

REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

You have a place at God's table. You have a place here.



**The young woman is
with child and shall
bear a son, and shall
name him Immanuel.**

ISAIAH 7:14, NRSV

**Sunday, December 18, 2022
Fourth Sunday of Advent
Rev. Sara Gorman**



FOURTH SUNDAY OF
ADVENT

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Announcements

Choir: *Come, Emmanuel*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Hymn: *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning (Verse 4)*



1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your
2 Dark-er mid - night lies be - fore us, dark - er
3 Lo, the morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the
4 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your



lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps
mid - night lies he - fore us, dark - er mid - night
morn - ing soon is break - ing, lo, the morn - ing
lamps trimmed and burn - ing, keep your lamps



trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.
lies be - fore us, for this work's al - most done.
soon is break - ing, for this work's al - most done.
trimmed and burn - ing, for this work's al - most done.

Refrain



Chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry; chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry;



chil-dren, don't grow wea - ry, for this work's al - most done.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: KEEP YOUR LAMPS, African American spiritual

Week 4: Lighting the Fourth Candle

Blessed are you, God of love, for you promised to send a Son, Emmanuel, for us. You promised to be there for us when we mess up, no matter how bad, because you love us that much.

As we light this candle, love us even more than you already do; and make our faith stronger. Bring us back to fullness and give us life, that we may be whole. Oh house of David, come

C let us rejoice, for the Son of God, Emmanuel, comes to be with us. Amen.

Please stand.

GATHERING SONG: *Canticle of the Turning* (723)



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 The hun - gry poor shall . . . weep no more, for the
 This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat

Music: SEAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional

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PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE *(tune Silent Night)*

Musical score for Kyrie (tune Silent Night) in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e (e)le - i - son. Chri - ste (e)lei - i - son. Lord have mer - cy on us. Christ have mer - cy on us Lord have mer - cy on us Christ have mer - cy on us.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray.

C **Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

READING: Isaiah 7:10-16

P A reading from Isaiah

¹⁰The Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

P The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON

Silence for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Here I Am Lord* (574)



1 "I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.
2 "I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain.
3 "I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"

Refrain



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte

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CREED

C I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A God, in your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

Please stand.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

During this time of care and caution, we are not passing the offering plate, but we continue to give out of thankful and generous hearts. We offer a prayer for these gifts that we return to the one who is the giver of all good things.

A Let us pray,

C **Eternal God,**

you make the desert bloom

and send springs of water to thirsty ground.

Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money,

and make us messengers of your mercy and love

for all in need of your healing and justice.

We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Sung Words of Institution

Eucharistic Liturgy set to O Come, O Come Emmanuel

L The God of grace be here with you.

C **The God of grace be also with you.**

L Lift up your hearts in thanks and praise.

Our hearts and hopes to God we raise.

C **Rejoice! Rejoice! For holy is the Lord,**

On earth and in the heav'nly heights adored.

L When Jesus sat at table with his friends,
He took the bread, and blessing it, he said:
“This is my body, offered for you;
Take, eat, this meal of grace and truth.”

**C Rejoice! Rejoice! We share this living bread,
And seek a day when all shall be fed.**

L When supper ended, Jesus took the cup.
He blessed it and he raised it up.
“This cup is life poured out for you.
My promise to make all things new.”

**C Rejoice! Rejoice! We share the cup of peace
With those who thirst for justice and release.**

L O Spirit, fire of hope sent from above
Unite us in salvation and love.
Bless these, your gifts of bread and wine
And fill us with your joy divine.

**C Rejoice! Rejoice! We share this meal
And bless our God, who feeds and heals.**

Congregations and other worshipping communities are welcome to use this eucharistic song as fits their own contexts. Please credit in the bulletin or projection: © 2019 Rev. Melissa A. Bills.



LORD'S PRAYER

C 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

P Taste and see that the Lord is good.

C Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

COMMUNION

All are welcome to the Lord's table. You do not need to be a member of this congregation nor a Lutheran. Communion is a gift from God for the people of God, no matter where they are on their faith journey.

Gluten-free bread is available, as is grape juice. If you have questions about Baptism, Holy Communion, or faith, please take a moment and speak with the pastor.

COMMUNION SONGS

Choir: *This Peaceful Night*

Love Divine All Loves Excelling (631)



1 Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov-ing Spir-it in-to ev-'ry
3 Come, Al-might-y, to de-liv-er; let us all thy
4 Fin-ish then thy new cre-a-tion, pure and spot-less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum-ble dwell-ing, all thy
trou-bled breast; let us all in thee in-her-it; let us
life re-ceive; sud-den-ly re-turn, and nev-er, nev-er-
let us be; let us see thy great sal-va-tion per-fect-



faith-ful mer-cies crown. Je-sus, thou art all com-pas-sion,
find thy prom-ised rest. Take a-way the love of sin-ning;
more thy tem-ples leave. Thee we would be al-ways bless-ing,
ly re-stored in thee! Changed from glo-ry in-to glo-ry,



pure, un-bound-ed love thou art; vis-it us with
Al-pha and O-me-ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a-bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-'ry trem-bling heart.
its be-gin-ning, set our hearts at lib-er-ty.
with-out ceas-ing, glo-ry in thy per-fect love.
crowns be-fore thee, lost in won-der, love, and praise!

Comfort, Comfort Now My People (256)



1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God's ho - ly reign.



To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er.
Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum - ble fa - vor.
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olarius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre psaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551



Please stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

C Faithful God,
in this meal you have remembered your mercy,
bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.
As we wait for the day when all your promises will be
fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy
mystery. Guide us toward your promised future,
coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
Amen.



RECOGNITION OF MINISTRIES IN THE CONGREGATION

The assembly is seated. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

P Dear friends: United with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are joined in God's mission for the life of the world. We are called to that mission in our daily lives and in the ministries we share as the church of God.

Today it is our privilege to recognize and support those who are engaged in the work of this congregation, especially those who have been training to be Stephen Ministers.

Trainers and ministers are invited to the front.

The presiding minister addresses those who are beginning or continuing their service.

P Sisters and brother, both your work and your rest are in God. Will you endeavor to pattern your life on the Lord Jesus Christ, in gratitude to God and in service to others, as you carry out the ministry of Stephen Ministry in this congregation?

***Response:* I will, and I ask God to help me.**

P People of God, I ask you: Will you support these your sisters and brothers in their service, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all who are baptized?

C We will, and we ask God to help us.

I invite you to extend a hand in blessing.

P Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God,
for all who respond to the call to serve in your name.
Give them joy and fulfillment, care and guidance in their tasks.
Help us all to give willingly and to receive thankfully the gifts of
ministry, that your name may be glorified, your people live in
peace, and your will be done;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.



The assembly stands.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

P God the eternal Word,
who dwells with us in Jesus,
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,
✠ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG: *Blessed Be the God of Israel (250)*



1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free
2 With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,
3 My child, as proph-et of the Lord you will pre-pare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da-vid's tree.
the oath once sworn to A - bra-ham, from foes to save us all;
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter-nal sway.



So have the proph-ets long de-clared that with a might-y arm
that we might wor - ship with-out fear and of - fer lives of praise,
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
in ho - li - ness and righ - teous-ness to serve God all our days.
to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944, based on Luke 1:68-79

Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune

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DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Christ is near.

C Thanks be to God.





Redeemer Lutheran Church

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Pastor: Sara Gorman

Important Announcements

Check the weekly email (contact office.redeemerplymouth@gmail.com to subscribe) or our website (redeemerplymouth.org) for a complete list of announcements and community events



Join us for Midweek Advent Worship

Wednesday, December 21—11:00am & 6:30pm



Christmas Eve Worship - Saturday, December 24

3:30pm 6:00pm 8:00pm

Christmas Day Worship - Sunday, December 25

10:00am

SAVE THE DATES!

2023 Budget Review Meeting - Sunday, January 8, 10:15am

2023 Budget Approval Meeting - Sunday, January 15, 10:15am

Annual Congregation Meeting - Sunday, January 29, 10:30am

Confirmation Education Meeting & Dinner, Wednesday, January 4, 6:30pm
RSVP by January 3

Students in grades 6-8 (and their grownups) are asked to attend this informational meeting. RSVP to the church office 920-892-7431 or office@redeemerplymouth.org

Calling All High School Youth! Join us Sunday, January 22 at 1:00pm

Join us for a time of fellowship, fun and faith! Friends are always welcome. Text Pastor Sara at 920-550-1160 if you have any questions.
