



# THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

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December 14, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

10:30 am

..... ✚ **GATHERING** ✚ .....

## **Voluntaries**

*On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*

Paul Manz

*A Lovely Rose is Blooming*

Johannes Brahms

*Voluntary and Fughette on Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Charles Callahan

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

<We stand.>

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

<We kneel.>

Long-expected God,

**we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake.**

**Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.**

<We stand.>

God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness. ✚ you are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.

**Amen.**

## **GATHERING HYMN**

**Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers**

*ELW Hymn 244*

## **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.**

LIGHTING OF THE  
ADVENT WREATH

O Come, O Come Emmanuel, vs. 3

ELW Hymn 257

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things  
3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on  
4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here  
far and night: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;  
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law  
tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,

un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!  
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.  
and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together. God of restoration, **Save us when we find ourselves spiritually thirsty. Help us walk your road with your purpose, strengthened by your living water. Amen.**

<We sit.>

..... ✝ WORD ✝ .....

READING

Isaiah 55:1-13

Pew Bible page 598

*Hear, everyone who thirsts; come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread and your earnings for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. Now you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the*

*earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle, and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.*

*<At the conclusion of the reading>*

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

## **LIL' LUTHERAN TALK**

*<We stand.>*

### **GOSPEL**

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**John 4:13-14**

*Pew Bible page 865*

*Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life."*

*<At the conclusion of the reading>*

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

*<We sit.>*

### **SERMON**

**Rev. Matthew Titus**

*<We stand.>*

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**The King Shall Come**

*ELW Hymn 260*

### **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.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole creation.

*<We kneel.>*

*Each prayer petition will end with "God of grace," and the response is "hear our prayer."  
At the conclusion of the prayers, we respond with ... in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life. "Amen."*

*<We stand.>*

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also, with you.**

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

*<We sit.>*

..... ✠ MEAL ✠ .....

## RECEPTION OF THE OFFERING

### MUSICAL OFFERING

As the Dark Awaits the Dawn

Carl Schalk

<We stand.>

## OFFERTORY HYMN

### People, Look East, vs. 3

1 Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing  
2 Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is  
3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the  
4 An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth him who brings new

of the year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble,  
plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to nour - ish,  
bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y weath - er,  
life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley hum - ming

trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look  
that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look  
bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look  
with the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east, and sing to - day— Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Star, is on the way.  
east, and sing to - day— Love, the Lord, is on the way.

## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray... Nourishing God, you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come.

**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 ... *here the minister continues with the preface for the day, concluding ...* we praise your name and join their unending hymn.



## THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy One, the beginning and the end, ...

... Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

... We look with hope for his coming. **Come, Lord Jesus.**

... Bring the gift of peace on earth. **Come, Holy Spirit.**

... 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 THE MEAL

Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

<We sit.>

## COMMUNION

*Participation in Holy Communion is open to all the baptized. We come in faith, trusting Christ is truly present in the bread and wine – given for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen us for proclaiming God's love in the world. You are invited to come forward to receive the bread and wine. You may dip the bread into the chalice. If you are unable to come forward, communion will be brought to you. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

<We stand.>

## THE TABLE BLESSING

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

**Amen.**

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our host, at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. **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 you and keep you.

**May the Lord bless you 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

**Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying**

*ELW Hymn 436*

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.

**Thanks be to God.**

## VOLUNTARY

*Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying*

Paul Manz

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Dale's birthday,  
December 17<sup>th</sup>, by B.L. Brown.

..... ANNOUNCEMENTS .....

**Blue Christmas Service – Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup>, 6pm** - The holidays aren't easy for everyone. For many, this season carries the weight of loss, change, and memories that ache as much as they comfort. On the longest night of the year, we gather to make space for grief and grace—holding hope gently, without forcing cheer.

Join us for a quiet, reflective service of prayer, music, and candlelight as we remember that God meets us in every shadow and walks with us toward the light.

**Christmas Eve Service** - Come celebrate the birth of Jesus who is our Christ at Redeemer! Our service begins at 5:00pm and is full of music, fellowship, and the Word. This service includes Holy Communion and will end with candlelight as we sing Silent Night.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
14 <b>Sunday School</b> - 9:30am  <b>Worship</b> - 10:30am  <b>Fellowship</b> <b>Christmas Meal</b>  <b>Youth</b> <b>Confirmation</b> - 4pm  <b>Youth Christmas</b> <b>Party</b> - 5pm	15 <b>FLC Reserved</b> - ADK Teacher Sorority  <b>Prayer &amp; Care</b> <b>Card Making</b> - 9:30am  <b>Congregation</b> <b>Council</b> <b>Meeting</b> - 6pm	16 <b>Basketball</b> - FLC          <b>Library</b> <b>Reserved</b>	17      <b>Handbell</b> <b>Rehearsal</b> - 6pm   <b>Senior Choir</b> <b>Rehearsal</b> - 7pm	18 <b>Basketball</b> - FLC	19	20 <b>GAAP</b> - 10am - O'Neal St UMC	21 <b>Sunday</b> <b>School</b> - 9:30am  <b>Worship</b> - 10:30am

**Worship Leadership - This Sunday**

**Worship Asst:** Johnny Lindsay

**Acolyte:** Elin Cary

**Crucifer:** Zoe Reid

**Comm Prep:** Erin Titus

**Altar Flowers:** B.L. Brown

**Ushers:** Susan Thomasson, Walter Jacobs,  
Justin Guy, Dennis Caughman

**Sunday, December 21st**

**Worship Asst:** Eve Kneee

**Acolyte:** Ashleigh Titus

**Crucifer:** Griffin Long

**Comm Prep:** Kathy Lindsay

**Altar Flowers:** Caughman Family

**Ushers:** Tommy Fellers, Joey Nicosia  
Dennis Caughman

**Numbers for December 7, 2025:**

**Attendance:**

Sunday School: 20

In-Person: 83

Online: 175

**Total:** 258

**Offering:**

Gen Operating Account: \$2,945.38

Major Maintenance: \$180.00/ Roof Fund: \$2,000.00

Abiding Memorial: \$535.00/ Worship & Music: \$500.00

Special Flowers: \$13.00/ Choral Scholarship: \$25.00

**The Rev. Matthew Titus, Pastor · Haley McBride-Stuhr, Office Assistant & Bookkeeper**

**Dr. Huger Caughman, Jr., Organist · Nicholas Todd Shumate, Choir Director**

**Aubrey Cisko, Youth Director**

**A/V Team: Annette Belcher, Wayden Caughman, Nikki Chapman, and Matt Bowers**

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Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America