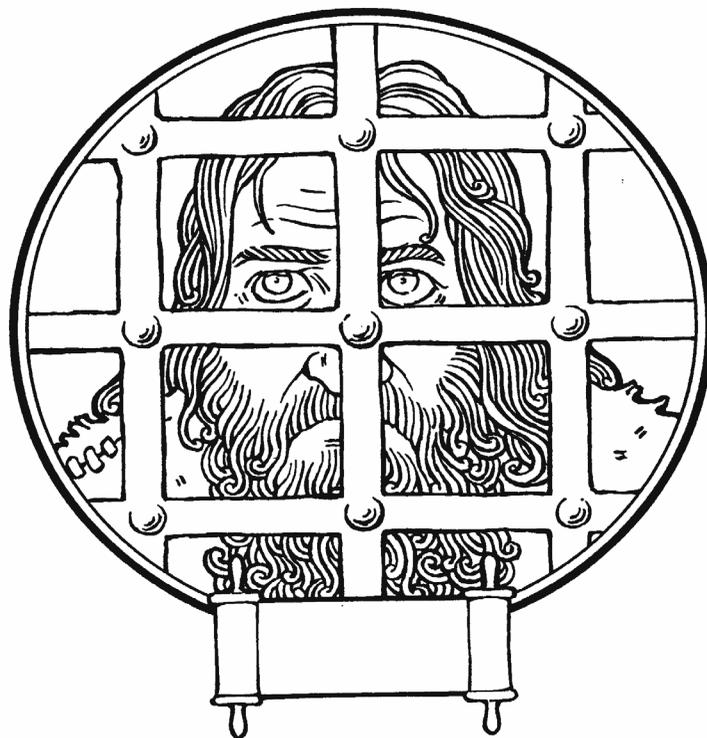


The Third Sunday in Advent-Gaudete

Lord Jesus Christ,
we implore You to hear our prayers
and to lighten the darkness of our hearts,
by Your gracious visitation



REDEEMER

Lutheran Church

202 West Rudisill Boulevard
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46807-2498
260-744-2585

www.redeemer-fortwayne.org

The Reverend David H. Petersen, Pastor
The Reverend Michael N. Frese, Pastor

Hymns

345 *LSB*

354 *LSB*

346 *LSB*

515 *LSB*

344 *LSB*

The Third Sunday in Advent

Gaudete

13 December 2020 A ☩ D 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

In Nomine ☩ Jesu

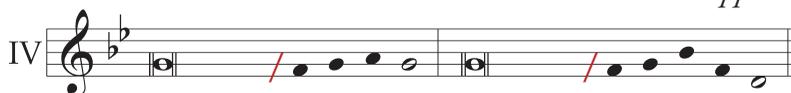
Order of Service: *Divine Service, Setting Three, Lutheran Service Book, page 184*

Stand THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN *Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding* LSB 345

Kneel THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION LSB 184, right column

The Service of the Word

Stand THE INTROIT *Philippians 4:4-5; Psalm 85:1, 2, 6, 8*



Rejoice / in the Lord alway:

and / again I say, Rejoice.

Let your moderation be known / unto all men.

The / Lord is at hand.—

LORD, thou hast been favourable un- / to thy lând:

thou hast brought back the capti- / vity of Jacob.

Thou hast forgiven the iniquity / of thy people,

thou / hast covered all their sin.

Wilt thou not revive / us agâin:

that thy peo- / ple may rejoice in thee?

I will hear what God the LORD will speak: for he will speak peace unto his people,

and / to his sâints:

but let them not turn / again to folly.

Glory be to the Fa- / ther and to the Son

and to / the Holy Spirit;

As it was in / the beginning,

is now, and will be / forever. Amen.

Rejoice / in the Lord alway:

and / again I say, Rejoice.

Let your moderation be known / unto all men.

The / Lord is at hand.—

THE KYRIE

LSB 186

THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT

LSB 189

Sit THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 40:1-11

In those days, the prophet Isaiah said: “Comfort, yes, comfort My people!’ Says your God. ‘Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, That her warfare is ended, That her iniquity is pardoned; For she has received from the LORD’s hand Double for all her sins.’ The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the LORD; Make straight in the desert A highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted And every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight And the rough places smooth; The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.’ The voice said, ‘Cry out!’ And he said, ‘What shall I cry?’ ‘All flesh is grass, And all its loveliness is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, Because the breath of the LORD blows upon it; Surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.’ O Zion, You who bring good tidings, Get up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, You who bring good tidings, Lift up your voice with strength, Lift it up, be not afraid; Say to the cities of Judah, ‘Behold your God!’ Behold, the Lord GOD shall come with a strong hand, And His arm shall rule for Him; Behold, His reward is with Him, And His work before Him. He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, And carry them in His bosom, And gently lead those who are with young.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL

Psalm 50:2-3, 5



Thou that dwellest between the che- / rubims, shine forth;
stir up thy strength, / and come and save us.

**Give ear, O Shep- / herd of Israel,
thou that lead- / est Joseph like a flock.**

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Brethren: Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful. But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by a human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. For I know of nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who

judges me is the Lord. Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand **THE ALLELUIA**

LSB 190

The congregation will sing the triple alleluia; the choir will chant the verse as printed; then the congregation will sing the triple Alleluia again.

Stir up thy / strêngth,
and / come and— save us. (*Psalm 80:2b*)

THE GOSPEL

St. Matthew 11:2-11

The Lord be with you.



And with thy spir - it.

The continuation of the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke:



Glo-ry be to Thee, O Lord.

✠ And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples and said to Him, “Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?” Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them. And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me.” As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. For this is he of whom it is written: ‘Behold, I send My messenger before your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.’ Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

THE NICENE CREED

LSB 191

Sit

THE HYMN OF THE DAY *Arise, O Christian People*

LSB 354

THE SERMON

THE OFFERING

Stand

THE OFFERTORY

LSB 192

Sit

THE RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

8:00 a.m.

Stand

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The Service of the Sacrament

THE PREFACE AND FOLLOWING

LSB 194

Visitors who have not before received communion from Pastors Petersen or Frese are kindly asked to speak with either of them, or one of the ushers, before approaching the altar for the first time.

The Blood of Christ is offered on the pulpit side from either the chalice or individual cups, but on the lectern side, only the chalice is offered. If you prefer to receive the Blood from an individual cup and you did not sit on the pulpit side, you may cross the aisle.

Communicants are encouraged to take the bottom of the Chalice with a hand to help guide it to their mouths. Children and adults who are not eligible for the Holy Communion may cross their arms, placing both hands on their shoulders, to indicate they would like a blessing at the rail.

THE COMMUNION HYMNS

When All the World Was Cursed

LSB 346

Rejoice, Rejoice Believers

LSB 515

On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry

LSB 344

Stand

THE NUNC DIMITTIS AND FOLLOWING

LSB 199

Pastor - The Reverend David H. Petersen

Associate Pastor - The Reverend Michael N. Frese

Kantor - The Reverend Dr. Daniel Reuning

Archdeacon - The Reverend Professor Robert Roethemeyer

Vicar - Aaron Schultz

Seminarian Field Worker - Nicholas Belcher, Peter Preus

Deaconess Field Worker - Meghan Holst

Altar Care - Janet & Nadia Frese

Elders - Jonathan Busarow, Patrick Casey, Keith Frank, Rev. Benjamin Pollock, Mike Ritzman, Alex Schultz, Jason Thompson

Instrumentalists - Dr. Jason L. Thompson, *director, violin, viola*; Emily J. Thompson, *violin*; Hildie Felton, *flute*; Oscar Matter, *recorders, saxophones*; Rev. Dr. Benjamin Mayes, *trombone*

Communicants are invited to pray the following prayers:

Before receiving the Sacrament

O Lord, I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof; but speak only Your Word, and my soul will be healed. I will take the Bread of Heaven and call upon the Name of the Lord.

What shall I give to the Lord for all that He has given to me? I will take the Cup of Salvation and call upon the Name of the Lord.

During the distribution of the Sacrament

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory; glory as of the only-begotten Son of the Father, full of grace and truth. Amen.

After receiving the Sacrament

I live, and yet not I, but Christ lives in me.

What we have received with our mouths, O Lord, let us keep with faithful hearts, that this Gift given us in earthly time may bring us to eternal salvation. Amen.

Abide with us, O Lord, that we may abide in You until the end; let not sin and need separate us from You, until we, through the strength of Your Holy Sacrament, enter into heaven, and eternal blessing. Amen.

Gaudete

This Sunday takes its name from the first word of the Introit in Latin, Gaudete, which means “rejoice.” St. Paul breaks into our Advent watchfulness today with the cry: “Rejoice in the Lord always.” We are watching for the end and St. Paul would have us know that the end is a joyful day for those whose citizenship is held in heaven. The Collect is especially fit for the growing cold of December, for here we ask the Lord to “lighten the darkness of our hearts” by His gracious visitation. It is not enough that one day, in heaven, we shall be redeemed, our Mother the Church sees the end as a present reality. The Lord comes to us now, by His gracious visitation, in His Body and Blood and in His Holy Word, and that is cause for constant rejoicing.

Most strikingly, we see the day’s character upon the altar and ministers bedecked in rose. They are unique in the liturgical year as they are used only two days: Laetare Sunday in Lent and Gaudete Sunday in Advent. Rose is not only a color of joy, meant to call to mind the springing of flowers from the earth and buds upon the trees, but it is also a lighter shade of violet. Violet is the color for Advent and Lent, the color of royal mourning, a mix of purple and black. Rose is violet with the black and blues withdrawn. Mourning is lightened in expectation of the last day and the recognition that all sorrows on earth are temporary. But it is rose and not yet the full white and gold of Easter or Christmas. The joy of Gaudete is anticipatory, celebrated in the midst of sadness and watchfulness. Christmas and Easter are the Church Militant at its full joy and exclamation. But soon that too will pale and our real day, the day that Advent eagerly awaits, will come. The angels will sing, full-throated, not just to shepherds on the outskirts of Bethlehem, but to all creation as every knee bows and every tongues confesses that Jesus Christ is Lord.

For now, we wait, in eager anticipation and joyous hope. Christ, born of Mary, crucified for us is risen from the dead, graciously visits us here on earth in His Body and His Blood.

THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

Friday	25 December	Christmas Day	8:00 a.m.	Divine Service
			10:30 a.m.	Divine Service
Saturday	26 December	St. Stephen, Martyr	10:30 a.m.	Divine Service
Sunday	27 December	St. John, Apostle	8:00 a.m.	Divine Service
			10:30 a.m.	Divine Service
Monday	28 December	The Holy Innocents	10:30 a.m.	Divine Service
Tuesday	29 December	5th Day of Christmas	10:30 a.m.	Divine Service
Wednesday	30 December	6th Day of Christmas	10:30 a.m.	Divine Service
Thursday	31 December	Name and Circumcision of Jesus	7:00 p.m.	Divine Service
Friday	1 January	Name and Circumcision of Jesus	10:30 a.m.	Divine Service
Saturday	2 January	9th Day of Christmas	7:00 p.m.	Divine Service
Sunday	3 January	10th Day of Christmas	8:00 a.m.	Divine Service
			10:30 a.m.	Divine Service
Monday	4 January	11th Day of Christmas	10:30 a.m.	Divine Service
Tuesday	5 January	12th Day of Christmas	10:30 a.m.	Divine Service
Wednesday	6 January	Feast of the Epiphany	10:30 a.m.	Divine Service
			7:00 p.m.	Divine Service

Advent & Christmas schedule

Matins will continue during Advent, except on Saturdays at 10:30 a.m., when Holy Communion will be offered. As usual, the Holy Communion is offered at every Sunday service at 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m., midweek on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m., and Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. We will also continue the 6:00 p.m. Thursday Divine Service with extra covid-related precautions. Following the final Thursday Advent service, December 17, we will decorate the church for Christmas.

The Christmas Eve Divine Services are at 10:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m., and 7:00 pm. The Christmas Day services will be at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 am. Signups will be required for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. You can find links to the signup genius on the church website or call or email Jane in the office and she will sign you up. We will have daily communion throughout the twelve days of Christmas with the service at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday 12/26, Monday 12/28, Tuesday 12/29, Wednesday 12/30 and Friday, New Year's Day, 1/1. The service on New Year's Eve, Thursday 12/31, will be held at 7:00 p.m.



CONGREGATIONAL NOTICES

We welcome you all to Redeemer Lutheran Church. Members and visitors are invited to meet at the coffee hour, which follows each service.

Team B, captain Krissy Lagemann, will be cleaning this week.

The **church council** will meet in the undercroft today at noon.

One of Redeemer's families, with 5 small children, is in need. The father lost his job recently and while he has many leads and hope to be working again very quickly, they need help. If you can and feel so moved to make a financial contribution, you can do it through Redeemer. 100% of all funds will go directly to the family.

If you would like to donate for **Christmas flowers or music**, please use the insert that is in the bulletin. You can place it in the offering plate or leave it in the church office. Donations can be of any size. Donations received by Sunday, December 20 will be listed in the Christmas bulletins.

Interested in an evening of **Christmas caroling** for Redeemer's shut-ins and others we have missed seeing this year? Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 20th at 5 p.m. We'll meet at church, hand out the list of locations to visit, and caravan around town to bring some holiday cheer to our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. Bring a sack supper to nibble on in the car and then return to church for some hot chocolate and snacks afterwards. RSVP to rbmayes@gmail.com.

Gregorian Chant Vespers in Advent: One more chance to sing Gregorian Chant, the classic Christian choral music, at the Vespers service on Saturday Dec. 19

SCHEDULE

4:30 p.m., instruction and rehearsal (undercroft)

5:00 p.m., Vespers

Please bring a copy of the Brotherhood Prayer Book. A few extra copies will be on hand to share.

HOLIDAY JAZZ IMPROV FOLLOWING GREGORIAN CHANT VESPERS

For an evening of musical contrasts, you are invited to come to the Gregorian Chant Vespers on Saturday, Dec. 19, 4:30, followed by a potluck reception in the undercroft, with **THE 2ND ANNUAL HOLIDAY JAZZ IMPROV SESSION AT REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH**, which will begin 6:30ish and go for maybe 2 hours. If you would like to play on stage and you haven't done so before, please contact Dr. Mayes (brmayes@gmail.com).

The **Indiana District of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League**, represented by their president, will be presenting a grant to Sergiu Trifa this morning. From their website:

Rev. Sorin Trifa, an LCMS Alliance Pastor, brings confessional Lutheranism to his homeland in Bucharest, Romania. St. Paul's is a small church with few people. They need relationships with other Lutherans to understand what it means to live as a Lutheran. Rev. Trifa's son, Sergiu, assists his father as an acolyte, reading the scriptures, and translating Lutheran books into the Romanian Language. A \$5,000 grant would enable Team Trifa to bring Sergiu to Fort Wayne, to experience what it means to live as a Lutheran and to pay tuition for his senior year at Wittenberg Academy, where he is receiving a solid Lutheran biblical education. These experiences will give Sergiu the education and training needed to grow the LCMS church in Romania, continue the translation work, and prepare him to one day be a Lutheran Pastor and the future of the confessional Lutheran Church in Bucharest, Romania.

Special Prayer Requests: Zeke Felton; Terry Stephens; Matt Borchelt; Madeleine & David Herman; Clara Roth; Spencer Cassidy; Maureen DeLassus; Marilyn Conrad; Bob Heider; Gail Ludvigson; Norma Jean Uffleman; Angie Crouch; Amanda Willets; Juanita Hahn; Ed Snyder; Mark Crouch; Dale Steinke; John & Ele Sullivan; Jim Steinke; Jennifer Koontz; Abby Smith; Moreah Stuckwisch; Kelly Oliver, Bethany Kranz; Amanda Shemwell

Contact the pastors or church office

Pastor Petersen can be contacted by phoning the church office (744-2585) or his cell (414-3083). Pastor Frese can be reached through the church office or his cell (913-547-2292).

Vicar Schultz can be reached through the church office or his cell (559)920-0476.

The Church Secretary office hours are Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

E-mail:

prdhpetersen@gmail.com

pastorfrese@gmail.com

aaron.schultz@ctsfw.edu

secretary.redeemer@gmail.com

Web site: www.redeemer-fortwayne.org

LIKE us on Facebook to keep up on activities and see pictures.

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER

Sunday, 13 December THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT
8:00 a.m. Divine Service
9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Class
10:30 a.m. Divine Service
12:00 p.m. Church Council

There are Matins services at 8:30 a.m. Monday through Friday.

Wednesday, 16 December
10:30 a.m. Divine Service

Thursday, 17 December
6:00 p.m. Divine Service, extra precatons
7:00 p.m. Divine Service
7:45 p.m. Decorating for Christmas

Saturday, 19 December
10:30 p.m. Holy Communion

Sunday, 20 December THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT
8:00 a.m. Divine Service
9:15 a.m. Sunday School & Bible Class
10:30 a.m. Divine Service

Individual Absolution is offered during Advent by appointment.

Office secretary hours: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday