



# THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

1515 Boundary St. • Newberry, SC 29108 • (803) 276-2003 • [www.redeemernewberry.org](http://www.redeemernewberry.org)

## THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Sunday, December 24, 2023

5:00 pm



## PRELUDES

*Of the Father's Love Begotten*  
*Once in Royal David's City*  
*Greensleeves*  
*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*  
*Still, Still, Still*

Wilbur Held  
Robert Bucklee Farley  
Richard Purvis  
David Cherwein  
Paul Manz



## ✠ GATHERING ✠

*<We stand.>*

**ENTRANCE HYMN**

**O Come All Ye Faithful**

**See Insert**

## **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

**Amen. Thanks be to God!**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray together...

**Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**Amen.**

*<We sit.>*

**HANDBELL CHOIR**

**He is Born**

**Derek K. Hakes**

## ✠ WORD ✠

### THE FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 9:2-7

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep dark-  
ness—

on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied exultation;  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on  
the day of Midian.

<sup>5</sup> For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup> For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders,  
and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> Great will be his authority,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

### ANTHEM

**Ah, Dearest Jesu, Holy Child**

**Robert Wetzler**

### THE SECOND LESSON

TITUS 2:11-14

<sup>11</sup> For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, <sup>12</sup> training us to re-  
nounce impiety and worldly passions and in the present age to live lives that are  
self-controlled, upright, and godly, <sup>13</sup> while we wait for the blessed hope and the  
manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup> He it is who  
gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for him-  
self a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

<We stand.>

### GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

**Once in Royal David's City  
vs. 1 & 2**

**See Insert**

## GOSPEL

## LUKE 2:1-20

The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord!**

<sup>2</sup> In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup> This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup> All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup> Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup> He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

<sup>8</sup> Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup> to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, <sup>19</sup> and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ!**

<We sit.>

**GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL**

**Once in Royal David's City  
vs. 3 & 4**

**See Insert**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**AS THE CHILDREN COME FORWARD**

**Away in a Manger**

*verse 1*

**See Insert**

**AS THE CHILDREN RETURN TO THEIR SEATS**

**Away in a Manger**

*verse 3*

**SERMON**

“Now, All is Well.”

Rev. Matthew Titus

*<We stand.>*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

**See Insert**

**NICENE CREED**

Let us confess our faith with the words of the Nicene Creed.

**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 petition will end with ‘hear us, O God.’ the appropriate response is ‘your mercy is great.’*

*<We stand.>*

## THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also, with you.**

*We greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say,*

*"Peace be with you," or similar words.*

*<We sit.>*

## ANTHEM

**Let Our Gladness Banish Sadness**

**Michael Burkhardt**

*<We stand.>*

✠ MEAL ✠

## OFFERTORY HYMNN

**What Child is This?**

*See insert*

**Vs. 3**

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray

God of Abundance,  
receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

**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

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.

And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, 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.

## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy one, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the shadow and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was handed over, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **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 COMMUNION**

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace.

*<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.*

### **ANTHEM**

### **O Holy Night**

**Adolphe Adam**

*<We stand.>*

*Nicholas Todd Shumate, Soloist*



## THE TABLE BLESSING

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

**Amen.**



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.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## The Candle Lighting Service

*After the communion blessing the lights in the church are extinguished. The pastor, taking a candle, lights it from the candle which symbolizes Christ, the light of the world.*

*Then the minister says:*

The light shines in the darkness and the darkness will not overtake it.

**The darkness will never overtake it.**

*The pastor gives light to the ushers; they in turn give light to the first worshiper in each pew, who passes it on. For safety's sake, when sharing the light with another, **the lighted candle is always held upright.***

*A short reading will be read as the candles are being lit.  
After all candles are lighted, the service continues.*

**CANDLELIGHT HYMN**

**Silent Night, Holy Night**

**See Insert**

**✝ SENDING ✝**

**SUNG BLESSING**

In the name of the Father.

May the Lord bless and keep you.

**In the name of the Father.**

**May the Lord bless and keep you.**

In the name of the Son.

May God's face shine upon you.

**In the name of the Son.**

**May God's face shine upon you.**

In the name of the Spirit.

May God's blessings be with you.

**In the name of the Spirit.**

**May God's blessings be with you.**

The Three-in-One.

And give you peace.

**The Three-in-One.**

**And give you peace.**

**SENDING HYMN**

**Angels We Have Heard on High**

**See Insert**

**DISMISSAL**

Glory to God in the highest!

**Peace to God's people on earth!**

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim this good news!

**Thanks be to God!**

**POSTLUDE**

*Joy to the World*

David Cherwein

From SundaysandSeasons.com Copyright 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #37621

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from  
ONE LICENSE, License #A-732118

## **Worship Leadership**

<b>Worship Leader</b>	Reverend Matthew B. Titus
<b>Worship Assistant</b>	Robert Kneece
<b>Choir Director</b>	Nicholas Todd Shumate
<b>Organist</b>	Dr. Huger Caughman, Jr.
<b>Youth Director</b>	Aubrey Guyton
<b>Crucifer</b>	Ashleigh Titus
<b>Acolyte</b>	Gavin Garner
<b>Bible Bearer</b>	Thomas Boozer
<b>Torch Bearers</b>	McKenzie Garner, Adam Boozer
<b>Banner Bearer</b>	Lawson Bannister
<b>Flute</b>	Kevin Dove
<b>Soloists</b>	Alanna Boozer, Kristin Caughman
<b>Video</b>	Matt Bowers
<b>Audio</b>	Rebecca Sexton, Annette Belcher
<b>Ushers</b>	Members of Congregation Council

## **Announcements**

Welcome to Redeemer! We are pleased to have you with us at worship this evening. If you have any questions or need any assistance, just ask!

**The Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Huger Caughman, Jr. and his birthday on December 26th by Huger, Anne, Kristin and Dennis Caughman.

**Merry Christmas!** - As a gift to our office staff, the Church Office will be closed Monday - Wednesday next week. If there is an emergency, please contact Pastor Matt directly.

**Join us for worship** - Every Sunday morning at 10:30 am. We celebrate as we gather to give praise and honor to God and are encouraged to live out God's love for all in the world. Sunday School is offered for all ages beginning at 9:15 am.



# Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.