

The Lutheran Church of The Redeemer

1515 Boundary Street • Newberry, SC 29108

(803) 276-2003 • www.redeemernewberry.org



The First Sunday of Christmas

December 28, 2025 - 10:30 am

..... + GATHERING +

Voluntaries

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

David Cherwien

He Whom Shepherd Men Came Praising

Paul Manz

Away in a Manger

David Lasky

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

<We stand.>

GATHERING HYMN

Once in Royal David's City

ELW Hymn 269



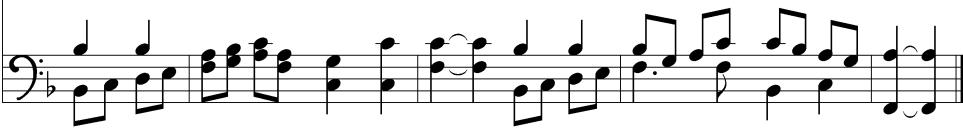
1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
 2 He came down to earth from heav-en who is God and Lord of all,
 3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love;
 4 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing by,



where a moth-er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
 and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall;
 for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
 we shall see him; but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high;



Mar - y was that moth-er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
 there his chil - dren gath - er round, bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.



DIALOGUE

Come! Look upon the baby Jesus, cradled in the arms of his mother.

Seeing this wondrous sight, may our hearts be comforted and our spirits filled with peace.

Come! Listen to choirs of angels announcing good news to all people.

Hearing this marvelous song, may we too sing: Glory to God in the highest!

Come! Receive this ancient story in your heart, not as history but as a gift.

Opening our hearts to this great mystery, may Christ be born in us today.

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray together. O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

<We sit.>>

.....**† WORD †**.....

READING

Luke 2:1-7

Pew Bible page 832

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. 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. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. 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.

REFLECTION CAROL

Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

ACS Hymn 909



1 Where shep-herds late - ly knelt and kept the an - gel's word,
2 In that un - like - ly place I find him as they said:
3 How should I not have known I - sa - iah would be there,
4 Can I, will I for - get how Love was born, and burned



I come in half - be - lief, a pil - grim strange-ly stirred.
sweet new - born babe, how frail! and in a man - ger bed:
his proph - e - cies ful - filled? With pound - ing heart I stare:
its way in - to my heart— un - asked, un - forced, un - earned,



But there is room and wel - come there for me;
a still, small voice to cry one day for me;
a child, a son, the Prince of peace for me;
to die, to live, and not a - lone for me;



but there is room and wel - come there for me.
a still, small voice to cry one day for me.
a child, a son, the Prince of peace for me.
to die, to live, and not a - lone for me?

READING

Luke 2:8-16

Pew Bible page 833

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 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: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

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." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger.

REFLECTION CAROL

While Shepherds Watched their Flock

ACS Hymn 913

1 While shep - herds watched their flocks by night, all
 2 "Fear not," said he, for might - y dread had
 3 "To you, in Da - vid's town this day, is
 4 "The heav'n - ly babe you there shall find to

seat - ed on the ground, the an - gel of the great
 seized their trou - bled mind: "Glad tid - ings of great
 born of Da - vid's line the Sav - ior, who is
 hu - man view dis - played, all hum - bly wrapped in

Lord came down, and glo - ry shone a - round.
 joy I bring to you and hu - man - kind.
 Christ the Lord, and this shall be the sign:
 swath - ing bands, and in a man - ger laid."

5 Thus spoke the seraph, and forthwith appeared a shining throng of angels praising God, who thus addressed their joyful song:

6 "All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace; good will to all from highest heav'n begin and never cease!"

READING

Matthew 2:1-12

Pew Bible page 783

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.' "

Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

REFLECTION CAROL

We Three Kings

WOV Hymn 646



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing
2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain gold I
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,
owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

Refrain



Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

READING**John 1: 1-5, 14-18**

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.

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.

REFLECTION CAROL**Good Christian Friends, Rejoice**

ELW Hymn 288



1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;



give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave; Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.



Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save!

Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save!

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

<We kneel.>

Each prayer petition will end with "Hear us, O God," and the response is "Your mercy is great."

With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

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.>

RECEPTION OF THE OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

Hurry Over Clouds and Heaven

Thomas Keesecker

OFFERTORY

What Child Is This (vs. 3)

ELW Hymn 296



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

..... **+** SENDING **+**

BLESSING

The triune God, glorious Mystery, holy Incarnate One, abiding Comforter, **+** bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

ELW Hymn 270

1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king;
 2 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous - ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all you na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God-head see! Hail, in - car - nate de - i - ty!
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with an - gel - ic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 Pleased as man with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 born to raise each child of earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Refrain

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

DISMISSAL

Glory to God in the highest!

And peace to God's people on earth!

Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.

Thanks be to God.

VOLUNTARY

Toccata on "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

David Cherwien

..... ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCA - Our first meeting will be on Sunday, January 4th at 3:45 PM in the church library. We'll have our business meeting and then at 4:00 continue with our program. Derryll Satterwhite will be presenting her favorite hymns from our Then Sings My Soul, Book 2 books, or she may decide to select a special hymn(s) from another book. We'll have to wait and see! All women and friends of the congregation are invited to attend.

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
28	29	30 Library Reserved	31	01 Church Office Closed	02	03	04 Property Com. - 9:00am Lib.
Sunday School - 9:30am							Sunday School - 9:30am
Worship - 10:30am							Worship - 10:30am
FLC Reserved - Susan Thomasson							WELCA - 3:45pm

Worship Leadership - This Sunday

Worship Leadership: Ben Bowers & Kevin Boozer

Acolyte: Taygen Hazel

Crucifer: JC Hazel

Comm Prep: available

Ushers: Elmer Long, Mack Garner,
Robert Kneece, Dennis Caughman

Sunday, January 4, 2026

Worship Asst: Robbie Kopp

Acolyte: Jacob Chapman

Crucifer: McKenzie Garner

Comm Prep: available

Altar Flowers: available

Ushers: Chad Cary, Norris Long,
Zeb Reid, Dennis Caughman

Numbers for December 21, 2025:

Attendance:

Sunday School: 17

In-Person: 75

Online: 128

Total: 203

Offering:

Gen Operating Account: \$5,654.26/ Major Maintenance: \$920.00

Abiding Memorial: \$100.00/ Redeemer Music Fund: \$100.00

Prayer & Care Card Class: 100.00/Roof Fund: \$1,400.00

Numbers for December 24, 2025:

Attendance:

In-Person: 168

Online: 314

Total: 482

Offering:

Gen Operating Account: \$3,514.00/ Major Maintenance: \$130.00

Roof Fund: \$500.00/ MKBF Fund: \$500.00

Synod Benevolence: \$50.00

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

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Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

