



OUR REDEEMER

LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, established in 1924



FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

Sunday, 31 December A+D 2023 · 9:00 A.M.

Wednesday, 3 January A+D 2024 · 7:00 P.M.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

420 W. Breitung Ave.

Kingsford, MI 49802

(906) 774-1844 · www.ourredeemerkingsford.org

Rev. Matthew D. Ruesch, Pastor
pastor@ourredeemerkingsford.org

Claire Valeski, Secretary
secretary@ourredeemerkingsford.org

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

Order of Service:	<i>LSB</i> , Divine Service, Setting Three, pg. 184
Hymns:	367, 389, 624, 384, 818, 900, 338
Sermon Title:	"Sons and Heirs Through the Only Son"
Sermon Text:	Galatians 4:1-7

WELCOME TO OUR REDEEMER

WE ARE PLEASED TO HAVE YOU WITH US TODAY AS WE GATHER AROUND GOD'S GIFTS OF FORGIVENESS, LIFE, AND SALVATION. If you are with us for the first time, please take a moment to introduce yourself to our pastor. Should you be looking for a church home, please indicate so when you sign the Record of Fellowship tablet. We would love to take the opportunity to tell you more about our congregation and what it means to be a part of the people of God here in the Twin Cities area.

A WORD TO OUR GUESTS ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION: In the Sacrament of the Altar, our Lord Jesus Christ gives us His very Body and Blood to eat and drink. Receiving the Sacrament is not merely a matter between God and the person, but a "communion," something done in "community." It is a public confession of our faith and expression of the unity that exists between Christians. Because of these reasons, Our Redeemer Lutheran Church practices closed communion. We invite those who are members in good standing of LCMS congregations to join us at the altar today. All those communing for the first time should speak with the pastor before doing so.



PREPARING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR: Christ offers His very body and blood, with the bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins. Those who come before the holy altar of God to receive this body and blood do so having prepared to receive this holy gift.

1. Have you confessed your sins before God in heaven? (See the Ten Commandments, *LSB* page 321.)
2. Are you able to come forward in a spirit of unity with those communing with you? (See 1 Corinthians 1:10; 11:18-19.)
3. Do you share the confession of faith proclaimed in this congregation and church body? (See Acts 2:42, 1 Corinthians 11:26.)
4. Do you believe that this bread and wine is truly the body and blood of Christ? (See *LSB*, page 326, "What is the Sacrament of the Altar?")
5. Do you believe that this body and blood are given for your forgiveness, life, and salvation? (See *LSB* page 327, "What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?")

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To learn more about The LCMS, visit www.lcms.org.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THERE IS NO EDUCATION HOUR THIS MORNING. Adult Bible study, Youth Group, and Sunday school will resume on Sunday, January 7th.

CATECHISM VESPERS AND MIDWEEK DIVINE SERVICE resume this Wednesday, January 3rd, at 5:30 P.M. & 7:00 P.M. respectively. **THURSDAY BIBLE STUDY** resumes this Thursday, January 4th at 10:00 A.M.

OUR NEXT MEN'S GROUP GATHERING is this Thursday, January 4th at 6:00 P.M. at Pastor's house. All men are invited. Please RSVP with Pastor.

CHRISTMAS DECORATION TAKEDOWN AND CHURCH CLEANING will take place this Saturday, January 6th, at 9:00 A.M. Any willing volunteers to help us do some cleaning and organizing would be greatly appreciated!

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES are now in your mailbox. If you did not receive envelopes and would like them or do not have a mailbox and would like one, please contact Claire in the church office at (906) 774-1844 or at secretary@ourredeemerkingsford.org.

BOTTLES/CANS: The Youth Group wants your bottles and cans! You may drop off your bottles/cans at the church entrance bottle bin.

LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR—Christmas I: A peaceful departure (Luke 2:29) may not always mean the absence of pain and suffering. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, it is seeing the presence of our Savior accomplishing His will according to His timetable. *Prayer: In our last hour, dear Savior, help us see You and be at peace. Amen.*

“WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT WE NEED TO BE GOOD STEWARDS OF GOD’S EARTHLY GIFTS, it is sinful to think that we are in full control of preserving this world. It is sinful to fret about the destruction of this world before the Last Day. This world will not run out of natural resources. We will not be wiped out by climate change, a worldwide pandemic, or a meteor shower if and when those things happen. God says that as long as this earth endures—until Judgment Day—seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease. God is in control. God will protect, provide, and preserve this world. Trust in God and see His grace and mercy, especially when sin affects this world. Trust that He gives you what you don’t deserve and more than you could imagine.” *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

MUSIC

ELDERS

ALTAR GUILD

Week of 12/31

Sunday, 9:00 A.M.	Digital Music	Gary Peterson	Jenna Long
Wednesday, 7:00 P.M.	Digital Music	Jim Sleik	Jenna Long

Week of 1/7

Sunday, 9:00 A.M.	TBD	Rob Kuehl & Skip Schoenborn	Debbie Sleik
Wednesday, 7:00 P.M.	Digital Music	Jim Sleik	Debbie Sleik

THIS WEEK AT OUR REDEEMER

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
Sunday (31)	9:00 A.M.	Divine Service
Monday (1)		
Tuesday (2)	6:30 P.M.	Board of Elders
Wednesday (3)	5:30 P.M.	Catechism Vespers
	7:00 P.M.	Divine Service
Thursday (4)	10:00 A.M.	Bible Study
	6:00 P.M.	Men's Group at Pastor's House
Friday (5)		Pastor's Day Off
Saturday (6)	9:00 A.M.	Christmas Decoration Takedown & Church Cleaning
Sunday (7)	9:00 A.M.	Divine Service
	10:30 A.M.	Education Hour

GIVING REPORT & BUDGET UPDATE

There is no Giving Report & Budget Update this week due to this week's bulletin publishing schedule. Up-to-date giving information will be available in next Sunday's bulletin.

ATTENDANCE REPORT

<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>COMMUNION</u>
Sunday, 12/24, 9:00 A.M.	78	59
Sunday, 12/24, 7:00 P.M.	139	N/A
Monday, 12/25, 9:00 A.M.	42	28