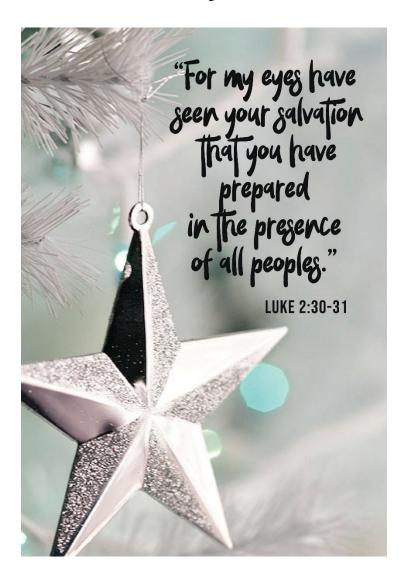
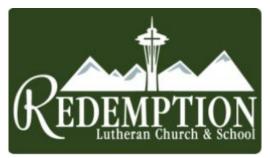
# REDEMPTION LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Third Sunday in Advenc





#### Member of the Church of the Lutheran Confession

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#### **Pre-Service Meditation:**

**Luke 2:29-30** <sup>29</sup> "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; <sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation

**Prayer:** Dear Lord of all comfort, You came to bring peace to your people and salvation to the world. Simeon gazed upon the face of Your salvation, our Savior Jesus, and found a peace unlike any other. Grant us that peace as we gaze upon the fulfillment of all Your promises this Advent season. Prepare us for whate'er trials and sorrows that lay before us; be it life or death, sickness or health – knowing that Your peace carries us to the end. Through Your saving name, even as You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### Opening: TLH 139 In His Temple Now Behold Him

#### **Confession and Absolution:**

**P**: Dearly beloved! We have come together today to thank God for His Gift of love which He presented to the world in the person of His Son Jesus Christ, born at Bethlehem as our Savior. We also want to prepare ourselves for Jesus' Second Coming into the world on the Last Day. Oh, come let us worship Him! Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker! As we come into God's presence to worship and hear His Word, let us also join in making confession of our sins and then receive forgiveness from God's abundant mercy.

C: Almighty God, merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed the devices and desires of our hearts. We have offended against Your holy Law. We have done those things which we should not have done. We have left undone those things which we should have done. Have mercy on us, O Lord! Spare us and restore us according to the promises You have declared to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and returning Lord. Amen.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven you all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His beloved child. Children of God, your sins are forgiven you. Go and sin no more.

C: Amen.

☐ Hosanna to the living Lord! Hosanna to the Incarnate Word! To Christ, Creator, Savior, King, Let earth, let heaven, hosanna sing.

### The Responsory

**P**: Behold, your King is coming to you.

C: "For where two or three are gathered together in My name, there I am in the midst of them."

**P**: "If anyone loves me He will keep My Word and My Father will love him,

**G**: And We will come to him and make Our home with him."

**P**: Behold, He shall come, says the LORD of Hosts.

O Savior with protecting care Abide in this Your house of prayer, Where we Your parting promise claim, Assembled in Your holy Name.

- P: Behold, your King is coming to you. Even the Messenger of the Covenant, Whom you delight in,
- **©**: For we have been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief Cornerstone,
- **P**: In Whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord,
- **C**: In whom we also are being built together for a habitation of God in the Spirit.
- **P**: Behold, He shall come, says the LORD of Hosts.

O Advent King, our sins forgive; Come in our lives and hearts to live, And let our humble souls become A temple worthy of Your name.

- **P**: Behold, your King is coming to you.
- **G**: All things were made by Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.
- **P**: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.
- **C**: And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace.
- **P**: Behold, He shall come, says the LORD of Hosts.

So in the last and dreadful Day, When earth and heaven shall melt away, Thy flock, redeemed from sinful stain, Shall swell the sound of praise again.

## **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **And also with you.**
- Let us pray... Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to joy. Lift up our heads from the dust and adorn us with Your righteousness, that we may rejoice and testify that our Lord has come; for He lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

#### **Old Testament Lesson**

Isaiah 9:2-7

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. <sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. <sup>4</sup> For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup> For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup> For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup> Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

#### **Epistle Lesson:**

James 5:7-11

<sup>7</sup> Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup> You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup> Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged;

behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup> As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

#### **Confession of Faith:**

**Nicene Creed** 

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn: TLH 106 The People That in Darkness Sat vs 1-6

Sermon Luke 2:25-32

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup> And it had been revealed

to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. <sup>27</sup> And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup> he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, <sup>29</sup> "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; <sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation <sup>31</sup> that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, <sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

## Simeon's Song: Amazing Peace

Offertory: TLH 73 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Redeemer, come! I open wide My heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide! Let me Thy inner presence feel, Thy grace and love in me reveal; Thy Holy Spirit guide us on Until our glorious goal is won. Eternal praise and fame We offer to Thy name.

Hymn: TLH 96 Oh, Rejoice, Ye Christians, Loudly

#### Offering of Thankful Hearts

#### Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

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

### Order of the Sacrament

- **P** The Lord be with you
- **C** And also with you

P Lift up your hearts

#### **C** We lift them up to the Lord

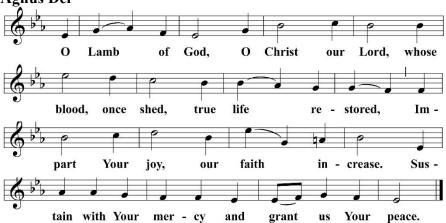
P It is truly right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God...Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

#### **Sanctus**



#### **Words of Institution**

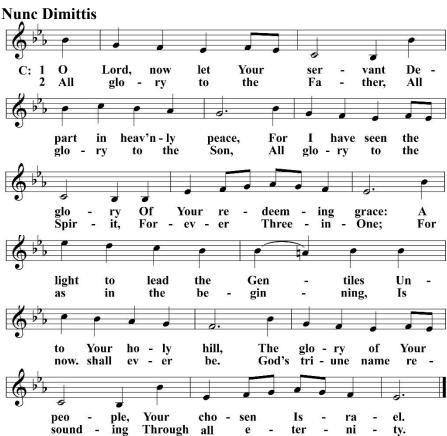
### **Agnus Dei**



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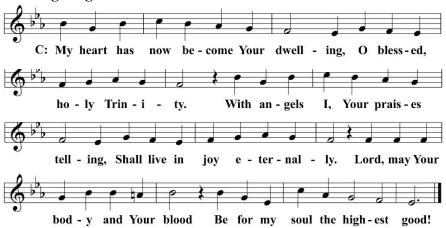
#### **Note on Communion:**

The Bible tells us to be "perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment." One way that unity is expressed is by communing together. For that reason, we ask that anyone who has not established this unity through membership in a CLC congregation, speak with the pastor or one of the Elders before coming to the Lord's Table. We hold this position in loving obedience to the Word of God. This is by no means a judgment of anyone's Christian faith, sincerity, or standing before God.



**P**: Go in peace. Serve the Lord in Gladness

#### **Thanksgiving**



#### Benediction

C Amen.

Hymn:

LSB 763 When Peace Like a River

#### Silent Prayer

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## **Announcements**

<u>WELCOME</u> 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:**

- Special Services Upcoming: Advent Candlelight Service Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm; Christmas Eve Service Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> (time TBD).
- <u>Vacation Bible School:</u> Our Christmas VBS is scheduled for Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 9am-12:30pm. We are in need of volunteers. If you are interested in helping, please speak to Lori-Jo or myself. Registration is now available on the website.
- Advent: Next Sunday we continue our study on the songs of Advent. Simeon's Song: Amazing Peace.

#### **Call News:**

- Pastor Johnathan Schnose of Bethel Lutheran in Morris, MN is considering the call to Living Hope Lutheran Church, Appleton, WI.
- Pastor Ben Libby of Redeemer Lutheran in Cheyenne, WY is considering the call to Messiah Lutheran in Eau Claire, WI;
   Pastor Libby is also considering the call to Holy Cross Lutheran in Phoenix, AZ
- Pastor Emeritus David Schierenbeck (current vacancy pastor at Our Redeemer's Lutheran in Red Wing, MN) is considering the call to serve as Assistant to the Pastor at Berea Lutheran in Inver Grove Heights, MN
- Pastor Terrel Kesterson of Ascension Lutheran Church in Batavia, IL is considering the call to be part-time pastor at Our Redeemer's in Red Wing, MN
- Pastor Emeritus Michael Eichstadt has accepted the vacancy call to Holy Cross Lutheran in Phoenix, AZ

### **Around the CLC:**

- National Women's Retreat Coming in January!
  - What: Press Pause for the National Women's (Virtual) Retreat
  - When: Saturday, Jan. 31, 2026 // 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
     (PT)
  - How: Join us virtually via Zoom
  - Register now: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/PressPause26">https://tinyurl.com/PressPause26</a>
  - Cost: It's Free!
- The Branches Subscription Renewal: Renewal information for The Branches magazine are available on the table in the narthex. The deadline for renewals (or new subscriptions) is December 15<sup>th</sup>.

**2026 CLC Mission Helper Trip:** The CLC Mission Helper Program is making preparations for another Mission Trip to Africa for the summer of 2026. The main focus of this trip will be presenting the Gospel, through a series of child evangelism lessons, to member and non-member children in village congregations. Possible areas of evangelism include the CLC–Tanzania, CLC–Kenya, CLC–Zambia, and CLC-Uganda. CLC members are welcome and encouraged to apply. For more information and to apply, visit www.mht.lutheranmissions.org.

## **Upcoming Schedule:**

Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> Advent Candlelight Service at 7:00 pm Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> Redemption Sunday Service at 9 Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Eve Service at 4:00 pm