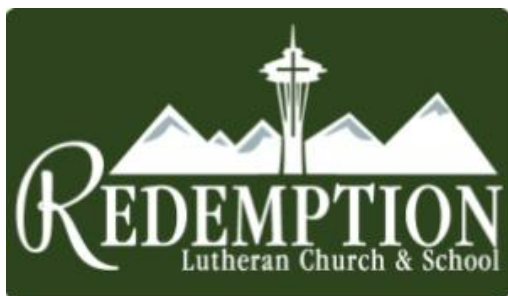


REDEMPTION LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE



LUKE 2:11, ESV



Member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

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Pre-Service Meditation:

John 18:37 ³⁷ Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world-- to bear witness to the truth.

Prayer: Dear Lord Jesus, our precious Savior, Reveal to us, this Christmas Celebration, the reason why You came into this world. While our attention is pulled to and fro, guide us to see the truth You have revealed in Scripture. The truth that You came into this world, not to establish an earthly kingdom, but to give Your perfect life for sinners, of whom I am chief. Lord, be with us as we celebrate Your birth and the beginning of our salvation. Through Your holy name, even as You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, One God, world without end. Amen.

Prayer & Invocation

Soloist:

A Cradle in Bethlehem

Children:

Away in the Manger

Hymn:

WS 709 God Loves Me Dearly

P: In the beginning was the Word,

C: And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

P: He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him,

C: And without Him nothing was made that was made.

P: In Him was life,

C: And the life was the light of men.

TLH 87 Joy to the World vs 1-2

P: Death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam,

C: Who is a type of Him who was to come.

P: Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation,

C: Even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life.

P: For when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son,

C: Born of a woman, born under the law,

P: To redeem those who were under the law,

C: That we might receive the adoption as sons.

TLH 87 Joy to the World vs 3-4

P: Let this mind be in you,

C: Which was also in Christ Jesus,

P: Who, being in the form of God,

C: Did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,

P: But made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant,

C: And coming in the likeness of men.

P: And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself

C: And became obedient to the point of death, Even the death of the cross.

P: For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor,

C: That you through His poverty might become rich.

Hymn: TLH 94 Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Scripture Reading:

Luke 2

Rachael Penwell: And it came to pass in those days *that* a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. ³ So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. ⁴ Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. ⁶ So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. ⁷ And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Islay Higgins: ⁸ Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.

Olive Higgins: ¹⁰ Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. ¹¹ "For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Alex Penwell: ¹² "And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" ¹⁵ So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. ¹⁷ Now when they had seen *Him*, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child. ¹⁸ And all those who heard *it* marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds. ¹⁹ But Mary kept all these things and pondered *them* in her heart. ²⁰ Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.

Hymn: **TLH 97 Let Us All With Gladsome Voice**

Scripture Reading: **Matthew 1:18-25**

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: ²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the

Lord commanded him: he took his wife,²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Hymn: LSB 378 Break Forth O Beauteous Heav'nly Light

Sermon: **John 18:37b**

³⁷ Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world-- to bear witness to the truth.

Jesus Came to Give You the Truth

Offertory: TLH 85 vs 13,15

**13 Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,
Prepare a bed, soft, undefiled,
A quiet chamber set apart
For You to dwell within my heart.**

**15 Glory to God in highest heav'n,
Who unto us His Son has giv'n!
While angels sing with pious mirth
A glad new year to all the earth.**

Hymn: WS 715 Where Shepherds Lately Kneled

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Rachael Penwell

Oh Come All Ye Faithful

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

**C: 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**

Benediction

C Amen.

Children:

Angels From the Realms of Glory

Silent Prayer

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.

Upcoming Events:

- **Lay Service:** I'll be out of town visiting family starting Tuesday, December 30th. We will have a lay-service on January 5th.

Upcoming Schedule:

Sunday, December 28th Redemption Sunday Service at 9

Sunday, January 5th Redemption Sunday Service at 9

Sunday, January 12th Redemption Communion Service at 9

