



# Our Redeemer Lutheran Church Jackson, Minnesota

## The Third Sunday in Advent December 14, 2025

**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** "Arise, O Christian People" **354**

**Confession and Absolution** **184-185**

**Introit** **Ps. 71:14-18; antiphon: Philippians 4:4**

**P** Rejoice in the Lord always;

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

**P** I will hope continually

**C** and will praise you yet more and more.

**P** My mouth will tell of your righteous acts, of your deeds of salvation all the day,

**C** for their number is past my knowledge.

**P** With the mighty deeds of the Lord God I will come;

**C** I will remind them of your righteousness, yours alone.

**P** O God, from my youth you have taught me,

**C** and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds.

**P** So even to old age and gray hairs, O God, do not forsake me,

**C** until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.

**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**

## Hymn of Anticipation

357 vv. 1, 6, 7

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

## 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

Isaiah 35:1–10 ESV

- <sup>1</sup> The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;  
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;
- <sup>2</sup> it shall blossom abundantly  
and rejoice with joy and singing.  
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.  
They shall see the glory of the LORD,  
the majesty of our God.
- <sup>3</sup> Strengthen the weak hands,  
and make firm the feeble knees.
- <sup>4</sup> Say to those who have an anxious heart,  
“Be strong; fear not!  
Behold, your God  
will come with vengeance,  
with the recompense of God.  
He will come and save you.”
- <sup>5</sup> Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
- <sup>6</sup> then shall the lame man leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.  
For waters break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;
- <sup>7</sup> the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water;  
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,  
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

- <sup>8</sup> And a highway shall be there,  
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;  
the unclean shall not pass over it.  
It shall belong to those who walk on the way;  
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.
- <sup>9</sup> No lion shall be there,  
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;  
they shall not be found there,  
but the redeemed shall walk there.
- <sup>10</sup> And the ransomed of the LORD shall return  
and come to Zion with singing;  
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;  
they shall obtain gladness and joy,  
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**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** Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the LORD!

**C** From the house of the LORD we bless you.

**Epistle**

**James 5:7–11 ESV**

<sup>7</sup> Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup> You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup> Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup> As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Alleluia**

**190**

## Holy Gospel

## St. Matthew 11:2–15 ESV

**[P]** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

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

<sup>2</sup>Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” <sup>4</sup>And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

<sup>7</sup>As they went away, 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? <sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is he of whom it is written,

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

<sup>11</sup>Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. <sup>12</sup>From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. <sup>13</sup>For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, <sup>14</sup>and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. <sup>15</sup>He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

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

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

## Apostles’ Creed

192

## Hymn

“When All the World Was Cursed”

346

## Sermon

“Expectations”

St. Matthew 11:2–15

## Offertory and Offering

192-193

## Prayer of the Church

*Shirley Hakes (Craig Hakes’s mother), Sharon Busch (Shirley Eggimann’s sister), Joann Neuenschwander, Mary Beth Baumann (Steve Milbrath’s sister), Helen Mekosch, Mary Allen, Monica Gee, Evelyn Lucht, Vern Hansen, Ann Olson, Richard Hample, Lynn Propp (Dee Kloos’s brother), Warren*

*Schaefer (Mary Muir's cousin), Neil Miller, Karen Temple, Bonnie Temple (Ken and Karen Temple's daughter-in-law), Matt Nielsen (Karilyn Richard's son), Ron Sinn, Ron Kloos, Travus Mekosch. We remember in our prayers the family of Curtis Sommerland (Carol Kolander's brother), who recently passed away.*

*Petitions conclude:*

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

*Final petition:*

**P** O God, Your love invites us to rejoice in Your goodness. In every circumstance of life, teach us the joy that comes from knowing Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and eagerly expecting His gracious visitation; 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.**

**Hymn** "Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding" **345**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Collect**

**Salutation, Benedicamus, and Benediction** **201-202**

**Hymn** "Hark the Glad Sound" **349**

**Postlude**



**Organist:** Shelly Tusa

**Acolyte:** Dakota Hookstra

**Pastor:** John Schuetz cell: 507-840-0193 **Office:** 507-847-3693