



FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
Sunday, 22 December A+D 2024 • 10:00 A.M.



**OUR REDEEMER**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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*Proclaiming Christ Crucified  
in Iron Mountain-Kingsford  
for Over 100 Years*



**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.

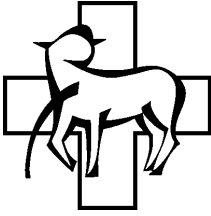
**A WORD TO OUR GUESTS ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION:** In the Sacrament of the Altar, our Lord Jesus Christ gives us His very Body and Blood to eat and drink. Receiving the Sacrament is not merely a matter between God and the person, but a “communion,” something done in “community.” It is a public confession 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?”)

**Our Redeemer is a congregation of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.  
To learn more about The LCMS, visit [www.lcms.org](http://www.lcms.org).**



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*Lutheran Service Book,*  
**Divine Service, Setting Three, pg. 184**

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## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**HYMN OF INVOCATION**

*“O Little Town of Bethlehem” LSB 361*

*Stand*

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

*LSB 184*

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

**INTROIT**

*1 Samuel 2:1b, 2, 5b–7; antiphon: Luke 1:46b–47*



My soul magni- | fies the Lord,\*  
and my spirit rejoices in God my | Savior.

**My mouth derides my | enemies,\***  
**because I rejoice in your sal- | vation.**

There is none holy | like the LORD;\*  
there is none besides you; there is no rock | like our God.

**The barren has borne | seven,\***  
**but she who has many children | is forlorn.**

The LORD kills and | brings to life;\*  
he brings down to Sheol and | raises up.

**The LORD makes poor and | makes rich;\***  
**he brings low and | he exalts.**



**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.

My soul magni- | fies the Lord,\*  
and my spirit rejoices in God my | Savior.

**KYRIE**

*LSB 186*

*The Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during Advent in anticipation of Christmas.*

**SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY***LSB 189*

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*Sit***OLD TESTAMENT READING***Micah 5:2-5a*

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
 who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,  
 from you shall come forth for me  
 one who is to be ruler in Israel,  
 whose origin is from of old,  
 from ancient days.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
 when she who is in labor has given birth;  
 then the rest of his brothers shall return  
 to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
 in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.  
 And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great  
 to the ends of the earth.

<sup>5</sup> And he shall be their peace.

**GRADUAL***Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.*

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.\*  
 Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.  
**Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;\***  
**righteous and having sal- | vation.**  
**Blessed is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.\***  
**From the house of the Lord we | bless you.**

**EPISTLE***Hebrews 10:5-10*

<sup>5</sup> When Christ came into the world, he said,

“Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,  
 but a body have you prepared for me;

<sup>6</sup> in burnt offerings and sin offerings  
 you have taken no pleasure.

<sup>7</sup> Then I said, ‘Behold, I have come to do your will, O God,  
 as it is written of me in the scroll of the book.’”

<sup>8</sup> When he said above, “You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings” (these are offered according to the law),  
<sup>9</sup> then he added, “Behold, I have come to do your will.” He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. <sup>10</sup> And by that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

*Stand*

**ALLELUIA and VERSE***LSB 190; Matthew 1:23a*

Alleluia. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and | bear a son,\*  
and they shall call his name Immanuel. Alle- | luia.

**HOLY GOSPEL***Luke 1:39-56*

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah,  
<sup>40</sup>and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>And when Elizabeth  
heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with  
the Holy Spirit, <sup>42</sup>and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup>And why is this granted to me that the mother of  
my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup>For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my  
ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there  
would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

<sup>46</sup>And Mary said,

“My soul magnifies the Lord,

<sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

<sup>48</sup>for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed;

<sup>49</sup>for he who is mighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his name.

<sup>50</sup>And his mercy is for those who fear him  
from generation to generation.

<sup>51</sup>He has shown strength with his arm;  
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

<sup>52</sup>he has brought down the mighty from their thrones  
and exalted those of humble estate;

<sup>53</sup>he has filled the hungry with good things,  
and the rich he has sent empty away.

<sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel,  
in remembrance of his mercy,

<sup>55</sup>as he spoke to our fathers,  
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

<sup>56</sup>And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

**APOSTLES' CREED***LSB 192**Sit***HYMN OF THE DAY***“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” LSB 357***SERMON***“Together with Mary, Let Us Magnify the Lord” Luke 1:39-56**Stand***OFFERTORY***LSB 192**Sit***OFFERING***Stand*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*Each petition ends with:*

- P** Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** hear our prayer.

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE	LSB 194
SANCTUS	LSB 195
LORD'S PRAYER	LSB 196
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD	LSB 197
PAX DOMINI	LSB 197
AGNUS DEI	LSB 198

*Sit*

### DISTRIBUTION

*Guests are asked to please read "A Word to Our Guests About Holy Communion" on page 2 of this week's bulletin.*

*Those who are communing are encouraged to prepare themselves using "Preparing for the Sacrament of the Altar" on page 2 of the bulletin.*

*The Lord's Supper is distributed at the altar rail. Each table is dismissed with the following blessing:*

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.  
**C** Amen.

### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

*"Once in Royal David's City" LSB 376*  
*"O Bless the Lord, My Soul" LSB 814*  
*"What Hope! An Eden Prophesied" LSB 342*

*Stand*

NUNC DIMITTIS	LSB 199
THANKSGIVING	LSB 200
SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS	LSB 201
BENEDICTION	LSB 202
HYMN TO DEPART	<i>"It Came upon the Midnight Clear" LSB 366</i>

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## NEWS & NOTES

**POINSETTIA YOUTH GROUP SALE THIS MORNING:** The Youth Group once again is selling poinsettias this holiday season. \$20 per poinsettia with the option to take home or have it placed in front of the Sanctuary. Thank you for your support!

**OUR CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** is today at 4:00 P.M. Come hear our Sunday School children sing the joyful message of Jesus' birth. Following the program, we'll have a "Birthday Party for Jesus" with cake and fun activities for everyone.

**CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT LESSONS AND CAROLS** will be on Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. **CHRISTMAS DAY DIVINE SERVICE** will be on Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 A.M. Worship Christ, the newborn King!

**THERE WILL BE NO 7:00 P.M. MIDWEEK DIVINE SERVICE** on either Wednesday, December 25<sup>th</sup> or Wednesday, January 1<sup>st</sup>. We will resume Midweek Divine Service at 7:00 P.M. on Wednesday, January 8<sup>th</sup>. Starting then, our Midweek Services will be distinct services from our Sunday services, so EVERYONE is urged to attend!

**THERE IS NO BIBLE STUDY** on Thursday, December 26<sup>th</sup>.

**THERE IS NO EDUCATION HOUR** on Sunday, December 29<sup>th</sup>.

**THANK YOU TO ALL** who brought in toys for the "Toys For Tots" ingathering!

**"MERRY CHRISTMAS!** And may the certainty of God's love for you in Jesus Christ give you strength, comfort, and confidence this day to face whatever comes tomorrow. For, nothing can overpower the persevering power and blessing of Christmas." *Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

**LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH YEAR – Advent 4:** Whether the hamlet of Bethlehem (Micah 5:2) or gestating babies (Luke 1:41-44), the God of Christmas loves to elevate what seems insignificant. Indeed, the heart of the Gospel consists in exalting those of humble estate (Luke 1:52). Rejoicing in the Lord who creates, redeems, and calls regardless of size, skills, or circumstances, the sanctity of life delights to declare nothing less!

**STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS:** *Luke 1:45 – "And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."* The Lord always fulfills what He promises. We can be certain of that, and He has proven it over and over again. This faith in the Lord's own faithfulness is what gives us the courage to follow the Lord's commands in the face of the world's anger and resistance, just as it gave Mary the courage to carry on in her seemingly embarrassed circumstances.

## SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE

	<u>MUSIC</u>	<u>ELDERS</u>	<u>ALTAR GUILD</u>	<u>FELLOWSHIP</u>
<i>Week of 12/22</i>				
Sun., 10:00 A.M.	Bruce Rasmussen Gsus Singers	Rob Kuehl Jim Reed	Jenna Long	NEEDED
Tues., 7:00 P.M.	Bruce Rasmussen	Jim Reed	Jenna Long	N/A
Weds., 10:00 A.M.	Bruce Rasmussen	Jim Sleik	Jenna Long	N/A
<i>Week of 12/29</i>				
Sun., 10:00 A.M.	Bruce Rasmussen	Rob Kuehl Bradley Linsmeyer	Sue Rochon	Youth Group
Weds., 7:00 P.M.	*** NO MIDWEEK SERVICE ***			

## THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>
Sunday (22)	8:45 A.M.	Education Hour
	10:00 A.M.	Divine Service
	11:30 A.M.	Coffee & Fellowship
Monday (23)		
Tuesday (24)	7:00 P.M.	Christmas Eve Candlelight Lessons and Carols
Wednesday (25)	10:00 A.M.	Christmas Day Divine Service
Thursday (26)		<i>No Bible Study</i>
Friday (27)		<i>Pastor's Day Off</i>
Saturday (28)		
Sunday (29)	10:00 A.M.	Divine Service
	11:30 A.M.	Coffee & Fellowship

## NOVEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT

	<u>NOVEMBER</u>	<u>YEAR-TO-DATE</u>
Receipts:	\$16,088.74	\$189,220.42
Expenses:	\$13,647.02	\$214,487.37
<b>Difference:</b>	<b>+\$2,441.72</b>	<b>-\$26,266.95</b>

*This report represents raw monthly and year-to-date receipt/expense data ("money-in"/"money-out"), including expenses for which funds were reserved from memorials and designated gifts.*

## ATTENDANCE REPORT

<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>COMMUNION</u>
Sun., Dec. 15 <sup>th</sup> , 10:00 A.M.	96	67
Weds., Dec. 18 <sup>th</sup> , 7:00 P.M.	19	N/A