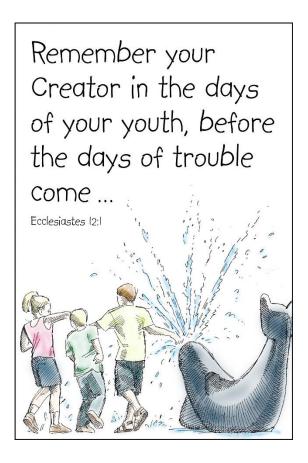
REDEMPTION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

New Years Eve





Member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

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Pre-Service Meditation:

Luke 12:36 ³⁶ "And be like men who are waiting for their master when he returns from the wedding feast, so that they may immediately open *the door* to him when he comes and knocks.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, Make us a people prepared. Send us Your Holy Spirit that we might always be ready to greet our Lord in eternity. Let this hope be in us that was also with all Your people: Salvation comes through our Savior Jesus. Through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit forevermore, Amen.

Service of the Word

Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn TLH 111 Thou Who Roll'st the Year Around

Confession and Absolution

WS pg 22

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

C: Amen.

P: God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C: If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P: Let us pray.

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

P: Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. We are forgiven. With boldness and confidence, we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit.

Collect of the Day

P: Let us pray. . .for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Hymn Response:

WS 798 God We Praise You

1 God, we praise You, God, we bless You! God, we name You sov'reign Lord! Mighty King whom angels worship, Father, by Your Church adored: All creation shows Your glory; Heav'n and earth draw near Your throne, Singing, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord of hosts and God alone!"

2 True apostles, faithful prophets, Saints who set their world ablaze, Martyrs, once unknown, unheeded, Join one growing song of praise, While Your Church on earth confesses One majestic Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God, our hope eternally.

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 30:8-17

And now, go, write it before them on a tablet and inscribe it in a book, that it may be for the time to come as a witness forever. 9 For they are a rebellious people, lying children, children unwilling to hear the instruction of the LORD; ¹⁰ who say to the seers, "Do not see," and to the prophets, "Do not prophesy to us what is right; speak to us smooth things, prophesy illusions, 11 leave the way, turn aside from the path, let us hear no more about the Holy One of Israel." 12 Therefore thus says the Holy One of Israel, "Because you despise this word and trust in oppression and perverseness and rely on them, 13 therefore this iniquity shall be to you like a breach in a high wall, bulging out and about to collapse, whose breaking comes suddenly, in an instant; ¹⁴ and its breaking is like that of a potter's vessel that is smashed so ruthlessly that among its fragments not a shard is found with which to take fire from the hearth, or to dip up water out of the cistern." 15 For thus said the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel, "In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength." But you were unwilling, 16 and you said, "No! We will flee upon horses"; therefore you shall flee away; and, "We will ride upon swift steeds"; therefore your pursuers shall be swift. ¹⁷ A thousand shall flee at the threat of one; at the

threat of five you shall flee, till you are left like a flagstaff on the top of a mountain, like a signal on a hill.

Responsive Psalm:

Psalm 90

P: For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed.

C: You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.

P: For all our days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

C: The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.

P: Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you?

C: So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.

P: Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Epistle Lesson

Romans 8:31b-39

If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died-- more than that, who was raised-- who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor

height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gospel Lesson

Luke 12:35-40 (NASB)

"Be dressed in readiness, and *keep* your lamps alight. ³⁶ "And be like men who are waiting for their master when he returns from the wedding feast, so that they may immediately open *the door* to him when he comes and knocks. ³⁷ "Blessed are those slaves whom the master shall find on the alert when he comes; truly I say to you, that he will gird himself *to serve*, and have them recline *at the table*, and will come up and wait on them. ³⁸ "Whether he comes in the second watch, or even in the third, and finds *them* so, blessed are those *slaves*. ³⁹ "And be sure of this, that if the head of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have allowed his house to be broken into. ⁴⁰ "You too, be ready; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour that you do not expect."

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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father
Almighty.
From there He will come to judge the

From there 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.

Hymn WS 716 Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year

Sermon **Ecclesiastes 12 (selected verses)** Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples 3 and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" 4 And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: 5 the 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. 6 And blessed is the one who is not offended by me." 7 As 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? 8 What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. 9 What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. 10 This is he of whom it is written, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.' 11 Truly, 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.

The Time To Know Your Savior is Now

Create in Me

Hymn Response:

WS 798 God We Praise You

3 Jesus Christ, the King of glory, Everlasting Son of God, Humble was Your virgin mother, Hard the lonely path You trod: By Your cross is sin defeated, Hell confronted face to face, Heaven opened to believers, Sinners justified by grace.

4 Christ, at God's right hand victorious, You will judge the world You made; Lord, in mercy help Your servants For whose freedom You have paid: Raise us up from dust to glory; Guard us from all sin today. King enthroned above all praises, Save Your people, God, we pray.

Hymn

TLH 114 Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love

Offering

Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

C Amen.

Hymn

TLH 112 To God the Anthem Raising

Acknowledgments

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WELCOME To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world.

If you are looking for a church home or would like to know more about our beliefs and practices, please see the pastor. He will be glad to visit with you at your convenience. Be sure to join us again.

Announcements

Upcoming Events:

- **<u>Bible Class:</u>** We will be picking up where we left off with our Bible Class series on January 28th.
- Spaghetti Dinner: Sunday, January 14th, the Home-ec class would like to prepare a spaghetti dinner after church for everyone who wishes to attend. The service times for Redemption and Ascension will be switched for this.
- <u>Pastor Out of Town:</u> Lord willing, after church today, the pastor is
 planning on flying out to visit family and will be out of town the
 next week. If you need anything reach out to a council member, or
 if an emergency, call the pastor at 507-329-2641.

- Home-EC Meal: All are invited to a spaghetti dinner put on by the Home-EC class after church on January 14th. Please see the flyer on the bulletin board in the narthex for details.
- <u>Service Changes:</u> January 14th and January 21st, our regular service time will change from 9am to 11:30am. The 21st will be a voters meeting.

CALL NEWS:

- Pastor Thomas Schuetze of St. Paul's Lutheran of Lakewood, CO has received the call from St. Peter's Lutheran of Iron River, MI and Calvary Lutheran of Marquette, MI
- Pastor Aaron Ude of Good Shepherd Lutheran in Rapid City, SD, has received the call from Immanuel Lutheran in Mankato, MN

Upcoming Schedule:

Wed. Dec. 24th Children's Christmas Eve Service at 5 PM Sunday Dec. 31st Redemption Sunday Service at 9 Sunday Jan. 7th Redemption Sunday Service at 9