



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER

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

December 21, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:30 am

..... ✚ **GATHERING** ✚

Voluntaries

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Savior of the Nations, Come

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Paul Manz

Michael Burkhardt

Wilbur Held

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

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

ELW Hymn 256

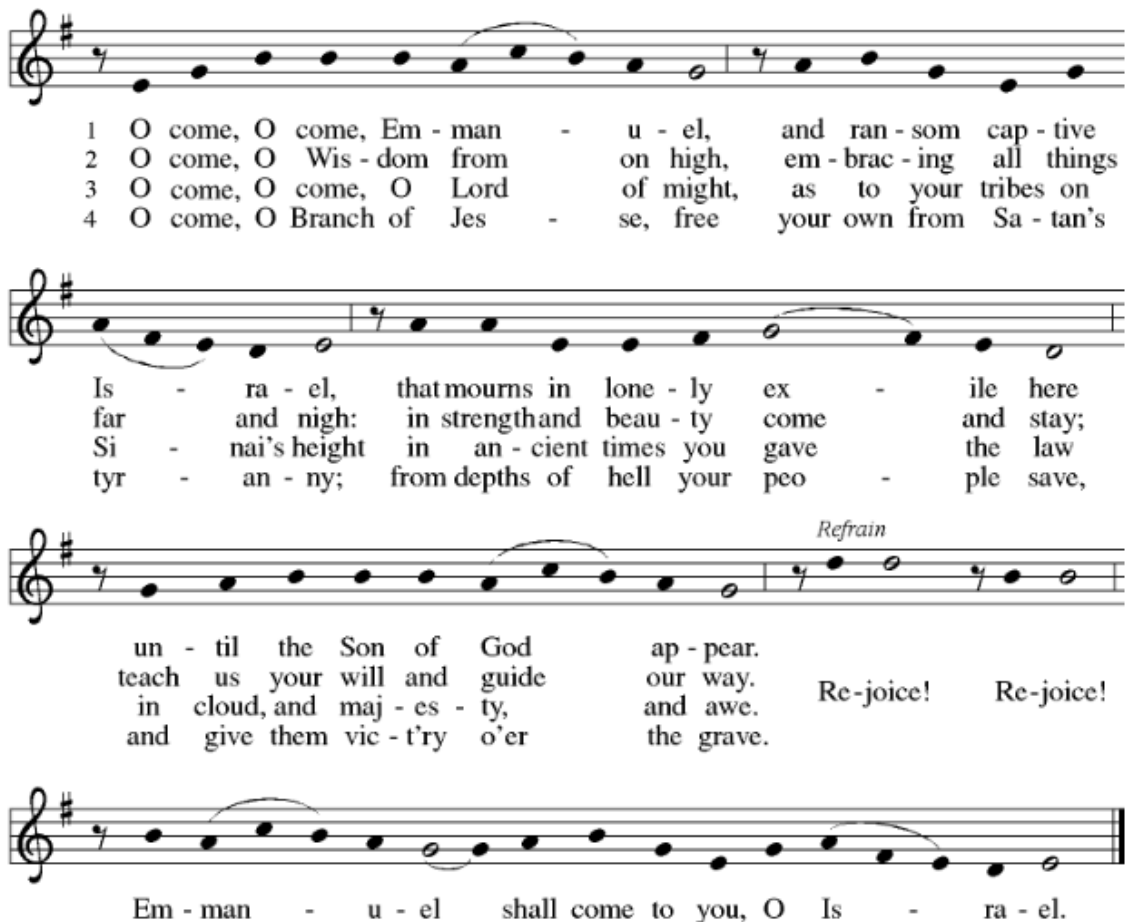
GREETING

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. 4

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 nigh: 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,

Refrain
un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
teach us your will and guide our way.
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe. Re-joice! Re-joice!
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 all time, You Word became flesh and walked among us. Receive our gratitude and awe for all that you have done through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

<We sit.>

..... ✝ WORD ✝

READING

Psalm 130:5-8

Pew Bible page 500

I wait for the Lord; my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning. O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

<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 1:1-18

Pew Bible page 862

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

<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

Savior of the Nations, Come

ELW Hymn 263

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

Lost in the Night

Kyle Haugen

<We stand.>

OFFERTORY HYMN

People, Look East, vs. 4

ELW Hymn 248

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

Joy to the World

ELW Hymn 267

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Joy to the World

David Cherwien

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Huger Caughman, Jr's 48th birthday on December 26th by Huger, Anne, Kristin, Wayden, and Dennis Caughman.

..... **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Blue Christmas Service - tonight, 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 5:00 pm 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
21 Sunday School - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am Blue Christmas Service - 6pm	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Service - 5pm FLC Reserved - Harriett Guy	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28 Sunday School - 9:30am Worship - 10:30am FLC Reserved - Susan Thomasson
			CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED				

Worship Leadership - This Sunday

Worship Asst: Eve Kneece
Acolyte: Ashleigh Titus
Crucifer: Griffin Long
Comm Prep: Kathy Lindsay
Altar Flowers: Caughman Family
Ushers: Tommy Fellers, Joey Nicosia, Dennis Caughman

Christmas Eve Service

Worship Asst: Nikki Chapman
Acolyte: Levi Richardson
Crucifer: Henry Chapman
Comm Prep: Huger Caughman, Jr.
Bible Bearer: Thomas Boozer
Torch Bearers: Lendy Miller
Gavin Garner
Altar Flowers: Caughman Family
Ushers: Members of Redeemer

Sunday, December 28th

Worship Asst: Kevin Boozer
Acolyte: JC Hazel
Crucifer: Taygen Hazel
Ushers: Elmer Long, Mack Garner,
Robert Kneece, Dennis Caughman

Numbers for December 14, 2025:

Attendance:

Sunday School: 18
In-Person: 81
Online: 142
Total: 223

Offering:

Gen Operating Account: \$6,690.72
Major Maintenance: \$1,110.00
Abiding Memorial: \$275.00/ Redeemer Music Fund: \$50.00
Choral Scholarship: \$100.00/Fellowship: \$600.00

The Rev. Matthew Titus, Pastor · Haley McBride-Stuhr, Office Assistant & Bookkeeper
Dr. Huger Caughman, Jr., Organist · Nicholas Todd Shumate, Choir Director
A/V Team: Annette Belcher, Wayden Caughman, Nikki Chapman, and Matt Bowers

From SundaysandSeasons.com Copyright 2025 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

