

First Sunday After Christmas

December 29, 2019

Redeemer Lutheran Church (LCMS)

200 South Main Street

Church Office: (828) 241-2371

The Rev. Gregory Alms, Pastor

Catawba, NC 28609

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Welcome to Redeemer Lutheran Church! Welcome to all and we extend a special welcome to our guests. Please sign a Guest Card available in the pew in front of you. Introduce yourself to the Pastor, and please, come and worship with us again.

Worship is a time when our Lord speaks and gives and we listen and receive his gifts of mercy, presence and forgiveness. We respond in prayer, praise and thanksgiving. You may use this prayer to prepare for worship:

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells. In the multitude of Your tender mercies prepare my heart that I may enter Your house to worship and confess Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, my God and Lord.

Taking the Lord's Supper at Redeemer ... The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Redeemer in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, and any denial of His Holy Words, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Please fill out a Communion Registration Card (located in pew racks). If you are in any doubt about our confession of faith, are communing for the first time or are a member of another denomination, please speak to the Pastor before communing in person. Thank you.

Here is a prayer for use before taking Holy Communion:

Merciful God, I do not presume to come to your table trusting in my own righteousness, but in your abundant mercy. Grant therefore, gracious Lord, that I may eat and drink the body and blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, that I may live in him and he in me, now and forever. Amen.

+ **PRELUDE** +

Divine Service One (LSB, Page 151 with modifications)

Stand

Processional Hymn: Joy to the World, #387

Confession and Absolution

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

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

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit Psalm

P When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.

P Thus says the Lord: "A voice is heard in Ramah, lamentation and bitter weeping.

C **Rachel is weeping for her children; she refuses to be comforted for her children, because they are no more."**

P Thus says the Lord: "Keep your voice from weeping, and your eyes from tears,

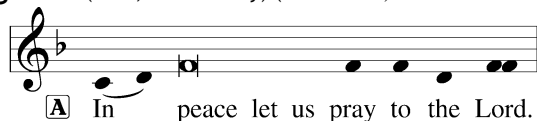
C **for there is a reward for your work, declares the Lord, and they shall come back from the land of the enemy.**

P There is hope for your future, declares the Lord, and your children shall come back to their own country."

C **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.**

P When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.

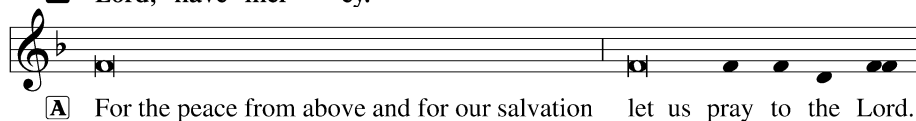
Kyrie (Lord, Have Mercy) (Mark 10: 47)



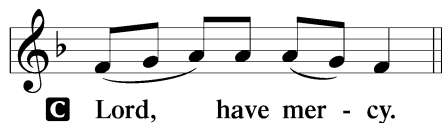
A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



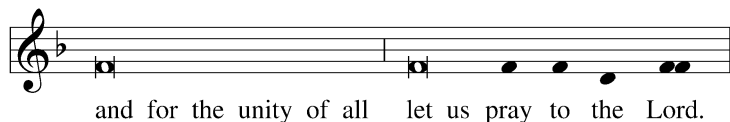
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



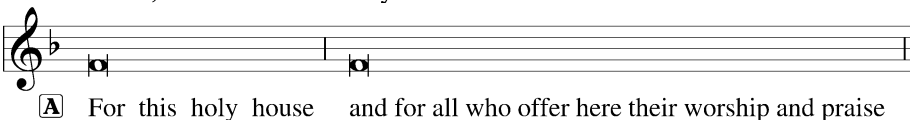
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



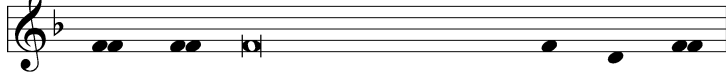
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis (Luke 2:14; John 1:29)



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



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



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you. (2 Timothy 4:22)



C And al - so with you.

P *Let us pray.* O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

First Reading: Isaiah 63:7-14

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse (John 6:68)



C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

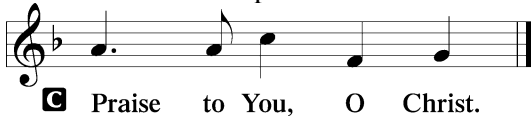


P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.



Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:13-23

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Hymn: Let All Together Praise Our God, #389

Sermon

Stand

Nicene Creed (Spoken by All)

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church (1 Timothy 2: 1-4)

Sit

Offering

Stand

Offertory: Go Tell It on the Mountain (as below)

Refrain

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,
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.
And God sent us sal - va - tion That bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

Refrain

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:22

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Psalms 136



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9



C Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho-san-na. Ho-



san-na. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is He who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord (Matthew 26:26-28, Mark 14: 22-24, Luke 22: 19-20, 1 Corinthians 11: 23-25)

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My (+) body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My (+) blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Proclamation of Christ (1 Corinthians 11:26)

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus. (Revelation 22:20)

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer (Spoken by all)

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. Matthew 6:9-13

Pax Domini (Peace of the Lord) (John 20: 19)

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you. (We greet one another, saying, “The Peace of the Lord.”)

Agnus Dei (Lamb of God) (John 1: 29)

C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



Sit

Distribution Hymns

What Child is This, #370

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child, #374

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come, #358 verses 1-7

Stand

Post Communion Cantic: Nunc Dimittis (as below; #937)



1 Lord, bid Your ser - vant go in peace,
 2 This is the Sav - ior of the world,
 3 With saints of old, with saints to come,



Your word is now ful - filled. These eyes have seen sal -
 The Gen - tiles' prom - ised light, God's glo - ry dwell - ing
 To You we lift our voice; To Fa - ther, Son, and



va - tion's dawn, This child so long fore - told.
 in our midst, The joy of Is - ra - el.
 Spir - it blest Be hon - or, love, and praise.

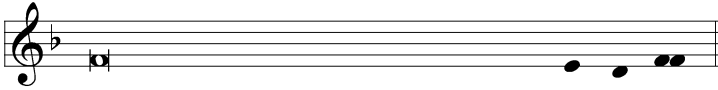
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Post-Communion Collect

P *Let us pray ...* O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction (Numbers 6:24-26)



P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and \dagger give you peace.



G A - - men.

Hymn: See amid the Winter's Snow, #373

POSTLUDE

THANK YOU KATIE ALMS RUDY for playing for us this morning and providing Barbara Sigmon with a well-earned break after the many Advent and Christmas services in December.

SERVING REDEEMER: Marsha Lael, Crucifier; Fran Little, Lynn Westray, Torch Bearers; Mason Houston, Wyatt Wesson, Acolytes; Redeemer Senior Choir; Katie Rudy, Guest Organist; The Reverend Greg Alms, Pastor; Devin Houston, George Wilson, Elder-Servers; Mr. & Mrs. Ronnie Wesson, Greeters; Allen Bumgarner, Landon Bumgarner, Brad Lael, Rodney Westray, Ushers.

ALTAR FLOWERS are placed to the greater Glory of God and in Honor of Adam Matthews' 22nd birthday (12/27) by his parents, Kelly and Lynn.

PASTOR'S SUNDAY MORNING CLASS has started a new Bible study that will run through January 5th. Join us as we explore and look at the treasures of such beautiful hymns as *Joy to the World*, *O Come All Ye Faithful* and *What Child is This*, and how they proclaim to us about the birth of Christ. Sunday's at 9:00 a.m. December 29th and January 5th.

JANUARY UPDATE available this morning from Bill and Fran. Updates are also available on the church website www.redeemercatawba.com should you misplace yours. Please request Updates for relatives and neighbors who are unable to worship with us this morning.

POINSETTIAS PLACED in memory or honor should be removed following worship this morning to assure they are properly cared for and enjoyed by those who gave them.

P R A Y E R S

Members of Redeemer

Tom Garchek (Pneumonia); Joanna Wilson (Iredell Memorial-Kidney); Ruby Overcash (Infection CVMC); Phillip Medlin; Jack Wagner; Randy Eckard; Eugene Medlin; Mabel Medlin; Norris Harwell; Barbie Laney; John Eagle; Teresa Korn; Bert Sigmon; Jane Benfield; Dianne Wesson; Rodney Lowrance; Carolyn Galloway; Dennis Hedrick; Doris Nagle; Shirley Stewart; Bobby Matthews.

Friends of the Redeemer family

Stephen Westmoreland (Hodgkin's Lymphoma-friend of the Lael family)
Craig Grigg (Pacemaker Uncle of Tony Huffman)
Bonnie Brookshire (illness, sister of Francine Medlin)

Has your friend returned to normal activities?

Please advise church office so prayers of thanksgiving may be made.

Bonnie Brookshire; Geri Spears; Christopher Thomas; Garry Sturgill; Ginger Lynch, Lee Durham; Edith Miller; Jack Lynn; Melanie Matthews; Debbie Bernard; Travis Smith; Everett Biscoe; Chris Worley; Bradley Lyda; Chris Averitt; Carol Pelto; Tom Hurley, Travis Smith; Brian Sullivan; Jerry Kanipe; Wilma Hoke, Erin Sipe.