



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

1515 Boundary St. • Newberry, SC 29108 • (803) 276-2003 • www.redeemernewberry.org

December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent

10:30 am

+ GATHERING +

PRELUDES

The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came

Paul Manz

Savior of the Nations, Come

Michael Burkhardt

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Charles Callahan

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

<We stand.>

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who opens the heavens and draws near to us with salvation.

Amen.

God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance. Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

<We kneel.>

Everlasting God,

you love justice and hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world.

Amen.

<We stand.>

Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all.

Amen.

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

ELW page 139

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together. God of restoration,
you brought your people home from exile and in their joy they rebuilt your temple. Deliver us from our personal and communal exiles, and help us to build up your church. Amen.

<We sit.>

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* ELW 257

Let us pray...

O God, the reality of your coming fills us with hope today. As we enter the third week of Advent, and as we witness the lighting of the first, second, and third candles, empower us to be living signs of your love in our homes, our schools, our places of work, and our communities. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

+ WORD +

READINGS

Ezra 1:1-4; 3:1-4, 10-13

Pew Bible pg. 366

<At the conclusion of the reading>

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

LIL' LUTHERAN TALK

<We stand.>

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke
Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 2:25-32

Pew Bible pg. 833

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

<We sit.>

SERMON

Pastor Matthew Titus

<We stand.>

NICENE CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father;
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**He came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

<We kneel.>

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*Each prayer petition will end with "Merciful God.." and the response is "receive our prayer."
At the conclusion of the prayers, we respond with "Amen."*

<We stand.>

SHARING OF THE PEACE

You are invited to share the peace however you and those around you are comfortable.

<We sit.>

RECEPTION OF THE OFFERING

ANTHEM

We Wait For Thee

Victor Johnson

+ MEAL +

<We stand.>

OFFERTORY HYMN

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW 182

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray,..... Through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

ELW pg. 144

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise... *Here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding...* we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray...

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.

INVITATION TO THE MEAL

In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together. Come, take your place at the table.

<We sit.>

COMMUNION

Participation in Holy Communion is open to all the baptized of this and other Christian congregations. We come in faith that Christ is truly present in, with, and under the bread and the wine. We receive this gift knowing that we are forgiven and are nourished to be sent to proclaim God's love to the world. You are invited to come to the altar to receive the bread and wine. You may dip the bread into the chalice of wine. If you are not able, the meal will be brought to you in your pew. A gluten-free wafer is available, upon request, for those who need it.

<We stand.>

THE TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
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POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray ... brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

+ SENDING +

SUNG BLESSING

In the name of the Father.

In the name of the Father.

In the name of the Son.

In the name of the Son.

In the name of the Spirit.

In the name of the Spirit.

The Three-in-One.

The Three-in-One.

May the Lord bless and keep you.

May the Lord bless and keep you.

May God's face shine upon you.

May God's face shine upon you.

May God's blessings be with you.

May God's blessings be with you.

And give you peace.

And give you peace.

SENDING HYMN

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW 264

<Please turn and face the rear of the nave.>

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Prepare the Royal Highway

Michael Burkhardt

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Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

Worship Leadership

Worship Leader	Pastor Matthew Titus
Worship Assistant	Robbie Kopp
Acolyte	Griffin Long
Crucifer	Olivia West
Choir Director	Nicholas Shumate
Organist	Dr. Huger Caughman, Jr.
Youth Director	Aubrey Guyton
Video	Matt Bowers
Audio	Annette Belcher or Rebecca Sexton
Communion Prep	Polly Davis and Susan Hayes

Announcements

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Jane Riggin, Tom Riggin, Manning Dukes, and Tony Chapman by Kathy Riggin.

Communion Assistant and Readers - If you would like to be included in the Communion Assistant/Reader list for 2024, please send a message to PM. The new list will be sent out in January of 2024. Thank you!

Christmas Eve Service - will be held at 5:00 pm on Christmas Eve, December 24.

A wonderful thank-you to all who have participated in our Angel Tree ministry this year! if you have not turned in your - unwrapped - presents, please do so by Sunday! Thank you! If you need help or more information, please contact Clint Harshaw.

ELCA Good Gifts - We will again participate in the ELCA's Good Gifts Fair throughout the seasons of Advent and Christmas. More information soon!

The Season of Advent is upon us at Redeemer and around the world, with that we will once more host our Holden Evening Prayer services during the Sundays of Advent at 7:00 pm in the sanctuary. All are welcome to come and be a part of these brief, but powerful services of prayer and music.

GAAP is in need of donations of hams or small turkeys to be used in holiday meal boxes for people in our community. Please drop your donations off at the church office so that they can be placed in the freezer in the FLC. For more information, please contact Kevin Dove.

Redeemer has been helping quite a bit on the **THIRD** Saturday of each month, you are all welcome to come volunteer every Saturday, but especially **SATURDAY**, January 20, don't hesitate to get in touch with Kevin Dove or the church office for more information.

Flower Chart - The 2024 Flower Chart is in the Narthex. Members and friends are encouraged to sign up for a Sunday. You may sign up on the chart or contact the church office to reserve a particular date.

January 2024 Newsletter - If you would like information put into the January 2024 newsletter, please submit that information by next week. Thank you!

Prayer & Care Card Class meets every Monday afternoon from 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm in Room 212 to craft beautiful cards. These cards are sent to those who are celebrating significant events in their lives and to share our love and concern with those who are experiencing sickness, grief, or sorrow in their lives. No experience is necessary and all are invited to participate.

You can always donate food to Manna House by placing those items in the shopping carts in the narthex or outside the church office. Thank you!

The next quarter of 'Christ in Our Home' devotionals are available in the narthex!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 17 - DECEMBER 23

Today	9:30 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship
	5:15 pm	Youth meets in Youth Hall
	7:00 pm	Holden Evening Prayer Service - Church
Monday	2:30 pm-4:30 pm	Prayer and Care Card Class - Room 212
	All Day	Member Reservation - FLC
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Sistercare
Wednesday	6:30 pm	Handbell Choir - McCullough Music Ministry Room
	7:30 pm	Senior Choir - McCullough Music Ministry Room
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		

Attendance for December 10, 2023

Sunday School	26
In-Person	102
Online	91
Total	193

Offering Last Sunday:
Needed Weekly - \$6,000.00
Received 12-10-23 - \$4,313.64