

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
Jackson, Minnesota

The Nativity of Our Lord  
Christmas Day

December 25, 2023 9:00 AM

Welcome in the Name of Jesus Christ, Whose birth we celebrate this morning! Please sign attendance card in pew and place in offering plate.

**Communion Policy:** In the Lord's Supper, the Risen Christ gives us His true Body & Blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. As we participate in the Lord's Supper we declare doctrinal unity. Therefore we ask guests who are not members of Our Redeemer Lutheran Church to speak with Pastor before communing with us.



Prelude and Ringing of the Bell

Hymn "Angels We Have Heard on High" 368

Confession and Absolution 184-5

Introit Ps. 98:1-4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6

**[P]** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

**[C]** and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**[P]** Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things!

**[C]** His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

**[P]** The LORD has made known his salvation;

**[C]** he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

**[P]** He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

**[C]** All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

**[P]** Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;

**[C]** break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

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]** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder,

**[C]** and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Kyrie, Gloria in Excelsis

186-189

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you. **C** *(sung)* **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that the birth of Your only-begotten Son in the flesh may set us free from the bondage of sin; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** *(sung)* **Amen.**

**Hymn** “A Great and Mighty Wonder” 383 vv. 1, 2

### Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 52:7-10 ESV

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of him who brings good news,  
who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness,  
who publishes salvation,  
who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.”  
The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice;  
together they sing for joy;  
for eye to eye they see  
the return of the LORD to Zion.  
Break forth together into singing,  
you waste places of Jerusalem,  
for the LORD has comforted his people;  
he has redeemed Jerusalem.  
The LORD has bared his holy arm  
before the eyes of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Hymn** “A Great and Mighty Wonder” 383 vv. 3, 4

### Epistle

Hebrews 1:1-6 ESV

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.  
For to which of the angels did God ever say,

Or again,

And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,

“Let all God's angels worship him.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

**Hymn**      “A Great and Mighty Wonder”      383 v. 5

Alleluia 190

**Holy Gospel** **St. John 1:1-18** **ESV**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

**C** *(sung)* Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. (John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) And from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** *(sung)* Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

<b>Nicene Creed</b>	<b>191</b>
<b>Hymn</b> “Of the Father’s Love Begotten”	<b>384</b>
<b>Sermon</b> “Peace Published for You” <b>Isaiah 52:7-10</b>	
<b>Offering</b>	
<b>Hymn</b> “Joy to the World”	<b>387</b>

## **Prayer of the Church**

*Petitions conclude:*

**P** . . . Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

*Final petition:*

**P** Lord God, in the birth of Your Son You have called people from every time and place into His Body, the Church. We give You thanks for the believers who went before us, especially who were with us in Christmases past and who now live with You. Grant us sure confidence in Your promise of resurrection and eternal life, and bring us with them at last into Your presence; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

**Service of the Sacrament** **194-202**

**Distribution Hymns** **624, 358**

**Closing Hymn** **391**

“Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn”

## **Postlude**



**Organist:** Sue Schulz

**Acolytes:** Paige Benda and Dakota Hookstra

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