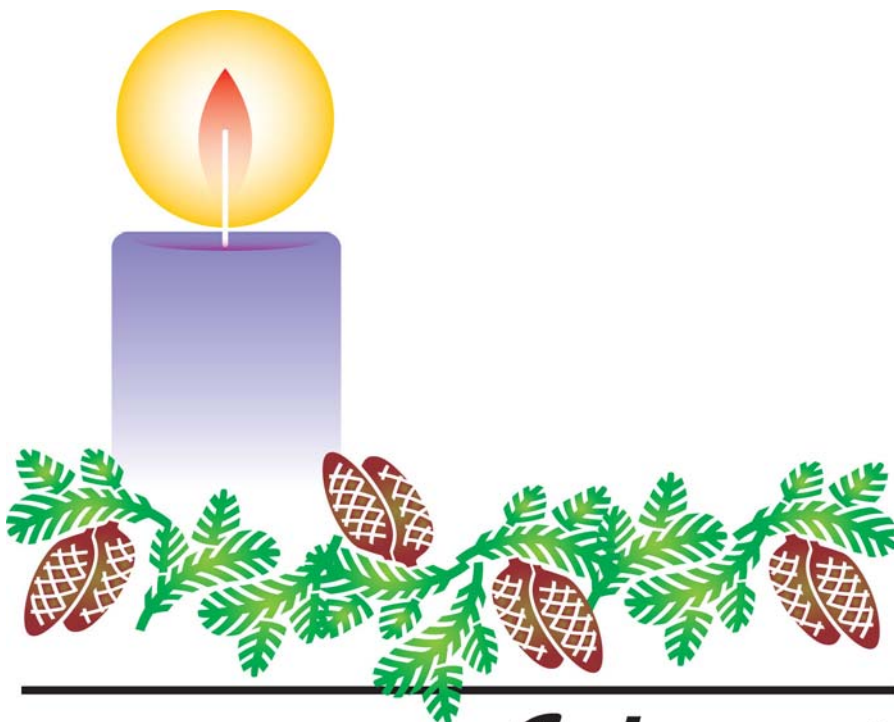


SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND HOLY COMMUNION

DECEMBER 3, 2023
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



FIRST SUNDAY OF *Advent*

OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH
105 GATESHEAD DRIVE, MCMURRAY, PA 15317-3101 724-941-7467
orlc@comcast.net www.OurRedeemer-peters.org

WORSHIP SERVICES

5:30pm, Saturday

9:00 and 11:00am, Sunday (11:00am livestreamed)

An area is available in the narthex for parents and young children.

The service is broadcast to the narthex. The volume may be adjusted by turning the knob on the wall near the left sanctuary doors.

Online services are available through
facebook.com/ORLutheran, YouTube and the church's website.

GROWING IN GOD (SUNDAY SCHOOL)

September 24 - May 5, 10:00 AM, Age 3-Adults

STAFF

THE REV. KEVIN CLEMENTSON, INTERIM PASTOR

443-699-8534 (cell), kcclementson@yahoo.com

THE REV. MARTHA CLEMENTSON, INTERIM PASTOR

443-699-9837 (cell), clementsonmartha@gmail.com

THE REV. KERRI CLARK, PASTOR

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HEIDI GARNER, DIRECTOR, NOAH'S ARK PRESCHOOL

724-942-6699, noahspreschool@comcast.net

MARY HELEN BARR, MUSIC DIRECTOR - 412-780-3357 (cell)

ELAINE DOLCICH, OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

THE REV. JOHN F. YEDLICKA, PASTOR EMERITUS

+ + + +

MISSION STATEMENT

"As Our Redeemer Lutheran Church is a community of people believing in Jesus Christ, our overall purpose is to worship, teach, serve, evangelize and witness to that belief."

Welcome to worship! Please pass the fellowship pads down your row at this time. If you are a visitor and would like more information about our church, please include your address and phone number.

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who opens the heavens
and draws near to us with salvation.

C **Amen.**

P God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance.
Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Everlasting God,
C **you love justice and you hate wrongdoing.
We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness
that make us reluctant to work against oppression.
We are complicit in systems of exploitation.
We choose comfort over courage.
We are careless with creation's bounty.
Look upon us with mercy.
Turn our hearts again to you.
Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways
for the sake of our waiting world.
Amen.**

P Hear these words of assurance:
God clothes you with garments of salvation
and covers you with robes of righteousness.
In the tender compassion of + Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
God's covenant is eternal,
and God's blessing rests upon us all.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG, *Prepare the Royal Highway*, #264



- 1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
- 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: your own e - ter - nal king!
- 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
- 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch-es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.
Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Sit

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 64:1-9 (Pew Bible page 606)

L A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
²as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
⁴From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
⁵You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.

⁶We have all become like one who is unclean,
 and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
 We all fade like a leaf,
 and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
⁷There is no one who calls on your name,
 or attempts to take hold of you;
 for you have hidden your face from us,
 and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
⁸Yet, O Lord, you are our Father;
 we are the clay, and you are our potter;
 we are all the work of your hand.
⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord,
 and do not remember iniquity forever.
 Now consider, we are all your people.

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

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

SONG: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, #257, v. 1

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re-joyce! Re-joyce!
 Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

LITANY

- P At every beginning there is a yearning
for the one who is coming.
O Emmanuel,
- C **Wake us up to your coming.**
- P We gather together to expect the unexpected
and imagine the unimaginable.
O Emmanuel,
- C **Wake us up to your coming.**
- P We wait for the day
when God will recycle tanks into tractors
and transform minefields into soccer fields.
O Emmanuel,
- C **Wake us up to your coming.**
- P We stay awake by telling stories
that offer a glimmer of a future
and agitate dormant hope within us.
O Emmanuel,
- C **Wake us up to your coming.**
- P Jesus, we welcome your presence now
with the lighting of this candle,
whose flame brings warmth to winter
and fills this place with the glow of hope.
- C **Amen.**

The first candle is lit.

SONG: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, #257, v. 3

3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe. *Refrain* Re-joice! Re-joice!
Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 (Pew Bible page 926)

A A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-37 (Pew Bible page 826)

P The holy gospel according to Mark.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] ²⁴“In those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,

and the moon will not give its light,

²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven,

and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

²⁶Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory.

²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come.

³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

P The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sit

CHILDREN’S SERMON

SERMON

Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY, *Hark, the Glad Sound!*, #239



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

APOSTLES' 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 INTERCESSION

A With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

A brief silence.

A Call your church into holy fellowship as we await the restoration of all things. Reenergize your faithful people to live with hope and compassion, especially those who serve as missionaries near and far. Center us on your promise to come among us and make all things new. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**

- A All creation signals your presence, O God: the vastness of the cosmos, the turn of the seasons, and living things that both rest and flourish. Rekindle our commitment to care for the earth. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
- A Let the nations tremble at your holy presence, that justice and liberation prevail in all corners of the earth. Restore peace to nations in conflict, teach righteousness to corrupt leaders and systems, and bring stability to areas facing uncertain futures. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
- A Enrich the spirits of all who feel hopeless, fearful, or despairing. Stay close to those who await healing or relief especially Sally, Brian, Clint, Carol, Lori, Chris, Jen, Gary, Randy, Mandy, and those we name out loud and in our hearts. Deliver all in any need. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
- A Be with those who keep awake at night: nurses working overnight shifts, caregivers of newborns and aging adults, stargazers, those who are anxious, or those who are traveling. Reveal to all that the dark can be a place of calm and comfort filled with your presence. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
- A You have sent out your angels and gathered your faithful people from every time and place, calling them into one fellowship of saints. Bless the witness of those who dwell in your eternal presence. Merciful God,
C **receive our prayer.**
- P Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.
C **Amen.**

Sit

MEAL

OFFERING AND MUSICAL OFFERING

Our monetary offerings are part of our worship of God. Because so many of our people give their offerings through Simply Giving, the offering plate is not passed, but located in the back of the sanctuary for your use as you enter or leave the sanctuary. One plate is brought forward at the time of the Offertory, and one remains in the back.

SPECIAL MUSIC/ANTHEM (11:00) *Advent Psalm*

PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

Stand

OFFERING SONG, *We Are an Offering*, #692

The musical score is written on seven staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 7/8 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'We lift our voice - es, we lift our hands, we lift our' are written below the first staff. The second staff continues the melody with a triplet of eighth notes. The lyrics 'lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voice-es, Lord, use our' are written below. The third staff also features a triplet of eighth notes. The lyrics 'hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing.' are written below. The fourth staff continues the melody. The lyrics 'All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we' are written below. The fifth staff continues the melody. The lyrics 'give to you, we give to you.' are written below. The sixth staff continues the melody. The lyrics 'We lift our voice - es, we lift our hands, we lift our' are written below. The seventh staff concludes the piece with a final triplet of eighth notes. The lyrics 'lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.' are written below. The score ends with a double bar line.

We lift our voice - es, we lift our hands, we lift our
lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voice-es, Lord, use our
hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing.
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we
give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voice - es, we lift our hands, we lift our
lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

OFFERING PRAYER

- A Let us pray.
God our provider,
by your merciful hand
abundance springs up from the earth.
Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty.
Let them be a sign of your steadfast love
and faithfulness for all people,
through Jesus Christ our Savior.
- C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical score is written on four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words underlined. The first staff is for the Leader and Congregation, the second for the Leader and Congregation, the third for the Leader and Congregation, and the fourth for All.

Leader Congregation

The__ Lord be__ with__ you. And__ al - so__ with you.

Leader Congregation

Lift__ up__ your hearts.__ We__ lift them to__ the Lord.

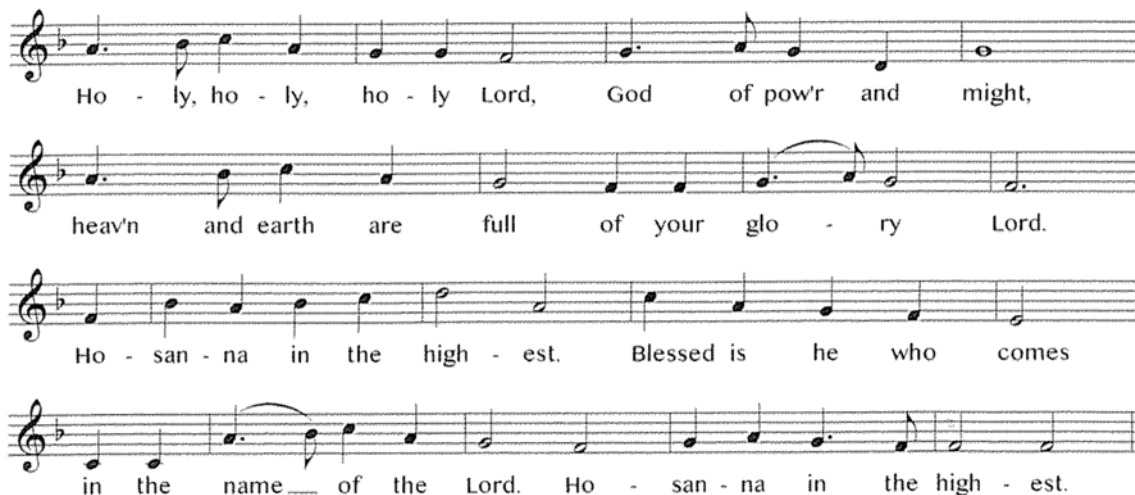
Leader Congregation

Let__ us__ give thanks to__ the Lord, to the Lord our__ God.

All

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
 that we should at all times and in all places
 give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
 through our Savior Jesus Christ.
 You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
 through whom you will also make all things new
 in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.
 And so, with all the choirs of angels,
 with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
 Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
 Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
 Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
 Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
 Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
 Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
 the Word made flesh.

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 proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.
Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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 In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together.
Come, take your place at the table.

Sit

SHARING OF HOLY COMMUNION

As Lutherans, we believe that Christ is really present in the bread and wine we share. All are welcome to commune here. Infants and others who do not commune are invited to come forward and receive a blessing.

Please take a communion glass from the ushers on your way forward. As the pastors and lay assistants give the bread and wine, they say these words to each communicant: The body of Christ, given for you; the blood of Christ, shed for you. The communicant may say: Amen. Wine is offered by Communion Assistants holding the silver chalices. Grape juice is offered by the third Communion Assistant on either side holding the pottery chalice. (The grape juice is purple.)

Gluten-free wafers are available from the pastors. Let them know that you need one when you come forward to receive the bread.

COMMUNION SONG: *What Feast of Love*, #487



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Stand

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A Let us pray.
Generous God,
in bread and cup you have revealed your glory
for all people to see together.
Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim
your good news of liberation and release,
brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.
- C **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

- P The God of peace bless you,
the love of Christ sustain you in hope,
and the anointing of the Spirit + remain upon you
now and forever.
- C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN, *Soon and Very Soon*, #439



1 Soon and ver - y soon
2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
3 No more dy - in' there,
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Keep awake. C Thanks be to God.

THIS WEEK AT “OUR REDEEMER”

SUNDAY, December 3, 2023, First Sunday of Advent

- 9:00am Worship
- 10:00am Growing in God
- 10:00am Adult Class
- 11:00am Worship
- 4:30-6:15pm Youth Group (7th-12th Grade)
- 6:30-8:00pm Crossroads

MONDAY, December 4, 2023

- 9:00am Noah’s Ark Preschool

TUESDAY, December 5, 2023

- 9:00am Noah’s Ark Preschool
- 12:30pm Dining Divas Holiday Lunch (Atria’s)
- 7:00pm Finance Committee

WEDNESDAY, December 6, 2023

- 9:00am Noah’s Ark Preschool
- 9:00am Executive Committee
- 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, December 7, 2023

- 9:00am Noah’s Ark Preschool

FRIDAY, December 8, 2023

- 9:00am Noah’s Ark Preschool
- 5:30pm Family Friday

SATURDAY, December 9, 2023

- 5:30pm Worship

SUNDAY, December 10, 2023, Second Sunday of Advent

- 9:00am Worship
- 10:00am Growing in God
- 10:00am Adult Class
- 11:00am Worship
- 3:00pm Washington Festival Chorale Concert (Our Redeemer)
- 5:00pm Advent Choir Concert (Center Presbyterian Church)

Breakfast at the Manger

**Saturday, Dec. 23
10am**

**Sunday, Dec. 24
10am**



decoration/set-up on Thursday, December 21, and with food set up/clean up on the days of the events. Plan to sign up by Monday, December 18.

Gather with us for food and fellowship on **Saturday, December 23 at 10am or Sunday, December 24 at 10am** as we hear the story of “The Noisy Night”! This year, this event will take place twice, so that we have capacity to invite friends, Noah’s Ark families, and community members. Church members may attend either day, and are encouraged to provide an item for breakfast on one or both days - breakfast breads (no peanuts; label for other nuts), fruit, cereal, and yogurt are good options! Help is needed for

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sally Lowery Ferko, Brian Casper, Clint Langley, Carol Brandyberry, Lori Gajdowski, Chris Decker, Jen Barbati, Gary McGaffic, Randy Stonemark, Mandy Jarosh, and those friends and family members who have asked for our prayers: Kerwin Broman, Mike Engman, Kayden Spencer, Marcy Raeford, Nancy Lyons, Nancy Adams, Robert Ruppel, Kevin Ruppel, Lydia Damoose, Lisa Kilgore, Laura Norton, Anthony Santaguida, Margaret “Peggy” Stopko, Judy Concannon, Ray Keisling, Dan Stimmel, Tamara Brister, Wendy Brosky, Heidi Garner, Janice Poole, and Nester Miskow.

The most recently added names appear at the beginning of the lists and will remain for 3 months. You may remove a name sooner or ask for renewal if a person is still in need of prayer after the three months. If you would like to add someone to the prayer list, please submit your request in writing and place in the offering plate, drop off in the church office, or submit by email to orlc@comcast.net.

This weekend’s altar flowers have been given by Pastors Kevin and Martha Clementson in loving memory of our parents.

2024 Altar Flowers - The 2024 Flower Chart can be found on the bulletin board in the Narthex (Lobby). The cost for the flowers will remain \$58.00 per week. Flowers are a great way to honor or remember a loved one. You are welcome to sign up for a week that has special meaning for you and either pay now or on the actual date.

New Worship Assistance Needed

We are very much in need of additional people to help with the worship services at Our Redeemer! As our congregation returns to multiple worship services, we need additional communion assistants, lectors, ushers, greeters, gift bearers and worship assistants. These roles take place during the worship service. Some of them require arriving ahead of the scheduled service while some take place only during the worship service itself. Our Redeemer has wonderful volunteers, but some of the long-time volunteers are no longer available due to life changes. (We are especially in need of communion assistants at the 4:30pm service on Christmas Eve. Perhaps you could give it a try!) Please prayerfully consider whether God might be calling you to try something new in order to support the worship life of our community. If you are willing to give it a try, please email Elaine at orlc@comcast.net or speak with one of the pastors. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

Christmas Gifts That Make a Difference - Thank you for the wonderful response to our toy drive for Glade Run and Washington County Children and Youth Services. The gifts will be delivered this week. ELCA Good Gifts are still available through Christmas. Check the bulletin board for Good Gift ornaments.

Youth Group - All 7th-12th graders are invited to join Pastor Kerri for Youth Group on **Sunday, December 3 from 4:30-6:15pm**. We'll make and eat dinner together (holiday feast!) and play games. Crossroads students should plan to stay for class at 6:30pm.

Family Friday - K-6th graders and families: bring your dinner and join us for Family Friday on **Friday, December 8 at 5:30pm** in the Social Hall. We'll tell the Christmas story together with a pick-up pageant, and say farewell to our friends Anusha and Jena. Sign up on the bulletin board or online.

December 10 Choral Christmas Concerts - Our Redeemer's Choir will be participating in two concerts next Sunday afternoon. The first is at 3:00, here at Our Redeemer, when the choir will participate with the Washington Festival Chorale. Tickets are \$10 for adults; children under 16 are free. Tickets can be purchased at the door. Later that afternoon, the choir will join in an ecumenical Advent Choir Festival at Center Presbyterian Church (255 Center Church Road, McMurray). There is no charge for the Choir Festival. Please plan to support our wonderful choir by attending one or both of these events.

Faithful Filmgoers - Mark your calendars for **Friday evening, December 15** for our next film outing. Movie, theater, and time to be determined. Email Steve D'Addieco at stevendaddieco@gmail.com to be put on his email list.



This year, we are offering a special worship opportunity for all who would like to step away from busyness, the lights, the shopping, the movies, the baking, the eating, and all that our Christmas has come to include. Take some time to ponder...what is this love of God that came to us in Jesus? How does Jesus' birth in this world make a difference for each of us and for this entire broken world? Join us for prayer, song, and reflection that will bring calm and offer a refocus as the holiday draws near.

Christmas Eve Worship

Sunday, December 24

4:30pm - Children's Christmas Eve

With songs and a retelling of the Christmas story, we celebrate the birth of Jesus in an interactive way.

7pm - Christmas Eve Worship

A full worship service with carols, candlelight, and communion.

11pm - Christmas Eve Worship

A full worship service with carols, candlelight, and communion.



Pub Theology - All adults are welcome to join in great fellowship and lively conversation around topics of interest in our daily lives each month at the Voodoo Brewing Company in Houston, PA. Our next gathering will be on **Thursday, December 28**.

**Interested in Joining Our Redeemer?
Maybe you would just like to learn more about the congregation?**

There will be a new members class held on **January 28 from 1 to 3 PM**. The class will also be available for people who would simply like to know more about the congregation. Please let us know if you would like to participate in this class. New members will be received on February 3 or 4. To let us know of your interest please contact the church office at orlc@comcast.net or talk with one of the pastors.

Donations for City Mission & Blessings in a Backpack – The Service and Outreach Committee continues to collect everyday items that are needed by families in our area.

The City Mission reports needing all kinds of food, but particularly spaghetti sauce, noodles, cereal, canned meats, peanut butter and jelly, Ramen noodles, and diapers (sizes 4, 5, 6). The City Mission also is happy to receive gloves, mittens, and hats throughout the winter.

Blessings in a Backpack serving Ringgold Elementary School North is in need of microwavable cups of Chef Boyardee mac and cheese style pastas, applesauce or fruit cups/squeeze pouches, and snack size boxes of raisins.

Event Sign-ups



Scan the QR code to visit the online "bulletin board" and sign up for upcoming events at Our Redeemer!

***Sign up for all events on
the bulletin board, through
our website,
[www.OurRedeemer-
peters.org](http://www.OurRedeemer-peters.org), or scan the QR
code to the left. For Online
Giving, scan the QR code to
the right.***

Online Giving



Scan the QR code to support the mission and ministry of Our Redeemer by giving an offering online.

THIS SUNDAY'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE (DECEMBER 3, 2023)

9:00am

ACOLYTE - *Child Volunteer Requested*
LAY ASSISTANT - Kim Chupinka
LECTOR - Jennifer Hewitt
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS - Tina
Borra, Karen Glass, Jennifer Hewitt,
Susan Loeser, Phyllis Permar, Trudy
Wagner
GREETER - Dianne Rigby
USHERS - Dave Borra and Ken Rigby
GIFT BEARERS - *Child Volunteer
Requested*
ALTAR GUILD - Tina Borra and Susan
Loeser
POWERPOINT - Gary Milavec

11:00am

ACOLYTE - Isaac and Owen Hilderhoff
LAY ASSISTANT - Kim Maize
LECTOR - Sarah Dagnal
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS - Barb
Hrabar, Sue Lambert, Becky Long,
Carl and Sally Ruppel, Nancy Till
GREETER - Becky Hilderhoff
USHERS - Joe Maize and Max Rush
GIFT BEARER - Owen Hilderhoff
ALTAR GUILD - Becky Long and Sally
Ruppel
POWERPOINT - Meredith Pomposelli
CAMERA - Sam Mizia
TELLERS (Sunday) - Gary Milavec and
Sue Lambert

NEXT SUNDAY'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE (DECEMBER 10, 2023)

9:00am

ACOLYTE - *Child volunteer requested*
LAY ASSISTANT - Laura Culp
LECTOR - Linda Nickles
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS - Missy
Bookhammer, Karen Glass, Keith and
Ruth Ann Lowery, Linda Nickles,
Phyllis Permar
GREETER - Anne and Sophie Scher
USHERS - Drew and Karla Lance
GIFT BEARER - Sophie Scher
ALTAR GUILD - Laura Culp and Susan
Loeser
POWERPOINT - Dan and Sam Scher

11:00am

ACOLYTE - Jules and Reece Greco
LAY ASSISTANT - Maegan Bregenser
LECTOR - Becky Long
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS - Brenda
Binotto, Lori Greene, Sue Lambert,
Becky Long, Heather Morelli,
Volunteer
GREETER - Paula Reese
USHERS - Eric Reese and Max Rush
GIFT BEARER - Wynne Greco
ALTAR GUILD - Sue Lambert and
Volunteer
POWERPOINT - Jennifer Hewitt
CAMERA - Sam Mizia
TELLERS (Monday) - Judy Pilof and
Jennifer Hewitt

Prepare the Royal Highway. Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772-1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*. Music: BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent. Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted/Podcast/Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-700919. All rights reserved.

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Hark, the Glad Sound! Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751. Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820. Public Domain.

Anthem (11:00am): *Advent Psalm*. Words by Charles Wesley. Music by J.S. Bach. Arranged by Tom Fettke. Copyright © 2002 by Hal Leonard Corporation. Used by permission. CCLI Streaming License #20666195.

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Great Thanksgiving; Holy, Holy, Holy. Arranged by Cynthia I. Gonzales, Ph.D., Music Director at First Lutheran Church, San Marcos, TX. Used with permission.

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Donations for Christmas Decorations



Christmas Decorations

Name _____
As you wish your name to appear in the bulletin

Phone Number _____

I wish to donate # _____ Poinsettia(s) **Donation: \$10.00 each**

I wish to donate \$ _____ to use where needed to decorate

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Given in memory of / honor of / celebration of / thanksgiving for
(please circle one)

Print clearly

Please place this form and your donation in an envelope and mail it to
Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 105 Gateshead Drive, McMurray PA
15317-3101 or drop it in the offering plate in the back of the church or in
the church office. If you have any questions, call the church office at
724-941-7467.

DEADLINE: December 15.