

From you, O BETHLEHEM, shall come forth  
one who is to rule in Israel.  
And he shall be the one of PEACE.



December 18, 2022, 11:00 AM  
Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

# OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

105 Gateshead Drive McMurray, PA 15317-3101

## WORSHIP SERVICES

5:30 PM, Saturday

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

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

GROWING IN GOD (September - May), 10:00 AM, Age 3-Adults

Childcare is provided on Sunday mornings in the nursery. Weekly nursery attendant is Amy Johnson. The service is broadcast to the narthex which you are invited to use as a cry room. The volume may be adjusted by turning the knob on the wall near the left sanctuary doors.

**THE REV. DR. ANN SCHMID, PASTOR** - 724-554-6016 (cell), [pastorschmid@comcast.net](mailto:pastorschmid@comcast.net)

**THE REV. KERRI CLARK, PASTOR** - 724-603-5589 (cell), [rev.kerri.clark@gmail.com](mailto:rev.kerri.clark@gmail.com)

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**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/ORLutheran>

**YouTube:** <https://tinyurl.com/ORLCyoutube>

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## 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 AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*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

*Stand*

### CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who comes to wake us from sleep,  
who leads us into the light of grace.

C **Amen.**

P Let us prepare the way of the Lord  
by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P God of all time,

C **we confess that we have not prepared  
for your merciful reign among us.**

**We ignore our neighbors in need  
and fail in the labor of justice and peace.**

**In your mercy forgive us.**

**Grant us wisdom to welcome your light  
and to seek the things that will endure  
until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.**

P Comfort, O comfort my people,  
says your God.

In † Jesus Christ your sins are forgiven  
and all things are made new.

Rejoice in this good news!

C **Amen.**

## OPENING SONG

### Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



- 1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
- 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
- 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ings bore,
- 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.  
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.  
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.  
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.  
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.  
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;  
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.  
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.  
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.  
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

## GREETING



Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



Glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ria, glo - ry to God . . on high!



And on earth . . . peace to God's peo-ple. Glo - ry to God.



And on earth . . peace to God's peo-ple. Glo - ry to God.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Sit*

## WORD

**FIRST READING: Micah 5:2-5a** (Pew Bible page 756)

L      A reading from the book of the prophet Micah.

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,  
who are one of the little clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
one who is to rule in Israel,  
whose origin is from of old,  
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time  
when she who is in labor has brought forth;  
then the rest of his kindred shall return  
to the people of Israel.  
And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD,  
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great  
to the ends of the earth;  
and he shall be the one of peace.  
If the Assyrians come into our land  
and tread upon our soil,  
we will raise against them seven shepherds  
and eight installed as rulers.

L      The word of the Lord.

C      **Thanks be to God.**

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*We light four candles on our Advent wreath and pray for the peace that Emmanuel brings.*

Peace, peace, peace on earth--, and good will-- to  
all. This is a time for joy. This is a  
time for love. Now let us all sing to-  
geth - er of peace, peace, peace-- on earth.

**P** O, come, O, come, Emmanuel,  
God with us this day and always.

**C** O, come, O, come, Emmanuel,  
the promised Messiah, the shepherd of old.

**P** O, come, O, come, Emmanuel,  
whose presence brings peace on earth.

**C** O, come, O come, Emmanuel,  
whose presence brings peace in our lives.

## PEACE THOUGHTS

**P** Stir up your power,  
Lord Christ, and come.  
Come into our hearts, our  
homes, and our lives.  
With your ever-present  
grace, fill us with your  
presence and your peace,  
for you live and reign with  
the Father and the Holy  
Spirit, one God, now and  
forever.

**C** Amen.

Peace, peace, peace on earth--, and good will-- to  
all. This is a time for joy. This is a  
time for love. Now let us all sing to-  
geth - er of peace, peace, peace-- on earth.

## BETHLEHEM



**SECOND READING: Romans 1:1-7** (Pew Bible page 913)

A A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

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

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**GOSPEL: Matthew 1:18-25** (Pew Bible page 783)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.

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

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.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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



Sit

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

### SERMON

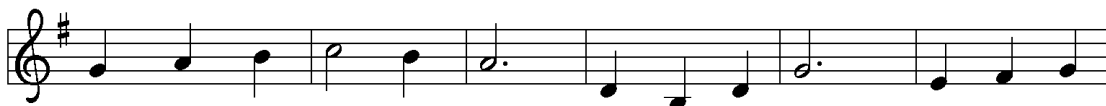
Stand

### SERMON SONG

## Drawn to the Light



1 Peo - ple who walk in dark - ness have sought a light in the  
2 How can we tell a heav - en from hell if ev - 'ry - one  
3 Where is the sun? Oh, there will be none! The Lamb is the



heart of the dark - est night. Just when we thought all would be  
dwells in the dark of night? Morn - ing dis - pels, gent - ly com -  
one who is shin - ing bright, bids us to come! Life has be -



lost, we were drawn to the light of God.  
pels, and we're drawn to the light of God.  
gun when we're drawn to the light of God.

### *Refrain*



Dawn is in sight! Gone is the night, drawn to the



light and the morn - ing. Glo - rious and bright, oh, what a



sight to be drawn to the light of God.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

### **PRAYER OF THE CONGREGATION**

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

### **PEACE**

P The peace of Christ be with you always.  
C **And also with you.**

*Please share a sign of peace with those around you with a word, a wave, or a handshake.*

*Sit*

## **MEAL**

### **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.*

**ANTHEM**, *Advent Psalm*

### **PRESENTATION OF OFFERING**

*Stand*

## OFFERTORY

### What Feast of Love



1 What feast of love is of-fered here, what ban-quet come from heav-en?  
3 What wine of love is of-fered here, what ho-ly drink from heav-en?



What food of ev-er-last-ing life, what gra-cious gift 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 sweet-est wine of heav-en.



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

## OFFERTORY PRAYER



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.

P Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:  
C **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

P 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.  
C **Come, Lord Jesus.**

P 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.  
C **Come, Holy Spirit.**

P 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.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

*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.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available from the pastors. Let them know that you need one when you come forward to receive the bread. For those who require it, grape juice is available instead of wine in the pre-filled, purple glasses in the communion cup trays.*

*Stand*

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

## **BLESSING**

## CLOSING SONG

### He Came Down



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;  
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.  
he came down that we may have peace;  
he came down that we may have joy;

## DISMISSAL

## **THIS WEEK AT “OUR REDEEMER”**

### **SUNDAY, December 18, 2022, Fourth Sunday of Advent**

- 9:00 AM    Worship
- 10:00 AM    Breakfast at the Manger
- 11:00 AM    Worship
- 4:30 PM    Community Advent Choir Concert (Trinity United Methodist)
- 7:00 PM    Blue Christmas Service

### **MONDAY, December 19, 2022**

- 9:00 AM    Noah’s Ark Preschool
- 1:00 PM    Church Decorating

### **TUESDAY, December 20, 2022, Newsletter Deadline**

- 9:00 AM    Noah’s Ark Preschool

### **WEDNESDAY, December 21, 2022**

- 9:00 AM    Noah’s Ark Preschool
- 7:00 PM    Chancel Choir

### **THURSDAY, December 22, 2022**

### **FRIDAY, December 23, 2022**

### **SATURDAY, December 24, 2022, Christmas Eve**

- 4:30 PM    Children’s Christmas Eve
- 7:00 PM    Christmas Eve Worship Service
- 11:00 PM    Candlelight Worship Service

### **SUNDAY, December 25, 2022, Christmas Day**

- 10:00 AM    Worship



## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Prayers of healing and comfort are requested for George Andrewson, Carol Ausefski, Edith Bencic, Chuck and Rosalind Bieri, Ruth Brosky, Cindy Cox, Dorothy Dillemoth, Kerri Evans, Martha Fecher, Richard and Lori Gajdowski, Ray Hrabar, Mandy Jarosh, Gary McGaffic, Marilyn Melvin, Casey Moran on his deployment, Tim Roberts, Kathy Russman, and those friends and family members who have asked for our prayers: Chris, Doug, Kate, Sam, George Andrewson Sr., Marjorie Appleton, Larry Arch, Sandi Babbie, Bob Bell, Todd Brosky, Wendy Brosky, Doug Bush, Tom Caley, Carolyn Dagg, Ellen Deutsch, D. T. Emery, Kim Gaydos, Catie Geory, Ian Gonzalez, Norma Gower, Marion Greenland, Lisa Grimes, Mickey Gubitti, Bob Hohowski, Joyce Hough, Ray Keisling, June Lance, Gordon and Diane Ley, Jess Ley, Elizabeth Locher, Mildred Maize, Megan Meseck, Jolie Mihalik, Chuck Miller, Owen Miller, Adam Miskow, Linda Moeslein, Dolores Munsick, Beth Napolitano, Kathy Oberle, Brad Olson, Jean Orth, Tracey Perles, Patty Preisinger, Dave Provenzano, Cyndi Quinn, Phyllis Rhone, Betty and Frank Rively, Jeanie Rose, Joe Sarubbi, Dave Schrader, Meryl Severson, Bob Shader, Holly Shader, Karol Smith, Bernie Solo, Donna Stafford, Diane Steffick, Dan Stimmel, Gary Stinson, Andrew Straka, Terri Strawn, Tina Thielet, Deb Thompson, Barb Van Lehn, Art W., Dave Weikel, Rhianna Wilk, and Frank Yocca.

Last evening we welcomed through the Sacrament of Baptism, Amelia Mary Beckman, daughter of Anthony Charles Beckman and Rachel Anne Blistan Beckman. *Welcome child of God!*

**Church Decorating . . .** We will be decorating the church on Monday beginning at 1:00pm. Anyone is welcome to come and help.

**Retirement Party Update . . .** Pastor Schmid's retirement party on Sunday January 29 will be a wonderful celebration of a remarkable Pastor and her more than 38 years of service to Lutheran congregations. Anyone interested in helping should call the office or party coordinators Suzanne Kennedy (412-337-9267) and Kim Maize (724-986-1527). Specific help is needed with decorations, flowers, photo arrangements, food, room set up, and clean up.

**Christmas Cards . . .** If you are sending out Christmas cards and wish to send one to your church family, we will happily display it on the bulletin board in the narthex.

**2022 Contributions . . .** To be included on your 2022 statement, all donations must be received in the church office by 9:00am on Friday, December 30. Statements will be sent out in January. You can also view your contribution record through our ICON Membership Software. If you would like access, email the church office and let us know that you want access and an invitation with User ID and temporary password will be sent to you. The link to ICON can be found on the "Links" page on our website.

**Holiday Office Hours . . .** The church office will be closed on Monday, December 26 and Monday, January 2. Noah's Ark Preschool will be on break from December 22 through January 2.

**Dining Out Divas . . .** The ladies will enjoy lunch at Juniper Grill in McMurray on Thursday, January 12 at 12:30. Sign up online or on the bulletin board.

**Annual Congregational Meeting**  
**January 22, 2023 10:00 AM between Sunday services**

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 22 at 10:00 AM. Copies of the annual report will be available the weekend of January 14 and 15. All Committee Reports are due into the church office no later than January 9. Included on the agenda for the annual meeting is Election of Council Members, Approval of the 2023 budget and changes to the bylaws of the Mission Endowment Fund.

*Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers.* Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907. Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune. Public Domain.

*Drawn to the Light.* Text: John C. Ylvisaker, b. 1937. Music: LA CROSSE, John C. Ylvisaker. Text and music © 1990 John C. Ylvisaker. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-700919.

Anthem: *Advent Psalm.* Words by Charles Wesley. Music by J.S. Bach. Arranged by Tom Fettke.

*What Feast of Love.* Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939. Text © 1993 Delores Dufner, OSB. Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland OR 97213. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-700919. All rights reserved.

*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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# ***Christmas Worship Schedule***

## **Blue Christmas Service**

Sunday, December 18 7:00 PM

If you are feeling blue as Christmas approaches, you are invited to this worship service that is filled with words and songs of gentle comfort and hope. Our doors are open to everyone. Please invite others to join you.

## **Christmas Eve**

Saturday, December 24

Holy communion is offered at all Christmas Eve services.

### **4:30 PM Children's Christmas Eve**

This service is designed for young children and their families, though everyone is invited. With songs and a retelling of the Christmas story we celebrate the birth of Jesus in an interactive way.

### **7:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship Service**

This is a full worship service with carols, candlelight and communion. There is also a children's sermon.

### **11:00 PM Candlelight Worship Service**

Usher in Christmas with a service that ends just as Christmas Day begins.

## **Christmas Day**

Sunday, December 25

We will have one service at 10:00 AM on Christmas Day.

## **New Year's Eve and Day**

We will have worship at 5:30 PM on New Year's Eve and one service at 10:00 AM on New Year's Day.

## **THIS SUNDAY'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE (DECEMBER 18)**

### **9:00 AM**

ACOLYTE - Volunteer  
LAY ASSISTANT - Jennifer Hewitt  
LECTOR - Tim Prex  
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS - Carlie  
Hewitt, Susan Loeser, Ruth Ann  
Lowery, Linda Nickles  
GREETER - Karen Smith  
USHERS - Keith Lowery and Dan Scher  
GIFT BEARERS - Scher Family  
ALTAR GUILD - Kim Chupinka and  
Susan Loeser  
POWERPOINT - Rolf Otterness

### **11:00 AM**

ACOLYTE - Volunteer  
LAY ASSISTANT - Maegan Bregenser  
LECTOR - Lalitha Rajakumar  
COMMUNION ASSISTANTS - Eliana  
and Jackie Beck, Martha Clementson,  
Barb Hrabar  
GREETERS - Mizia Family  
USHERS - Jim Mizia and Charles  
Rajakumar  
GIFT BEARERS - Mizia Family  
ALTAR GUILD - Barb Hrabar and Joyce  
Kilgore  
POWERPOINT - Jacob Casper  
CAMERA - Sam Mizia  
TELLERS (Monday) - Gary Milavec and  
Jennifer Hewitt