30 A.M.</i>	Damian T.	Marian V.	Ed T. & Carol T.
<i>Christmas Eve, 5:00 P.M.</i>	Mark M.	Don H.	Ed T. & Carol T.
<i>Christmas Eve, 7:00 P.M.</i>	Dana B.	N/A	Ed T. & Carol T.
<i>Christmas Day, 9:15 A.M.</i>	Ed T.	N/A	Ed T. & Carol T.

+ THIS WEEK AT OUR REDEEMER +

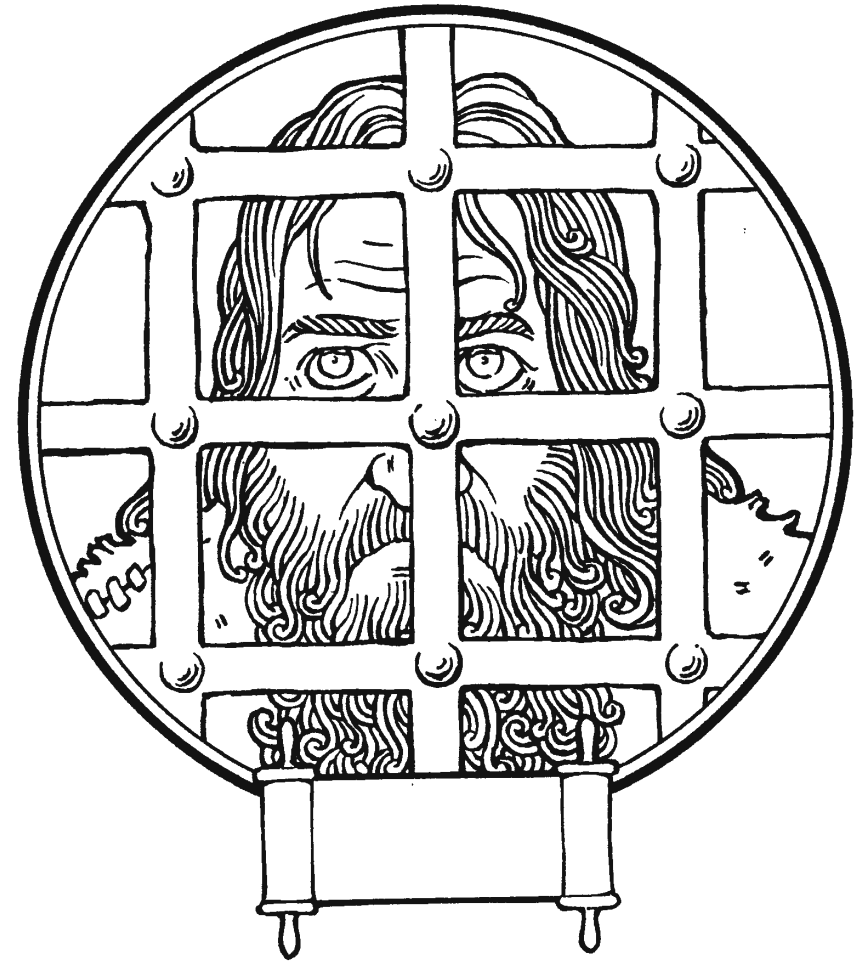
<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
<i>Sunday (13)</i>	8:00 A.M.	Divine Service
	9:15 A.M.	Bible Study & Sunday School
	10:30 A.M.	Divine Service
<i>Monday (14)</i>	1:00 P.M.	Ladies' Guild
<i>Tuesday (15)</i>		
<i>Wednesday (16)</i>	5:30 P.M.	Youth Confirmation
	7:00 P.M.	Service of Prayer and Preaching
<i>Thursday (17)</i>	10:00 A.M.	Bible Study
<i>Friday (18)</i>		Pastor's Day Off
<i>Saturday (19)</i>		
<i>Sunday (20)</i>	8:00 A.M.	Divine Service
	9:15 A.M.	Bible Study & Sunday School
	10:30 A.M.	Divine Service

+ GIVING REPORT & BUDGET UPDATE +

<u>WEEKLY OFFERINGS</u>		<u>YEAR-TO-DATE</u>	
<i>Last Week Offering:</i>	\$5,042.01	<i>Year-to-Date Offerings:</i>	\$137,514.05
<i>Other Income and Gifts:</i>	\$310.00	<i>Other Income and Gifts:</i>	\$16,943.90
<i>Total Income This Week:</i>	\$5,352.01	<i>Total Income This Year:</i>	\$154,457.95
<i>Needed for Budget:</i>	\$2,988.54	<i>Needed for Budget:</i>	\$146,438.46
<i>Difference:</i>	+ \$2,363.47	<i>Difference:</i>	+ \$8,019.49

+ ATTENDANCE REPORT +

	<u>8:00 A.M.</u>	<u>10:30 A.M.</u>	<u>10:30 A.M.</u>	<u>7:00 P.M.</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>(Sun.)</u>	<u>(Sun. In)</u>	<u>(Sun. Out)</u>	<u>(Weds.)</u>	
<i>Last Week:</i>	37	46	4	17	104
<i>Last Year:</i>		133		21	154



+ THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT +

Gaudete

Sunday, 13 December A+D 2020 • 8:00 & 10:30 A.M.



OUR
REDEEMER
ON BREITUNG

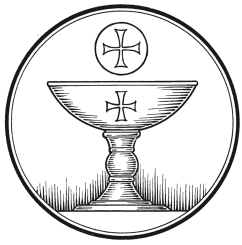
OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
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www.ourredeemerkingsford.org

Rev. Matthew D. Ruesch, Pastor
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Renee Wilson, Secretary
secretary@ourredeemerkingsford.org

+ TODAY WE CELEBRATE HOLY COMMUNION +



The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation 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 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.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

+ ABOUT THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT +

JOHN THE BAPTIZER PREPARES THE WAY FOR THE LORD: The voice of the Baptizer cried out in the wilderness: "*Prepare the way of the Lord . . .*" (Isa. 40:1). John called the people to be made ready for the Messiah's coming through repentance, for "*all flesh is grass*" (Isa. 40:6). Now He asks from prison, "*Are you the one who is to come . . . ?*" (Matt. 11:2). Jesus' works bear witness that He is. The sick are made well; the dead are raised, and the poor have the Gospel preached to them. Their iniquity is pardoned; they have received from the Lord's hand double forgiveness for all their sins. The "*stewards of the mysteries of God*" (1 Cor. 4:1) still deliver Christ's overflowing forgiveness to the poor in spirit, comforting God's people with the word of the Gospel which stands forever. This Gospel produces rejoicing among all those who believe.

+ NEWS & NOTES +

LWML MEETING: Join the Ladies Guild as we gather for an informal meeting on Monday at 1:00 P.M. in the fellowship hall. We will have a love offering and write out Christmas cards to our shut-ins. We look forward to seeing you.

MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES CONTINUE THIS WEDNESDAY. Join us December 16th at 7:00 P.M. for a Service of Prayer and Preaching (no Holy Communion) where we will reflect on the coming of Christ as found the Psalms. These services will be FM broadcast to the parking lot, as well as live-streamed on the Facebook page. Find Our Redeemer on Facebook at [facebook.com/ourredeemerkingsford](https://www.facebook.com/ourredeemerkingsford).

OUR CONGREGATION HAS FOURTEEN SHUT-INS. Would you be willing to send each of them a Christmas card to brighten their day? Please contact the church office for names and addresses.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE LUTHERAN WITNESS: Anyone wishing to receive *The Lutheran Witness*, the official magazine of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, please submit your name and address to the church office. The cost is \$22.56 annually. Please note that the June/July issue is a combined edition so there are only eleven (11) magazines mailed in total.

POINSETTIA ORDER FORMS are available on the welcome kiosk. The cost is \$10. Please have your order in by Sunday, December 13th. You may also bring in your own plant, no later than Friday, December 18, but please make sure your name is on it.

PLEASE NOTE: It's winter and we will be in an enclosed space for services. To keep each other well, please wear a mask, carry hand sanitizer if you can or use the sanitizer at the entrance to church when coming into church, before Holy Communion and after leaving.

PLEASE BE AWARE that the 10:30 A.M. service is being live-streamed on the Our Redeemer Facebook page.

HELPING HANDS FUNDRAISERS: Please consider our Giving Bean and Rada Cutlery fundraising groups. Giving Bean coffee can be accessed at the ORLC website under Helping Hands. Rada Cutlery can be accessed at [radafundraising.com](https://www.radafundraising.com) and selecting "your fundraising group" as Our Redeemer Michigan. There are also catalogues of the cutlery with order blanks on the table in the narthex.

A DAILY, 15-MINUTE, VERSE-BY-VERSE BIBLE STUDY: "The Word of the Lord Endures Forever" is a podcast hosted by LCMS Pastor Will Weedon and produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL. Pastor Weedon will be leading a study this week on The Rich Young Man, Laborers in the Vineyard, Jesus Foretells His Death a Third Time and A Mother's Request. You can listen on-demand at [thewordendures.org](https://www.thewordendures.org), the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR: THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT – "Speak tenderly" in Isaiah 40:1-2 is literally "speak to the heart." More than nice-sounding words, all of the Good News encapsulated in the first and second coming of Jesus speaks powerfully to those with struggling and burdened hearts. The life issues give us opportunity to speak this Good News to matters of the heart, especially those considered "controversial" and "divisive." *Prayer: Thank You for touching our hearts with the Good News! Help us share it with all who deal with matters of the heart. Amen.*

"WILL YOU BE WITHOUT LOVED ONES THIS HOLIDAY SEASON? Will you be struggling with illness or discouragement? Will you feel the pressure to make the holiday season great? You are not alone. You are not on your own. Read John 10, a great chapter about a Good Shepherd. Listen to His voice comfort and strengthen you." *Rev. John Boeder, Martin Luther College – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](https://www.lutheransforlife.org)*

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Gaudete

13 December A+D 2020

Liturgy: LSB, Divine Service, Setting Three, pg. 184

Hymns: 344, 345, 956, 349, 636, 921

Sermon: "Moving Terrains" Isaiah 40:1-11

INTROIT

Psalm 85:1-2, 6, 8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4-5

- P** Rejoice in the Lord always;
C again I will say, Rejoice.
P Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.
C The Lord is at hand.
P LORD, you were favorable to your land;
C you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
P You forgave the iniquity of your people;
C you covered all their sin.
P Will you not revive us again,
C that your people may rejoice in you?
P Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
C for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.



C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

- P** Rejoice in the Lord always;
C again I will say, Rejoice.
P Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.
C The Lord is at hand.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

GRADUAL

Psalm 80:1-2

- P** You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.
C Stir up your might and come to save us!
P Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel,
C you who lead Joseph like a flock!

VERSE

Psalm 80:2b

Alleluia. Stir up your might and come to save us. Alleluia.

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OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 40:1-11

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

³A voice cries: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain.

⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not;

say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

¹⁰Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

¹This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. ²Moreover, it is required

of stewards that they be found trustworthy. ³But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. ⁴I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:2-11

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ⁴And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

"Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you."

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."