



Blessed Redeemer Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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Advent Midweek Service 3 **December 15th, 2021**

“The Timeless Beauty of Silent Night”

OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Pastor Gary Klatt

Elder

Alexander Noonan

Bella Reif

Acolytes

Camden Pantekoek

Sound

Mike Beyer

Congregational Chairman

Rick Melius

Head Elder

Marie Rogers

Organist



“THE DAWN OF REDEEMING GRACE” (2 Peter 1:19-21)

OPENING HYMN

“Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come”

LSB 350

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!

People: **Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!**

Pastor: Behold, your king is coming to you;

People: **righteous and having Salvation.**

Pastor: Lord, let us see the beauty of Your face,

People: **And let the light of Your presence illuminate our lives.**

Pastor: Jesus Christ is the light of the world;

People: **the light no darkness can overcome.**

Pastor: Let Your light scatter the darkness;

People: **and illumine Your church.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Children of the Heavenly Father, we are told in the Bible that love is of God, and that whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

People: **Yet we so often live as if we have never experienced God’s love and forgiveness. Forgive us for relying on ourselves instead of Your Free forgiveness in Christ.**

Pastor: We confess that we know Jesus told Peter to forgive the one who sins against him seventy times seven, or an unlimited number of times,

People: **yet we act as if there is a limit on how much we need to forgive others.**

Pastor: We confess that we are more excited about opening our presents on Christmas than about celebrating the birth of Your Son.

People: **We confess we are more excited about viewing Christmas lights than about worshiping Jesus, the “Light of the World.”**

All: **For this and all other sins on our hearts, and for all other sins we have committed that we don’t know, forgive us dear Lord.**

Pastor: Our gracious God has heard your confession and gives His unconditional forgiveness, full and free. As a called and ordained servant of the Lord, I forgive you all your sin in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

TRIO

“Mary Did You Know?”

Larry Bone, Michael Bone and Angela Maag

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: **Stir up your people, O Lord, and come, that during this season of Advent our hearts and minds might anticipate Your Old Testament promise of a Savior fulfilled; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

✠ READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE ✠

FIRST READING

Exodus 14:21-31

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 27: vs. 1-5, and 13-14. *(Read Responsively)*

Leader: The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

People: **The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?**

Leader: When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh,

People: **my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.**

Leader: Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;

People: **though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.**

Leader: One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

People: **that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.**

Leader: For He will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

People: **He will conceal me under the cover of his tent; He will lift me high upon a rock.**

Leader: I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD

People: **in the land of the living!**

Leader: Wait for the LORD;

People: **be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!**

All: **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.**

SECOND READING

Luke 24:1-8

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN

"The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns"

LSB 348

SERMON TEXT

2 Peter 1:19-21

HYMN

“Silent Night, Holy Night”

LSB 363 vs. 3

SERMON

“The Dawn of Redeeming Grace”

OFFERING

HYMN

“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People”

LSB 347

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Heavenly Father, we bless Your holy name and thank you that the light from heaven has shone down on us from the pages of Scripture.

People: **We thank and praise You that Your light has chased away the darkness and the fear in our lives.**

Pastor: Help us to remember that even though we live in the constant light of Your love and blessings, there are those around us who still live in deep spiritual darkness.

People: **Help us to speak Your words of love and to do deeds of love to them, so that the light of Your salvation from heaven would dawn in their lives also.**

Pastor: Even though we’ve seen the radiant beams shining from the holy face of Jesus, help us to remember that the best is yet to come when we live in Your presence in heaven where there is no more night.

People: **Even though the Day Star has dawned in our hearts and lives, keep us yearning for the day we see You face to face.**

Pastor: We pray all this in the name of our Coming King.

People: **Amen.**

LORD’S PRAYER

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

All: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN

“Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord”

LSB 352