



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Jackson, Minnesota

The Third Sunday in Advent December 15, 2024

Welcome to this Divine Service. We gather in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Please sign the 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 "Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding" **345**

Confession and Absolution **184-185**

Introit **Ps. 146:5-8; antiphon: Phil. 4:4**

P Rejoice in the Lord always;

C again I will say, **Rejoice.**

P Blessed is he whose help is in the God of Jacob,

C whose hope is in the **LORD his God,**

P who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,

C who keeps faith forever;

P who executes justice for the oppressed,

C who gives food to the hungry.

P The **LORD** sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

C The **LORD** lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.

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 Rejoice in the Lord always;

C again I will say, **Rejoice.**

Kyrie

186

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Salutation and Collect of the Day

189

P The Lord be with you.

C (*sung*) **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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

Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 3:14–20 ESV

- ¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;
shout, O Israel!
Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter of Jerusalem!
- ¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;
he has cleared away your enemies.
The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall never again fear evil.
- ¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
“Fear not, O Zion;
let not your hands grow weak.
- ¹⁷ The LORD your God is in your midst,
a mighty one who will save;
he will rejoice over you with gladness;
he will quiet you by his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing.
- ¹⁸ I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.
- ¹⁹ Behold, at that time I will deal
with all your oppressors.
And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.
- ²⁰ At that time I will bring you in,
at the time when I gather you together;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,

when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes,” says the LORD.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Zechariah 9:9; Ps. 118:26, alt.

P Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

C Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

P Behold, your king is coming to you;

C righteous and having salvation.

P Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!

C From the house of the LORD we bless you.

Epistle

Philippians 4:4–7 ESV

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia

190

Holy Gospel

St. Luke 7:18–28 ESV

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter.

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

¹⁸The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, ¹⁹calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ²⁰And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” ²¹In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. ²²And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. ²³And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

²⁴When John’s messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ²⁵What then did you go out to see? A

man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. ²⁶ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ²⁷ This is he of whom it is written,

“ ‘Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’

²⁸ I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Nicene Creed

191

Sermon “Rejoice! The Lord Is Near!” **Philippians 4:4–7**

Prayer of the Church

Richard Polz, Jim Grantz, Marge Russenberger, Derek Rehnelt (Gen Rehnelt's grandson), Mary Grantz, Doug Wetzler, Bonnie Temple (Ken and Karen Temple's daughter-in-law), Don Kuehl, Matt Nielsen (Karilyn Richard's son), Megan Janzen (Pastor Nathan Janzen's wife), Ron Sinn, Ron Kloos, Travus Mekosch. We remember in our prayers the family of Steve Nail (Carrie Mohr's uncle), who recently passed away.

Petitions conclude:

P . . . Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

Final petition:

P Hear us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Christ Jesus, 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

346, 341, 515

Hymn “Savior of the Nations, Come” **332 vv. 7, 8**

Postlude



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