



# THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

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

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December 31, 2023

First Sunday of Christmas

10:30 am

+ GATHERING +

## PRELUDES

*On Christmas Night*

Michael Burkhardt

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

Neil Harmon

*What Is This Lovely Fragrance*

Paul Manz

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*<We stand.>*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation.

**Amen.**

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

*<We kneel.>*

God of life,

**you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation.**

**Have mercy on us.**

**Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.**

*<We stand.>*

Hear the good news:

We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In † Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with you, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

**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. Heavenly God,  
**When Jesus was baptized by John in the wilderness, you claimed him as your son. Claim us as your children, inheritors of your glorious kingdom. Amen.**

*<We sit.>*

**+ WORD +**

**READING**

**Psalm 91:9-12**

*Pew Bible pg. 477*

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**LIL' LUTHERAN TALK**

*<We stand.>*

The Gospel according to Mark  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Mark 1:1-20**

*Pew Bible pg. 812*

*<At the conclusion of the reading>*

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

*<We sit.>*

**SERMON**

*Pastor Matthew Titus*

*<We stand.>*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**O Little Town of Bethlehem**

**ELW 279**

## **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 "Hear us, O God.." and the response is "Your mercy is great."  
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

*In the Bleak Midwinter*  
*Nicholas Todd Shumate,*  
*soloist*

Gustav Holst, arr. Patrick Liebergen

<We stand.>

**+ MEAL +**

### OFFERTORY HYMN

*Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*

ELW 182

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray,..... 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.**

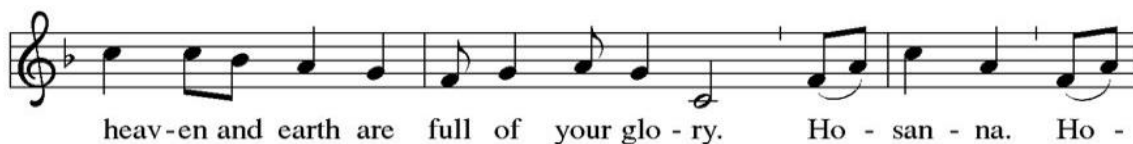
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### PREFACE

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.



**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**

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. 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.**



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



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice 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.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray ... born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**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

### The First Noel

ELW 300

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

### DISMISSAL

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

**Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

*March of the Kings*

George Bizet

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Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

## Worship Leadership

<b>Worship Leader</b>	Pastor Matthew Titus
<b>Worship Assistant</b>	Nikki Chapman
<b>Acolyte</b>	
<b>Crucifer</b>	
<b>Choir Director</b>	Nicholas Todd Shumate
<b>Organist</b>	Dr. Huger Caughman, Jr.
<b>Youth Director</b>	Aubrey Guyton
<b>Video</b>	Matt Bowers
<b>Audio</b>	Annette Belcher or Rebecca Sexton
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Rosemary Dominick

## Announcements

**The Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God for everyone to have a blessed 2024 by Robert and Annette Belcher.

**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!

**There are times that Pastor Matt and Donna** both have to be away from the office at the same time. So as not to leave the office unattended, we are asking for volunteers that will answer the phone and take messages during these times. If you are available and can help out, please let Donna know.

**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.

**Redeemer has been helping GAAP** 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.

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



I wish to thank the congregation for the wonderful celebration of my retirement as music director. All of the gifts, good wishes, Love Offering and expressions of love made me feel really appreciated meant so much to me. I have enjoyed my time as director and now I look forward to being a regular member of the music groups at Redeemer. Thank you again for all of your support.

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, January 1 in observance of New Year's.

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 31 - JANUARY 6, 2024**

Today	9:30 am	Sunday School
	10:30 am	Worship
Monday	OFFICE CLOSED	
Tuesday	6:30 pm	Sistercare
Wednesday	6:00 pm	Handbell Choir - McCullough Music Ministry Room
	7:00 pm	Senior Choir - McCullough Music Ministry Room
Thursday		
Friday		
Saturday		

**Offering Last Sunday:**  
**Needed Weekly - \$6,000.00**  
**Received 12-24-23 - \$7,567.48**

**Attendance for December 24, 2023**

Sunday School	20
In-Person - AM	81
In-Person - Christmas Eve	162
Online - AM	96
Online - Christmas Eve	107
<b>Total - AM</b>	<b>177</b>
<b>Total - Christmas Eve</b>	<b>269</b>
<b>Total - Combined</b>	<b>446</b>