



The Fourth Sunday in Advent
December 22, 2024



OUR REDEEMER

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship

9:30AM

**Christian
Education**

11AM

Charles D. Found

vacancy-pastor

Wisconsin Synod

WELCOME

to Our Redeemer and our hour of worship

Today in our worship we have the special opportunity to see both of the Lord's Sacraments presented to the Church. These are gifts of the Lord Jesus Christ. Christ's Words are united together with water, bread and wine. In these gifts we receive the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation!

For parents with Small Children

There is a children's bulletin available in the basket together with the service folders as you enter. Please pick one up. If necessary, rest rooms and a video monitor for watching the service are in the fellowship hall. Go to your left as you walk out of the worship area, through the double doors.

Gathering Rite on Holy Baptism

P In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Please stand.

Baptized Into Your Name Most Holy

Stanza 1

Bap - tized in - to your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther,
I claim a place, though weak and low - ly, A - mong your
Son, and Ho - ly Ghost,
saints, your cho - sen host, Bur - ied with Christ and dead to
sin. Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.

P I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit.

C **Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.**

P Surely we were sinful at birth, sinful from the time our mothers conceived us.

C **But we were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.**

Baptized Into Your Name Most Holy

Stanza 2



My lov - ing Fa - ther, there you took me To be hence-
My faith - ful Sav - ior, there you let me The fruit of



forth your child and heir.
all your sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it, com - fort



me When threat - 'ning clouds a - round I see.

P As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

C Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this, I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Baptized Into Your Name Most Holy

Stanza 3



My faith - ful God, you fail me nev - er; Your pro - mise
Oh, cast me not a - way for - ev - er If words and



sure - ly will en - dure.
deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I come de -



filed; For - give, lift up, re - store your child.

P Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

The Sacrament of Holy Baptism

P In obedience to the command our Lord and trusting in his promises, you have brought your child to be baptized. Jesus told us, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." It is in baptism that God grants the new life of forgiveness, joy, and peace to little children. By the power of God's Word, this gracious water of life washes away sins, delivers from death and the devil, and gives eternal salvation to all who believe.

Receive the sign of the cross on the head and heart + to mark you as a redeemed child of Christ.

Jocelyn Julia Bernerius, I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The Almighty God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – has forgiven all your sins. By your baptism, you are born again and made a child of your Father in heaven. May God strengthen you to live in your baptismal grace all the days of your life. Peace be with you.

Let us prayer.

Merciful Father in heaven, we thank you for the blessing of baptism by which you offer and grant the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. Help us to regard our baptism as the robe of righteousness we are to wear all the days of our life. Look with special favor on Jocelyn and grant her a rich measure of your Spirit and that she may grow in faith and godly living.

Make us willing to carry our responsibilities to those who have been baptized, so that all of us may finally come to the blessed joys of heaven, through Jesus our Lord.

C Amen.

P Go in peace.

Baptized Into Your Name Most Holy

Stanza 4



All that I am and love most dear - ly— Re - ceive it
Let me con - fess my faith sin - cere - ly, And help me



all, O Lord, from me.
your own child to be! Let noth - ing that I am or



own Serve an - y will but yours a - lone.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

P We light four Advent candles remembering Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Mary. He came to share our humanity.

C We remember Jesus, whose name means Savior. He came to save his people from their sins.

P We hear his call to give him a place in our hearts.

C We light four Advent candles as a sign of our joy and hope.

P Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

C Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.

+ + + **Prayer of the Day** + + +

P Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, not and forever.



Our God speaks to us from his Word

First Lesson – Micah 5:2-5a

*The lowly little town of Bethlehem would be lifted up.
There a special son would be born who would bring
spiritual peace to the ends of the earth.*

You, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, from you, will go out the one who will be the ruler for me in Israel.

His goings forth are from the beginning, from the days of eternity.

³Therefore the LORD will give them up, until the time when the woman who is in labor bears a child.

Then the remaining survivors from his brothers will return to the people of Israel.

⁴He will stand and shepherd with the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.

They will dwell securely, for at that time he will be great to the ends of the earth.

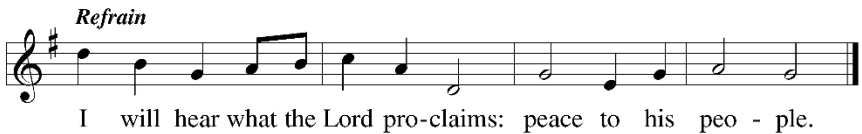
⁵This one will be their peace.

P The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day - Psalm 85

"Psalm 85 is a prayer psalm. The psalmist asks that God withhold his wrath and supply his grace. Luther.



**You showed favor to your land, O LORD;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.**

**You forgave the iniquity of your people
and covered all their sins.**

**Show us your unfailing love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.**

Refrain

**I will listen to what God the LORD will say;
he promises peace to his people, his saints.**

**Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.**

**Love and faithfulness meet together;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Second Lesson - Hebrews 10:4-10

We could not possibly raise ourselves up to God. So, the Son of God obeyed the law for us and by his sacrifice has made us holy. Christ has lifted up the lowly.

⁴The fact is that the blood of bulls and goats cannot take away sins.

⁵Therefore when he entered the world, Christ said: Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but you prepared a body for me. ⁶You were not pleased with burnt offerings and sin offerings.

⁷Then I said, "Here I am. I have come to do your will, God. In the scroll of the book it is written about me."

⁸First he said: Sacrifices and offerings that were offered according to the law, both burnt offerings and sin offerings, you did not desire, and you were not pleased with them.

⁹Then he said: Here I am. I have come to do your will. He does away with the first in order to establish the second.

¹⁰By this will, we have been sanctified once and for all, through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ.

P The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand as we prepared for the Gospel reading.

Verse of the Day – from Matthew 1

P Alleluia. The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son,

C and they will call him Immanuel. Alleluia.



C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel - Luke 1:39-55

*In Spirit-wrought humility, Mary knew she needed a Savior.
God lifts her up, making her the mother of that Savior.*

³⁹In those days Mary got up and hurried to the hill country, to a town of Judah. ⁴⁰She entered the home of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹Just as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴²She called out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! ⁴³But why am I so favored that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴In fact, just now, as soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy! ⁴⁵Blessed is she who believed, because the promises spoken to her from the Lord will be fulfilled!"

⁴⁶Then Mary said,

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, ⁴⁷and my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior, ⁴⁸because he has looked with favor on the humble state of his servant.

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed, ⁴⁹because the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. ⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm. He has scattered those who were proud in the thoughts of their hearts. ⁵²He has brought down rulers from their thrones. He has lifted up the lowly.

⁵³He has filled the hungry with good things, but the rich he has sent away empty.

⁵⁴He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, remembering his mercy, ⁵⁵as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and his offspring forever.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated.

Hymn of the Day - *My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord*
CW274

**My soul now magnifies the Lord;
My spirit shall in God rejoice.
My humble state he did regard,
Exalting me by gracious choice.**

**Henceforth shall people call me blest,
For great things he has done for me.
The mighty God is now my guest;
The Holy One has set me free.**

**His mercy is on all who fear,
Who trust in him from age to age.**

**His arm of strength to all is near;
The proud he scatters, though they rage.**

**He brings down rulers from their seat
And raises those of low degree.
He fills the hungry souls with meat;
The rich depart in poverty.**

**He helped his servant Israel,
Rememb'ring his eternal grace,
As from of old he did foretell
To Abraham and all his race.**

**So praise with me the Holy One,
Who comes in all humility.
To our Redeemer, God's own Son,
Be glory in eternity!**

Sermon - Luke 1:39-55

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Confession of Faith - Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of
God, eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn – Oh, Come, Oh Come, Emanuel

CW23

**1 Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel**

**That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!**

**2 Oh, come, O Root of Jesse, free
Your own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell your people save,
And bring them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!**

**3 Oh, come, O Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by your drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!**

**4 Oh, come, O Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home.
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel!**

Prayer of the Church

- P Gracious God and Father, we praise you for the countless blessings, which we receive from your hand: the beauties of creating and the bounties of the earth, the joy of life and the pleasure of friendship, the good

of work and the gift of rest, the privilege to share happiness and sorrow with one another. Above all we praise and thank you for your saving Word and for your Son's body and blood, which you give us to eat and drink in the sacrament. Through these means of grace, you send the Holy Spirit into our hearts and unite us to Jesus and to the whole Christian Church on earth.

C Strengthen us through this heavenly food; increase our trust in Christ and our love for one another.

P Great God and Lord, without your continuing help we easily waver in our faith, lose courage, and grow careless in our watchfulness. The times and days are perilous. Give us strength to face the evils of each day with fresh confidence. Open our lips to speak of your grace, and move us to use the gifts that you give us to share your Word of salvation with all people. Protect and prosper the family, the school, the government, and all good institutions that you have established for the benefit of society. Remember in mercy those who are sick and suffering, and bring your healing to troubled homes and lives.

C Move us to pray for those in need and to help them with deeds of kindness.

P Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions. -- *Silent prayers.* -- Now, eternal God and Father, keep us in the saving faith and so enable us to overcome all things through our Lord Jesus Christ, in whose Name we pray as he taught us ...

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,

**Hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your
will be done on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin
against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from
evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen!**

The Sacrament

Preface

P The Lord be with you.



C: And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



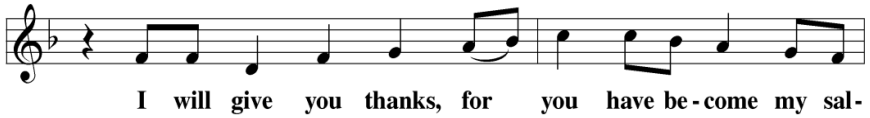
P Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing.

Through his holy prophets, he promised a King to bring light to those living in darkness and in the shadow of death.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise, thanks, honor and glory for ever and ever.

Holy, Holy, Holy – *Sanctus*





Words of Institution

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying: "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: A - men.

O Christ, Lamb of God - *Agnus Dei*

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world; grant us your peace. A - men.

Please be seated.

Distribution

The Lord's Supper is a means by which Christ strengthens our faith as we receive His body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. Receiving the Sacrament is a public confession of faith. Therefore, Our Redeemer congregation observes the Biblical principle of "close Communion." We invite only those persons who are members of this congregation or another Wisconsin Synod congregation to commune. Other guests are asked to speak with our pastor if they desire to join our confessional fellowship. Thank you!

After the Distribution, please stand.

We thank our God with Joyful Responses

P Let us give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

Thank the Lord



C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.



He re-news his prom-is - es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

The Lord sends us with his Blessing

The Closing Prayer

- P Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



The Benediction

- P Brothers and sisters, go in peace.
Live in harmony with one another.
Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.



Please be seated.

Closing Hymn – *A Great and Mighty Wonder*

CW36

**1 A great and mighty wonder,
A glorious mystery:
A virgin bears an infant
Who veils his deity.**

Refrain:

Repeat the hymn again:

**"To God on high be glory
And peace on earth to men."**

**2 The Word becomes incarnate
And yet remains on high,
And cherubim sing anthems
To shepherds from the sky. [Refrain]**

**3 While thus they sing your monarch,
Those bright angelic bands,
Rejoice, O vales and mountains,
And oceans, clap your hands. [Refrain]**

Looking ahead

**Today, Sunday, December 22nd –
worship with Communion - 9:30am
Education time, 11am**

**Tuesday, December 24th –
Christmas Eve Worship 7pm**

**Wednesday, December 25th –
Christmas Day Worship 9:30am**

**Sunday, December 29th –
Worship 9:30am
Education time, 11am**

January 1st – a blessed New Year