

SERVICE OF WORSHIP AND HOLY COMMUNION

DECEMBER 31, 2023
FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS



OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

105 GATESHEAD DRIVE, McMURRAY, PA 15317-3101 724-941-7467

orlc@comcast.net www.OurRedeemer-peters.org

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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

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ELAINE DOLCICH, OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

THE REV. JOHN F. YEDLICKA, PASTOR EMERITUS

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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."

LESSONS AND CAROLS FOR CHRISTMAS

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVITATION

The angel said to the shepherds, “Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2: 10-11)

As we gather we hear again the good news the angels proclaimed: God has come for all people through the birth of the one named Jesus. Through Bethlehem’ manger God comes into the chaos, messiness, and vulnerability of the world. In all things and at all times, we rejoice that God comes to save us and reigns in love. We come to adore Jesus who is Savior, Christ, and Lord.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Amid the troubles and fears of this world, let us confess our sin and welcome God’s forgiveness, grace, and love.

Silence is kept for reflection

P Mary accepted your call to be the mother of Jesus.

C **Forgive our lack of faith and trust.**

P Your Son was born in the poverty of a stable.

C **Forgive our neglect of the poor.**

P The shepherds left their flocks and went to Bethlehem.

C **Forgive our selfishness and complacency.**

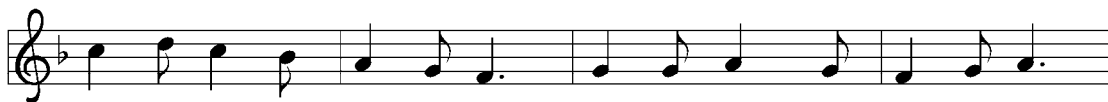
P In + Jesus, who is Savior, Christ, and Lord, our sins are forgiven. May you know the peace which the angels sang from the heavens. Indeed, God’s forgiveness is good news of great joy!

C **Amen.**

GATHERING CAROL, *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*, #288



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



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



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



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

GREETING

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ who is Savior and Lord,
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.

Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

CAROL OF PRAISE, *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*, #270



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



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



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



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



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

¹A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

²The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

³His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

⁴but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

⁶The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling together,
and a little child shall lead them.

⁷The cow and the bear shall graze,
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

⁸The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp,
and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

⁹They will not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain;
for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

SECOND LESSON Micah 5:2-5a From Bethlehem shall come the One of Peace

² 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.

³ 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.

⁴ 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;

⁵ and he shall be the one of peace.

CHOIR CAROL, *That Boy-Child of Mary*

THIRD LESSON Matthew 1:18-25 The Birth of Jesus is told to Joseph

¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰ 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. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³ "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." ²⁴ When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵ but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

CAROL, *Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*, #276



1 In - fant ho - ly, in - fant low - ly, for his bed a cat - tle stall;
2 Flocks were sleep - ing, shep - herds keep - ing vig - il till the morn - ing new



ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the child is Lord of all.
saw the glo - ry, heard the sto - ry, tid - ings of a gos - pel true.



Swift - ly wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, bells are ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:
Thus re - joic - ing, free from sor - row, prais - es voic - ing, greet the mor - row:



Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

CAROL, *We Three Kings of Orient Are*



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



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



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

Refrain



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



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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

A brief silence.

A You inspire faith in our hearts and call us to rejoice with our whole selves at the salvation you bring. Make our churches places of belonging for all people in the fullness of their being. Raise up the gifts and the witness of people who are neurodivergent, living with disability, or bearing invisible illness. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Your praise is sung throughout creation in all times and seasons. As the new year turns, ground us in your changeless and sustaining love. Keep us attentive to the rhythms of the cosmos and inspire us to live in harmony with all the earth. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Give hope and stamina to leaders who work tirelessly for the sake of the most vulnerable. We pray especially for organizations working on behalf of children to provide basic needs, to protect from abuse and neglect, to address trauma, and to rescue from trafficking. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Sustain all people who, like Simeon and Anna, have been waiting for salvation and wholeness especially the Ruppel family, Lynn, Joe, Mandy, Sally, Brian, Lori, Chris, Jen, Gary, Randy, and those we name out loud and in our hearts. We pray especially for anyone living with cancer or chronic illness, all people who are in physical rehabilitation or addiction recovery, and those experiencing complications from long COVID. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Let this community of faith be a joyful and welcome place for all ages and generations. Teach us to honor the wisdom of children, the inquisitiveness of youth, the thoughtfulness of adults, and the knowledge of elders. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A We give thanks for all the beloved who lived with expectation and departed this life in peace. Sustain us in joy until we join them around your throne. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your

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, *When the Song of the Angels Is Stilled*
OFFERING CAROL, *In the Bleak Midwinter*, #294

OFFERING PRAYER

A Let us pray.
 God of abundance,
 receive and bless these gifts we have offered,
 Join our hearts with the song of the angels,
 and gather us at your table of celebration.
 Strengthen us to share with all the world
 the abundance of your grace upon grace,
 poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

C Amen.



1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
 2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;
 3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
 heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
 If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
 if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
 the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
 yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

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:

C 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.

C 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.

C 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 Glory to God in the highest!
Come to the table of peace.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR 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.

SHARING OF COMMUNION

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.
God our redeemer,
you have fed us at this table

with gifts of grace, truth, and life.
As you have gathered us in joy,
send us forth as messengers of your peace.
Make us shine with the good news of your glory,
born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

FIFTH LESSON Luke 2:21-36 Jesus is Named and Presented in the Temple

²¹After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

²a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed — and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage.

SIXTH LESSON Luke 2:39 The Holy Family Returns to Nazareth

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to

Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth.

BLESSING

P God bless you and keep you,
 + Jesus grant you grace and truth,
 and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts,
 now and forever.

C **Amen.**

CAROL, *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, #290

SENDING

A Christ the Savior is born!
 Go in peace. Proclaim this good news.

C **Thanks be to God.**



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem - bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Refrain

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Good Christian Friends, Rejoice. Text: Medieval Latin carol; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866. Music: IN DULCI JUBILO, German carol, 14th cent.

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Anthem: *That Boy-Child of Mary.* Text: Tom Colvin, 1925-2000. Music: BLANTYRE, Malawi traditional; adapt. Tom Colvin. Text and music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. Podcast/Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-700919. All rights reserved.

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly. Text: Polish carol; tr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1885-1933, alt. Music: W ZLOBIE LEZY, Polish carol.

We Three Kings of Orient Are. Text: John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820-1891, alt. Music: THREE KINGS OF ORIENT, John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1820-1891.

Anthem: *When the Song of the Angels Is Stilled.* Contributors: Elizabeth Alexander, Howard Thurman. Tune: © 2004 Elizabeth Alexander. Text: © 1985 by Friends United Press. Podcast/Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-700919. All rights reserved.

In the Bleak Midwinter. Text: Christina Georgina Rossetti, 1830-1894. Music: CRANHAM, Gustav Holst, 1874-1934.

Go Tell It on the Mountain. Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Word Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt. Music: GO TELL IT, African American spiritual.

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Donations for Christmas Decorations

Gary and Stephanie Ausefski in memory of Brian Ausefski
The Barczak Family in memory of our parents Jo-Anne and Harry Thieret
The Barczak Family in memory of our parents Connie and John Barczak
The Barczak Family in memory of our brother John Barczak
Jim Beaumont in memory of Bernadette Wittman
Jim Beaumont in memory of Matthew W. Wittman
The Binotto Family in thanksgiving for family and friends
Missy Bookhammer in memory of Tom McCollum
Missy Bookhammer in honor of the Wold family
Tina and Dave Borra
Carol Brandyberry in memory of Joan and Ed Handshue
Carol Brandyberry in celebration of Jack Webster
Maegan and Jim Bregenser, Jr. in honor of our children: Hardy and Amanda Kern-
Carberry, Kelsey and Patrick Gallagher, Jimmy Bregenser, Mary Bregenser, and
Leah Kern
RaDonna Burik and Julie Flynn in memory of my Dad, Donnie
RaDonna Burik and Julie Flynn in memory of Meleny
RaDonna Burik and Julie Flynn in memory of Aunt Ruth
Cindy Callen and Jean Ulmer in memory of Jean Myers and Jerry Callen
Brian and Laura Casper in thanksgiving for our beautiful children, Grace and Jacob
Grace and Jacob Casper in thanksgiving for our Grandma
Pastor Martha and Pastor Kevin Clementson in memory of Clarence and Helen
Clementson
Pastor Martha and Pastor Kevin Clementson in memory of The Rev. Gilson and Lois
Waldkoenig
Patti and Larry Day in memory of Margaret and Yutie Vukovcan
Patti and Larry Day in memory of Marty and Richard Day
Shirley Dempster in honor of David Dempster
Shirley Dempster in honor of Chris Dempster
The Divelbliss Family in memory of Terry L. Divelbliss
Janet P. Elliott in memory of Norman W. Elliott Sr.
Janet P. Elliott in memory of Norm and Julia Elliott Jr's. father-in-law, John Fennessey
Janet P. Elliott in memory of Dorothy Uhlemann

Bruce and Mike Engman in celebration of our family
Karen Glass in memory of Buddy Glass
Karen Glass in memory of Larry Wagner
Karen Glass in thanksgiving for my family
Jennifer Wilson Hewitt in loving memory of my dear parents, J. Paul and Beverly
Wilson
Jennifer Wilson Hewitt in loving memory of my grandparents, Gerald and Clarabelle
Kistler and Joseph and Dorothy Wilson
Barb and Ray Hrabar
Aubrie Angeline Kartman in memory of Angeline “Angie” Kazmeraski
Kris Kent in honor of Gary and Janet Kent
Sharon King in memory of loved ones
Soheila Lunney in memory of my mother, Mahin Rahimi
Jean Mace in memory of Bill Mace
Jean Mace in memory of Aunt Fran
Ginny Mickitsch in memory of John Mickitsch
Ginny Mickitsch in memory of Mark and Judy Dubich
Rolf Otterness
Phyllis J. Permar in thanksgiving for my family
Sally and Carl Ruppel in celebration of the birth of our Savior Jesus
Alan and Donna Schaefer in memory of Grant Schaefer
Alan and Donna Schaefer in memory of Brent Jones
Alan and Donna Schaefer in memory of Robert Barone
Bob and Carol Shader in memory of Detta Shader
Bob and Carol Shader in memory of George and Antoinette Ranii
Larry and Susan Steffick in memory of Paul and Vica Steffick
Larry and Susan Steffick in memory of Jeanette Steffick
Larry and Susan Steffick in memory of Charles and Emma Mayer
John and Nancy Till in honor of our congregation
Jim and Kathy Tomamichel in celebration of our grandchildren, Dylan and Beckham
Trudy Wagner in memory of my son, Richard
Trudy Wagner in memory of my husband, Larry

Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT “OUR REDEEMER”

SUNDAY, December 31, 2023, First Sunday of Christmas

10:00am Worship, Service of Lessons and Carols

MONDAY, January 1, 2024, New Year’s Day, Office closed

TUESDAY, January 2, 2024

6:30pm Young Adult Gathering

WEDNESDAY, January 3, 2024

9:00am Executive Committee

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, January 4, 2024

FRIDAY, January 5, 2024

SATURDAY, January 6, 2024

10:00am Removal of Christmas Decorations

5:30pm Worship

SUNDAY, January 7, 2024, Baptism of Our Lord

9:00am Worship

10:00am Growing in God

10:00am Adult Class

11:00am Worship

2024 Our Redeemer Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 28 at 10:00am in the Sanctuary**. Reports are due no later than January 14. All members of Our Redeemer are urged to participate in the Annual Meeting. This will be an important year in our life together, so we need your support!

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

The Ruppel family on the death of Carl and Sally's nephew, Kevin Ruppel; Lynn Broman; Joe Maize; Mandy Jarosh; Sally Lowery Ferko; Brian Casper; Lori Gajdowski; Chris Decker; Jen Barbati; Gary McGaffic; Randy Stonemark, and those friends and family members who have asked for our prayers: Lara Alderson, The Rev. Warren Lundblad, Mike Zgorliski, Ron Rieger, Kerwin Broman, Mike Engman, Kayden Spencer, Marcy Raeford, Nancy Lyons, Nancy Adams, Robert Ruppel, Lydia Damoose, Lisa Kilgore, Laura Norton, Anthony Santaguida, 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.

What Goes Up Must Come Down!! On Saturday, January 6 at 10:00am, the Worship and Music Committee will be packing the Christmas decorations away for safekeeping. We could use some help, especially if you are able to help lift, carry and climb a ladder! We were very grateful for all of the help that was given on decorating day. If you can give us an hour or two on the morning of January 6 we would be very thankful.

Poinsettias Looking for Good Homes!! Thank you to everyone who donated toward the decorating of our sanctuary this Christmas. Those who donated poinsettias are welcome to stop by the church and pick them up during office hours. After the Saturday and Sunday worship services on December 30 & 31, everyone is welcome to take poinsettias home to enjoy them.

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.

Young Adult Gathering - Young adults (age 18-30ish) are invited to gather at the church on **Tuesday, January 2 at 6:30pm** for pizza and games. Sign up online or on the bulletin board.

Dining Divas will meet at the Plaza Azteca in Washington on Tuesday, January 9 at 12:30. If you live closer to Washington, this is a great time to give Dining Divas a try! Please be sure to register so that if there is a weather cancellation we will be able to contact you. Dining Divas had a wonderful holiday gathering in December and looks forward to a new year of getting to know one another better over a casual lunch each month! Ladies, even if you can't come every month, we welcome you whenever you can join in the fun and fellowship.

Family Friday - K-6th graders and families: bring your dinner and join us for Family Friday on **Friday, January 12 at 5:30pm** in the Social Hall for a story, activities, and playtime! Sign up on the bulletin board or online.

Food Helpers - Join us on **Tuesday, January 16** (snow date January 18 if needed) from 10am-noon at the CNX building at Southpointe to pack some bags of nutritious snacks for elementary students in Washington County as part of the Little Moochi program. This program promotes healthy eating habits in kids through nutritious snacks and the Little Moochi app developed by CMU. Please sign up on the bulletin board or online by January 11 so that the list can be provided to CNX Security prior to the holiday weekend.

Registration for Noah's Ark Preschool - Current preschool families will register on **January 22**, Preschool alumni and members of Our Redeemer will register on **January 23**, and new families will register on **January 29**. Contact the preschool office at 724-942-6699 if you have any questions or would like to schedule a tour. The application packet can be found on the church's website: www.OurRedeemer-peters.org.

**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 3pm**. 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.

Care Packages for Our College Students - Our Redeemer is famous (or is infamous!) for sending a winter care package to our college students. We are told that the students love receiving a care package from their church family. So, once again we are collecting snacks and goodies to fill our packages in time for the Super Bowl. Individually wrapped items (i.e. candy, microwavable foods, individual bags of popcorn, etc.) can be dropped off at the church through **January 28**. Donations to cover the cost of shipping is also appreciated. College students and parents...please make sure that the church office has your current address.

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.

THIS SUNDAY'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE (DECEMBER 31)

10:00am

ACOLYTE - *Child volunteer requested*

LAY ASSISTANT - Sally Ruppel

LECTOR - Carl Ruppel

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS - Eliana and Jackie Beck, Karen Glass, Heather Morelli,
Linda Nickles, Phyllis Permar

GREETER - Karla Lance

USHERS - Jim Doughty and Drew Lance

GIFT BEARER - *Child volunteer requested*

ALTAR GUILD - Sue Lambert and Heather Morelli

POWERPOINT - Ryan Hettinger

CAMERA - Sam Mizia

TELLERS - Susan Loeser and Jackie Beck

NEXT SUNDAY'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE (JANUARY 7)

9:00am

ACOLYTE - *Child volunteer requested*

LAY ASSISTANT - Beth Pansino

LECTOR - Ruth Ann Lowery

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS - Missy
Bookhammer, Karen Glass, Susan
Loeser, Keith and Ruth Ann Lowery,
Trudy Wagner

GREETER - Anne Scher

USHERS - Ken Rigby, Dan and Sam
Scher

GIFT BEARER - Sophie Scher

ALTAR GUILD - Volunteers needed

POWERPOINT - Rolf Otterness

11:00am

ACOLYTE - Isaac Hilderhoff

LAY ASSISTANT - Carl Ruppel

LECTOR - Jen Milavec

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS - Carol
Brandyberry, Sarah Dagnal, Lori
Greene, Becky Long, Keith Mason,
Nancy Till

GREETERS - Hilderhoff family

USHERS - Doug Meley and Gary
Milavec

GIFT BEARER - Owen Hilderhoff

ALTAR GUILD - Carol Brandyberry and
Becky Long

POWERPOINT - Meredith Pomposelli

CAMERA - Sam Mizia

TELLERS - Gary Milavec and Larry Day

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, 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.

*Happy
New
Year!*

