



**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**December 4, 2022**  
**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**IN-PERSON WORSHIP, FACEBOOK LIVE,**  
**YOUTUBE, AND PARKING LOT WORSHIP –**  
**RADIO FM 101.7**

Redeemer Lutheran Church  
December 4th, 2022  
The Second Sunday of Advent  
In-Person Worship, Facebook Live, YouTube,  
and Parking Lot Worship – Radio FM 101.7  
Pastor Jack Way  
Organist/Keyboard: Claudine Hanson

**God's Spirit Gathers Us**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

***Current COVID Protocol: Masking is optional. Columbia County is now in the low category of reported COVID cases. Redeemer Council firmly encourages social distancing. In Christian love, honor one another's choice.***

Please contact the office if you wish to receive a hard copy of the bulletin or pre-packaged Communion Cups.

**Advent Candle Lighting**

Advent 2 Reading

L: With Esther we see plainly the injustice at work in our world, O God.

**C: And with Esther we know it is our call to stand up to injustice whatever the cost.**

**Lighting of the Candles** – Emily Laufenberg and Amelia Maynard

L: (light candle 1) We light this first candle as a beacon of hope for those who wait.

**C: (light candle 2) We light this second candle as the fire of courage that we might bear witness to your justice.**

L: Let us sing verse 1 and 2 of Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah #240

**Hymn – *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah - #240 – verses 1&2***

**Call To Worship**

L: Let your light shine before others

**C: That they may see our good works**

L: And give glory to our God.

**C: Alleluia! Amen.**

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

L: We confess our sins before God and one another.

(Pause for silence and reflection.)

L: Radiant God,

**C: You have come to live among us, yet we fail time and again to see you in the faces of our neighbors. We look to ourselves instead of those in need. We seek the shallow comforts of things we can buy instead of the deep and lasting comfort of your presence. Forgive our stubborn refusal to see, and open our eyes to the joy and wonder of your incarnation.**

L: Do not be afraid, for I bring you good news of great joy. The God of boundless grace forgives you all your sins, renewing your spirit for the sake of Immanuel, God with us. **Amen**

### ***Gathering Hymn – Christ Be Our Light - #715***

### **Greeting**

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

**C: And also with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

L: Let us pray. (Pause)

L: God of grace and mercy,

**C: With Esther we fear for the future of our people and all the earth. As we wait for your promised savior, give us hope that all will be made right in you. Amen.**

**Senior Choir – *Bethlehem Wind with Trish McNeill playing the flute***

### **God's Word Enlivens Us**

**Esther 4:1-17**

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

P: When Mordecai learned all that had been done, Mordecai tore his clothes and put on sackcloth and ashes, and went through the city, wailing with a loud and bitter cry; he went up to

the entrance of the king's gate, for no one might enter the king's gate clothed with sackcloth. In every province, wherever the king's command and his decree came, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting and weeping and lamenting, and most of them lay in sackcloth and ashes. When Esther's maids and her eunuchs came and told her, the queen was deeply distressed; she sent garments to clothe Mordecai, so that he might take off his sackcloth; but he would not accept them.

Then Esther called for Hathach, one of the king's eunuchs, who had been appointed to attend her, and ordered him to go to Mordecai to learn what was happening and why. Hathach went out to Mordecai in the open square of the city in front of the king's gate, and Mordecai told him all that had happened to him, and the exact sum of money that Haman had promised to pay into the king's treasuries for the destruction of the Jews. Mordecai also gave him a copy of the written decree issued in Susa for their destruction, that he might show it to Esther, explain it to her, and charge her to go to the king to make supplication to him and entreat him for her people. Hathach went and told Esther what Mordecai had said. Then Esther spoke to Hathach and gave him a message for Mordecai, saying, "All the king's servants and the people of the king's provinces know that if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law—all alike are to be put to death. Only if the king holds out the golden scepter to someone, may that person live. I myself have not been called to come in to the king for thirty days."

When they told Mordecai what Esther had said, Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, "Do not think that in the king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this." Then Esther said in reply to Mordecai, "Go, gather all the Jews to be found in Susa, and hold a fast on my behalf, and neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. I and my maids will also fast as you do. After that I will go to the king, though it is against the law; and if I perish, I perish." Mordecai then went away and did everything as Esther had ordered him.

### **Gospel: Matthew 5:13-16**

"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."

P: Word of God. Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **Message – Pastor Jack Way**

***Hymn of the Day – This Little Light of Mine - #655, vs. 1&2***

### **Apostle's Creed**

L: Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed.

**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 Joys and Concerns**

P: Trusting in the faithful promises of our God, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.  
(A brief silence.)

P: We call on God,

**C: O come, o come Immanuel.**

### **Sharing of the Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

### **Offering**

***Offering Hymn – We Are An Offering - #692***

## **God's Meal Nourishes Us**

### **Communion**

#### ***Words of Institution***

P: In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us pray together the words our Savior taught us,

#### **The Lord's Prayer – ELW, Page 134 (right column)**

P: The body of Christ given for you (Eat)

P: The blood of Christ shed for you (Drink)

### **Post Communion Prayer**

## **God's Spirit Sends Us**

### **Benediction:**

P: May the Lord bless us and keep us.  
May the Lord's face shine upon us and be gracious to us.  
May the Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace.

### **C: Amen**

### ***Sending Hymn – Shine, Jesus, Shine - #671***

### **Dismissal**

P: With Esther we plainly see injustice at work in our world, O God.  
**C: With Esther we know we are called to stand up to injustice whatever the cost.**  
P: May we be a beacon of hope for those who wait on justice.  
**C: Make us fires of courage that we might bear witness to your justice.**  
P: We go in resistance to injustice carrying God's peace as love and service to the Lord.  
**C: Thanks be to God!**

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## **Prayers**

**We hold in prayer this week those who have immediate concerns:**

The families of Deanna and LaTia Heller, who both recently lost their lives in a car accident; April Landphier; Spencer Wescott; Donovan Selle; Lisa Priske, friend of Larry & Geri Gorman; Bob Adams; Janet Corning; Alfred and Barb Nelson; and Nancy Drehmel.

**We continue to hold in prayer those who have requested ongoing prayer:**

Bob Strauss; Ryder Schofield (nephew of Susan Brusveen) born 2 months early; Marissa Follman (Val and Pastor Jack's niece); Shirley Matt (friend of Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock); Don Hohlstein; Duane Nelson; Bev Stankiewicz; Gloria Lang; Knute Nelson, Susan Brusveen's brother, who has prostate cancer; Max Pribbenow and Family; Sue Pulver; Brenda Vogeler, Harry Thompson's daughter; Beth Welter, Julie Thompson's niece; Sally Hohlstein; Marie Nobbs; Ron Huebner; Ryan & Kindra Bender; Virginia Olson; Betty Laper; Ken Wescott; Sarah Thompson; Heidi Bimrose; and Raymond Endres.

## **It's Party Time – Come Celebrate with the Sprouts**



For: Jesus' Birthday

When: Wed., Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> at 6pm

Where: Fellowship Hall

Who is Invited: Everyone (bring your family and friends)

The Sprouts will be performing a short program followed by Pizza and Birthday Cake for all.

## **DEADLINE FOR ANNUAL REPORTS**

**Please note that the deadline for annual reports to be turned in to the office is: Sunday, January 1, 2023.**

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**December 11** – Worship/Hymn Sing/no Communion. Fellowship to follow.

**December 18** – Worship/no Communion – **Music Sunday**. Fellowship to follow.

**December 24** – Candlelight Christmas Eve Service with Communion @ 4:00 pm

**January 1** – Worship: Lessons & Carols/no Communion. Fellowship to follow.

**January 8** – Worship with Communion. Fellowship to follow.

**OFFICE HOURS**

Administrative Assistant - Mondays/Tuesdays 9 a.m. - Noon

Pastor – Mondays 9:30 a.m. – Noon

Tuesdays 1:00 p.m. – 3:30

Thursdays Available by Appointment

***(Voice mail and E-mail are monitored daily during non-office hours)***

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**Rio, WI 53960**

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**Like us on Facebook!**





**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**DECEMBER 11, 2022**  
**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**IN-PERSON WORSHIP, FACEBOOK LIVE,**  
**YOUTUBE, AND PARKING LOT WORSHIP –**  
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Redeemer Lutheran Church  
December 11, 2022  
The Third Sunday of Advent  
In-Person Worship, Facebook Live, YouTube,  
and Parking Lot Worship – Radio FM 101.7  
Pastor Jack Way  
Organist/Keyboard: Claudine Hanson

**God's Spirit Gathers Us**

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

***Current COVID Protocol: Masking is optional. Columbia County is now in the low category of reported COVID cases. Redeemer Council firmly encourages social distancing. In Christian love, honor one another's choice.***

Please contact the office if you wish to receive a hard copy of the bulletin or pre-packaged Communion Cups.

**Advent Candle Lighting**

**Advent 3 Reading**

L: With Isaiah we anticipate God's doing a new thing in Jesus Christ, to proclaim healing and liberation to all who suffer.

**Lighting of the Candles – Leslie Berndt**

**C: (light candle 1) We light this first candle as a beacon of hope for those who wait.**

L: (light candle 2) We light this second candle as the fire of courage that we might bear witness to your justice.

**C: (light candle 3) We light this third candle as a light to the nations, a promise of redemption for the whole human family.**

L: Let us sing together verses 1, 2, & 3 of Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah #240

**Hymn – Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah - #240 – verses 1, 2 & 3**

**Call To Worship**

L: God calls us in righteousness,

**C: To be a light to the nations,**

L: To open the eyes of the blind,

**C: And set the prisoner free.**

### **Confession and Forgiveness**

L: We confess our sins before God and one another.

(Pause for silence and reflection.)

L: Radiant God,

**C: You have come to live among us, yet we fail time and again to see you in the faces of our neighbors. We look to ourselves instead of those in need. We seek the shallow comforts of things we can buy instead of the deep and lasting comfort of your presence. Forgive our stubborn refusal to see, and open our eyes to the joy and wonder of your incarnation.**

L: Do not be afraid, for I bring you good news of great joy. The God of boundless grace forgives you all your sins, renewing your spirit for the sake of Immanuel, God with us. **Amen**

### ***Gathering Hymn – Come and Worship - #275***

### **Greeting**

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

**C: And also with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

L: Let us pray (Pause)

L: God of grace and mercy,

**C: With the prophet Isaiah, we long for your justice to be done. As we wait for your promised savior, give us hope that all will be made right in you. Amen.**

**Senior Choir – *Sing We Noel***

**Congregation Selects a Hymn**

### **God's Word Enlivens Us**

**L: Isaiah 42:1-9**

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

L: Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

### **Gospel: Matthew 12:15-21**

L: When Jesus became aware of this, he departed. Many crowds followed him, and he cured all of them, and he ordered them not to make him known. This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah: "Here is my servant, whom I have chosen, my beloved, with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles. He will not wrangle or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets. He will not break a bruised reed or quench a smoldering wick until he brings justice to victory. And in his name the Gentiles will hope."

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn – *Silent Night* - #281**

**Message** – Claudine Hanson

***Hymn of the Day – The Church of Christ, in Every Age - #729***

### **Apostle's Creed**

L: Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed.

**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.

**Congregation Selects a Hymn**

**Prayers of Joys and Concerns**

L: Trusting in the faithful promises of our God, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

L: We call on Almighty God,

**C: O come, o come Immanuel.**

**Congregation Selects a Hymn**

**Sharing of the Peace**

L: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**Offering**

*Offering Hymn – We Are An Offering - #692*

**God's Spirit Sends Us**

**Benediction:**

L: May the Lord bless us and keep us.  
May the Lord's face shine upon us and be gracious to us.  
May the Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace.

**C: Amen**

L: Let us pray together the words our Savior taught us,

**The Lord's Prayer – ELW, Page 134** (right column)

***Sending Hymn – Go Tell It On The Mountain - #290***

***Vs 1 – All***

***Vs 2 – Men***

***Vs 3 - Women***

**Dismissal**

L: With Isaiah we anticipate God's doing a new thing in Jesus Christ, to proclaim healing and liberation to all who suffer.

**C: May we be a beacon of hope for those who wait for justice.**

L: Make us into fires of courage that we might bear witness to your justice.

**C: Use us as a light to the nations, a promise of redemption for the whole human family.**

L: Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord with justice.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

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### **Prayers**

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James Sorenson, infant son of a friend of Larry & Geri Gorman; April Landphier; Spencer Wescott; Donovan Selle; Lisa Priske, friend of Larry & Geri Gorman; Bob Adams; Janet Corning; Alfred and Barb Nelson; and Nancy Drehmel.

**We continue to hold in prayer those who have requested ongoing prayer:**

Bob Strauss; Ryder Schofield (nephew of Susan Brusveen) born 2 months early; Marissa Follman (Val and Pastor Jack's niece); Shirley Matt (friend of Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock); Don Hohlstein; Duane Nelson; Bev Stankiewicz; Gloria Lang; Knute Nelson, Susan Brusveen's brother, who has prostate cancer; Max Pribbenow and Family; Sue Pulver; Brenda Vogeler, Harry Thompson's daughter; Beth Welter, Julie Thompson's niece; Sally Hohlstein; Marie Nobbs; Ron Huebner; Ryan & Kindra Bender; Virginia Olson; Betty Laper; Ken Wescott; Sarah Thompson; Heidi Bimrose; and Raymond Endres.

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For: Jesus' Birthday

When: Wed., Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> at 6pm

Where: Fellowship Hall

Who is Invited: Everyone (bring your family and friends)

The Sprouts will be performing a short program followed by Pizza and Birthday Cake for all.

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**December 18** – Worship/no Communion – **Music Sunday**. Fellowship to follow.

**December 24** – Candlelight **Christmas Eve Service** with Communion @ 4:00 pm

**January 1** – Worship: Lessons & Carols/no Communion. Fellowship to follow.

**January 8** – Worship with Communion. Fellowship to follow.

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**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**DECEMBER 18, 2022**  
**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**MUSIC SUNDAY**  
**IN-PERSON WORSHIP, FACEBOOK LIVE,**  
**YOUTUBE, AND PARKING LOT WORSHIP –**  
**RADIO FM 101.7**

**Redeemer Lutheran Church  
December 18, 2022  
The Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Music Sunday  
In-Person Worship, Facebook Live, YouTube,  
and Parking Lot Worship – Radio FM 101.7  
Pastor Jack Way  
Organist/Keyboard: Claudine Hanson**

**God's Spirit Gathers Us**

**Prelude**

**Advent Candle Lighting**

**Advent 4 Reading**

P: With Isaiah we anticipate God's doing a new thing in Jesus Christ, to proclaim healing and liberation to all who suffer.

**Lighting of the Candles – The Dahnke Family**

P: (light candle 1) With the prophet Habakkuk, we light this first candle as a beacon of hope for those who wait.

**C: (light candle 2) With Esther, we light this second candle as the fire of courage that we might bear witness to your justice.**

P: (light candle 3) With the prophet Isaiah, we light this third candle as a light to the nations, a promise of redemption for the whole human family.

**C: (light candle 4) Now with Joseph, we light this fourth candle as a declaration of trust that your promise is sure, O God, and that your son's birth among us is imminent.**

P: Let us sing together all 4 verses of Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah #240

**Hymn – Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah - #240 – verses 1, 2, 3 & 4**

**Welcome and Announcements**

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**Call Committee Update – Bob Risgaard**

**Fund Raiser for Redeemer ??**

### **Call To Worship**

P: Even though we walk in the darkest valley,

**C: We will not be afraid.**

P: God is present with us.

**C: God's staff is our comfort.**

### ***Gathering Hymn – O Come, O Come Emmanuel – vs. 1,5, & 6 - #257***

### **Greeting**

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

**C: And also with you.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray (Pause)

P: God of grace and mercy,

**C: With Joseph and Mary, we sometimes live in fear of being humiliated or cast out. As we wait for your promised savior, give us hope that all will be made right in you. Amen.**

### **Away in the Manger**

*Bells*

*Sprouts vs. 1*

*Congregation vs. 2 & 3*

### **Mary, Did You Know?   *Senior Choir***

### **God's Word Enlivens Us**

P: **Matthew 1:18-25**

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

P: Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of

the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

## **Angels Singing, Bells Are Ringing**

***Senior Choir  
Bells***

### **Secondary Text:**

#### **Psalm 23:1-4**

P: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff— they comfort me.

P: Word of God. Word of Life.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

***Bells: We Three Kings  
What Child Is This?***

***Hymn (Congregation) - Hark, the Herald Angels Sing - #270***

### **Apostle's Creed – ELW, Page 127**

L: Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's Creed.

**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.**

***Flute Solo – Greensleeves - Trish McNeill***

**Prayers of Joys and Concerns**

P: Confident that your promises are sure, we pray for the church, for the world and for all  
In need.

A brief silence.

P: We call on Almighty God,  
**C: O come, o come Immanuel.**

***Hymn (Congregation) – Angels We Have Heard on High - #289***

**Sharing of the Peace**

P: The peace and joy of Christ be with you all.  
**C: And also with you.**

***Bells: 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime***

**Offering**

***Offering Hymn – We Are An Offering - #692***

***Senior Choir: Comfort and Joy***

## **God's Spirit Sends Us**

### **Benediction:**

P: May the Lord direct our ways in peace. May God give us abounding love for one another and for all of creation. May the Lord strengthen our hearts until the coming of our Lord Jesus. May Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.

**C: Amen**

L: Let us pray together the words our Savior taught us,

**The Lord's Prayer – ELW, Page 134** (right column)

**Collection of Call Committee Survey Document**

***Sending Hymn – Joy To The World - #267***

***Geri Gorman - Acknowledgements***

### **Dismissal**

P: Our Advent waiting is almost ending, O God.

**C: Jesus Christ, our savior draws near to us.**

P: The birth is foretold,

**C: Carried in his mother's womb,**

P: his earthly parents travel in fear.

**C: Fear for their reputation, fear for Mary's life.**

P: In compassion you send a messenger,

**C: To give them your truth.**

P: The child is a gift from God to all the cosmos,

**C: God is with Joseph and Mary in their struggles.**

P: Their fears turn to joy,

**C: In anticipation of this newborn child.**

P: Our waiting is almost at an end, O God.

**C: Jesus Christ, the savior draws near to us.**

P: We go in peace for Christ is with us.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

***We Wish You A Merry Christmas!***

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## **MUSIC SUNDAY PARTICIPANTS:**

**ORGANIST:** Claudine Hanson    **PIANIST:** Gayle Krueger  
**MUSIC DIRECTOR:** Geri Gorman

### **BELL CHOIR:**

Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock  
Stephen Gilbert  
Kathy Olson  
Beth Laufenberg  
Kristi Fehrman  
Trish McNeill  
Linda Olson  
Debbie Reiersen  
Melanie Gilbert  
Joleen Frank  
Patti Borde

### **SENIOR CHOIR:**

Bob Risgaard  
Kurt Johnson  
Stephen Gilbert  
Pastor Jack Way  
Valerie Way  
Trish McNeill  
Debbie Reiersen  
Darlene Cutsforth  
Renee Miles

### **SPROUTS:**

Emily Laufenberg  
Amelia Maynard  
Emma Dahnke  
Abby Dahnke  
Cooper Husom  
Odessa Roat  
Luisa Roat

**FLUTE:** Trish McNeill

## **Prayers**

### **We hold in prayer this week those who have immediate concerns:**

Doug Wynstra, relative of Helen Risgaard; James Sorenson, infant son of a friend of Larry & Geri Gorman; April Landphier; Spencer Wescott; Donovan Selle; Lisa Priske, friend of Larry & Geri Gorman; Bob Adams; Janet Corning; Alfred and Barb Nelson; and Nancy Drehmel.

### **We continue to hold in prayer those who have requested ongoing prayer:**

Bob Strauss; Ryder Schofield (nephew of Susan Brusveen) born 2 months early; Marissa Follman (Val and Pastor Jack's niece); Shirley Matt (friend of Bonnie Pribbenow-Paddock); Don Hohlstein; Duane Nelson; Bev Stankiewicz; Gloria Lang; Knute Nelson, Susan Brusveen's brother, who has prostate cancer; Max Pribbenow and Family; Sue Pulver; Brenda Vogeler, Harry Thompson's daughter; Beth Welter, Julie Thompson's niece; Sally Hohlstein; Marie Nobbs; Ron Huebner; Ryan & Kindra Bender; Virginia Olson; Betty Laper; Ken Wescott; Sarah Thompson; Heidi Bimrose; and Raymond Endres.

*Our Beautiful Poinsettias Provided by:*

- *Kathy Johnson & April Severson in memory of Clifford Johnson*
- *The Tarpley Family in memory of Phil & Doris Tarpley and Darlene DeNure*
- *Pastor Jack & Val Way in memory of our parents: Harold & Gladys Jones, Paul & Charlene Way; and our Granddaughter, Isabella*

*In honor of our Grandchildren: Nick, Ava, Paxton, Emmett, and Jameson*

- *Steve & Melanie Gilbert in memory of Robert & Mary Gilbert; Dorothy Sorlie; and John Sorlie*
- *Norm & Donna Kearney in memory of Gladys and Norman Kearney*
- *Bob & Helen Risgaard in honor of our Grandchildren: Crew, Jane, Jack, Elena, and Ryan Risgaard*
- *Lynn Bubolz in memory of Axton Smith; Ron Dott; and John & Sylvia Kenefick*
- *Harold & Julianne Thompson in memory of Scott Thompson*
- *Lola Bortz in memory of Jim and Lois Dott*
- *Ron & Debbie Reiersen in memory of Jim, Merlin, and Joyce Reiersen; and Donald & JoAnne Johnson*
- *Delores Erstad in memory of Alvin Erstad and Steven Erstad*
- *Dean & Toni Roberts in honor of Claudine Hanson*
- *Renee & Michael Miles in memory of Husband & Dad: Maurice Miles, Jr*
- *Renee & Michael Miles; Bill & Pam Jaynes & Family; and Allen Leistikow in memory of our Parents & Grandparents: Russell & Shirley Leistikow*

# Christmas Tree of Joy



With the above discussion of Joy in mind we have now kicked off the Christmas Tree of Joy to help faithfully provide for the programs/projects of our church putting God first. A white flocked tree is located in the narthex and displays Christmas bulbs of various colors and snowflakes to represent projects and programs needing a financial boost at our church.

You may take an ornament from the tree any time until December 31, bringing back funds for each ornament chosen. Place the bulb ornament or snowflake in an envelope entitled Bulb or Christmas Tree of Joy and those funds will go specifically for that program or item. Place your envelopes at the back of the church in the narthex in the wicker offertory basket with candy canes. Choose your cane and place it on the tree in the narthex. *(If you are unable to pick up an ornament simply write the color of bulb and designation on your envelope).*

*Each time a bulb/snowflake is returned with a donation, a candy cane will replace it on the tree with the goal of all bulbs being replaced by candy canes by the end of the year.*

**Snow flakes:** represent the utilities of the church, Air conditioning, Heating

**Orange Bulb:** Education: bible education programs for children and adults

**Blue Bulb:** Pastoral: To help fund the pastors salary and needs

**Pink Bulb:** Evangelism: Programs and projects to reach out to the Rio Community to share as well as mission work spreading the gospel to encourage new members to attend Redeemer

**Neon Green Bulb:** Out Reach: reaching out to our Redeemer members in the community with shared communion, visits to the home bound, the elderly, the sick

**Purple Bulb:** Social Concerns: Reaching out to the needy in the Rio Community to offer aid and support

**Yellow Bulb:** New sound system at church as the old one is on its last leg

**Dark Green Bulb:** Worship to help fund worship needs; salaries of worship staff of organist, choir, bell choir

The Bulb signifies Jesus coming to earth being the Light to Shine out of the darkness. The Candy Canes signify the shepherd's crook, as Jesus is the good shepherd. The white portion of the cane signifies the purity of Christ. The red stripe, signifies the blood of Christ shed for all, through his death and resurrection, He paid the price for our sins.



The snowflake signifies Jesus washing our sins white as snow.

Please help us make this a Tree of Joy project a success by contributing to the program or area of choice so Redeemer Lutheran Church may continue to thrive and reach out to the Rio community and beyond!

## **DEADLINE FOR ANNUAL REPORTS**

Please note that the deadline for annual reports to be turned in to the office is:  
**Sunday, January 1, 2023.**

## **It's Party Time – Come Celebrate with the Sprouts**



For: Jesus' Birthday

When: Wed., Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> at 6pm

Where: Fellowship Hall

Who is Invited: Everyone (bring your family and friends)

The Sprouts will be performing a short program followed by Pizza and Birthday Cake for all.

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

**December 24** – Candlelight Christmas Eve Service with Communion @ 4:00 pm

**January 1** – Worship: Lessons & Carols/no Communion. Fellowship to follow.

**January 8** – Worship with Communion. Fellowship to follow.

## **OFFICE HOURS**

Administrative Assistant - Mondays/Tuesdays 9 a.m. - Noon

Pastor – Mondays 9:30 a.m. – Noon

Tuesdays 1:00 p.m. – 3:30

Thursdays Available by Appointment

*(Voice mail and E-mail are monitored daily during non-office hours)*

**Redeemer Lutheran Church**

**610 Lincoln Ave.**

**Rio, WI 53960**

**920-992-3553**

**Interim Pastor Jack Way**

**262-443-3130**

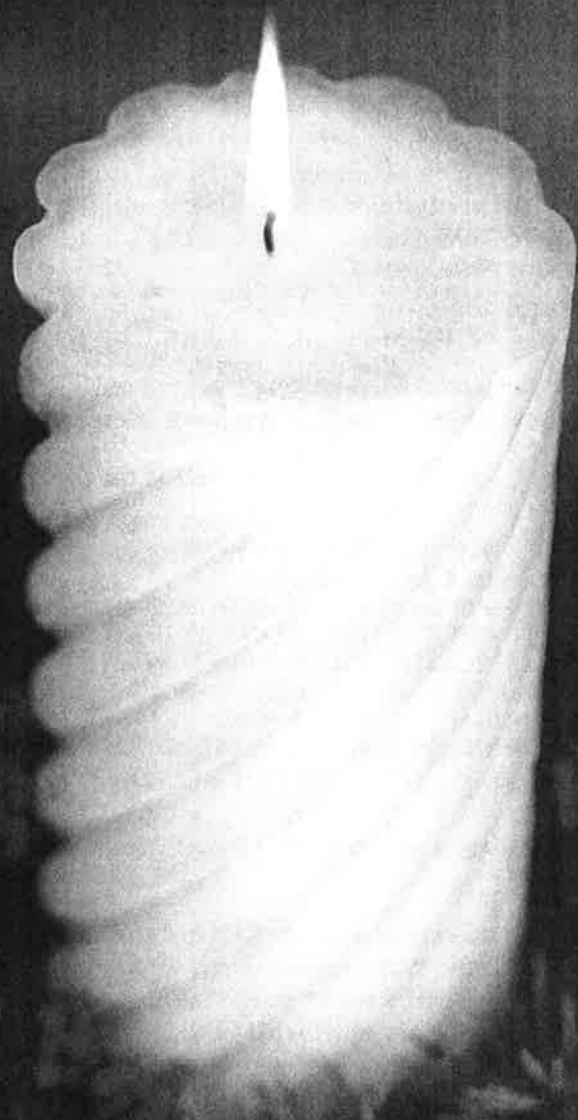
**For Emergency Pastoral Services call: (262) 443-3130**

**Email: [office@rioredeemerlutheran.org](mailto:office@rioredeemerlutheran.org)**

**Website: [www.rioredeemerlutheran.org](http://www.rioredeemerlutheran.org)**

**Like us on Facebook!**

*The*  
**Candlelight**  
*Service*



## ENTRANCE HYMN

## Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful

Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!  
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold him, born the king of angels:

*Refrain*

Oh, come, let us adore him, oh, come, let us adore him,  
oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,  
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing! *Refrain*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God in the highest: *Refrain*

## CHRISTMAS DIALOG

Jesus Christ is the Light of the world!

**He is the Light no darkness can overcome.**

At darkest night we gather to celebrate the great light of our salvation.

**With the heavenly host we sing, "Glory to God in the highest heaven."**

In Christ, God's Word is made flesh and lives among us.

**With the shepherds, we will tell of the wonders we have seen and heard.**

## HYMN

## Go, Tell It on the Mountain

*Refrain*

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;  
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,  
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;  
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

## GREETING AND PRAYER

May the grace and truth of Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. *(A brief silence)* Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your only son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## READING

## Isaiah 9:2-7

## HYMN

## Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;  
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;  
with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

*Refrain* Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

**READING  
HYMN**

**Titus 2:11-14  
O Little Town of Bethlehem**

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;  
yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

**READING  
HYMN**

**Luke 2:1-7  
Away in a Manger**

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
the stars in the sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask you to stay  
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,  
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

**READING  
HYMN**

**Luke 2:8-20  
Angels We Have Heard on High**

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.

*Refrain* Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song? *Refrain*

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king. *Refrain*

**SERMON**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY HYMN**

**What Child Is This**

What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping,  
whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing.  
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

So, bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come peasant, king, to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby.  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

**THE GOSPEL OF THE INCARNATION**

**John 1:1-14**

*From an altar candle the minister may light a large candle, which symbolizes Christ, the Light of the world of whom John's gospel speaks. Ushers or assistants light their candles from the minister's candle and then light the candle of each worshiper nearest the aisle. The lighted candle is never tilted, but is always held upright when giving light to another.*



## THE PRAYERS

Wonderful Counselor, increase our joy as the church gathers on this holy night to sing of our dear Savior's birth. May the story of salvation live in the hearts of all who sing of its wonders. God of grace,

**Hear our prayer.**

Mighty God, you have broken the yoke of sin's burden through the birth of your Son. Comfort those whose burdens distract them from the deeper peace of this holy night and grant them a restful mind. God of peace,

**Hear our prayer.**

Everlasting Father, uphold all who are in sorrow or need of your divine goodness and mercy (*especially . . .*). We remember with thanksgiving all who have died and who now rest in your peaceful light. God of love,

**Hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, bathe us always in the light of your Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## HYMN OF LIGHT

### Silent Night, Holy Night!

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heaven afar, heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia!  
Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born!

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord at your birth.

## LORD'S PRAYER

### BLESSING

May God, who has called you out of darkness to be servants of light, grant you the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, and the peace of the Christ Child. Almighty God, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

*The candles are extinguished.*

## DEPARTURE HYMN

### Joy to the World

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King;  
let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love.

## **Prayers**

**We hold in prayer this week those who have immediate concerns:**

Ella Way, great niece of Pastor Jack and Valerie Way; Doug Wynstra, relative of Helen Risgaard; James Sorenson, infant son of a friend of Larry & Geri Gorman; April Landphier; Spencer Wescott; Donovan Selle; Lisa Priske, friend of Larry & Geri Gorman; Bob Adams; Janet Corning; Alfred and Barb Nelson; and Nancy Drehmel.

## **UPCOMING DEADLINES**

- Donations need to be in the office no later than December 31 to count toward your 2022 giving.
- The last day for Donations for the Giving Tree is December 31.
- Annual Reports need to be turned in to the office by Sunday, January 1, 2023.