

OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

904 Bluff Street Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

A traditional, liturgical, Biblical congregation in the heart of Cedar Falls ministering to sinners with the forgiving presence of Christ.

Rev. Michael R. Knox, Pastor Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders, Pastor Joseph Goodroad, Vicar
(319) 231-9761 (319) 389-5526 (816) 645-0188

Church Office: (319) 266-2509 Email: orlc@cfu.net Website: theforgivenessplace.org

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

December 25, 2022



TODAY IS CHRISTMAS DAY Two Christmases vie for our allegiance and attention: the Christmas of our society and the Christmas of the Church. For our society, Christmas is a time of nostalgia for the innocence of childhood and of yearning for a golden age. Underlying the cultural Christmas is an element of truth, but only imperfectly remembered and understood. The Christmas of faith also remembers a time of innocence: Eden and a world created in beauty and harmony. The Church contemplates and celebrates the mystery of salvation revealed in Christ's birth, more so than the birthday itself. Today we celebrate the mystery of God become man in Jesus who is both our King and our Savior. He comes to us in the flesh, wrapped in the swaddling cloths of bread and wine, to give to the people He came to save, perfect forgiveness and peace.

TO OUR VISITORS We rejoice that you have joined us this morning to hear the Word of God, receive His gifts of life and salvation, and to respond to His faithfulness with "Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs" *Ephesians 5:19*

- ✘ Please take the time to fill out the Communion Registration/Visitors' Cards which are in the small card holders on the pew.
- ✘ Please read the announcement below regarding Communion.
- ✘ Guests who will not be communing may place the Visitor's card in the Offering.
- ✘ Guests who intend to commune are asked to announce this intention to the Elder and give the card to the Usher as they come forward to receive communion.
- ✘ Following the Service, a member of the Board of Communication and Outreach has a small gift for you.

OUR REDEEMER PRACTICES CLOSED COMMUNION



The Sacrament of the Altar is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine for us Christians to eat and drink, instituted by Christ Himself. As we receive this Sacrament, the oneness of fellowship at the Altar (I Corinthians 10:17) presupposes a oneness in doctrine with the Apostles (Acts 2:42). For this reason the congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have agreed to follow the Biblical and historical practice of Closed Communion. If you desire to receive the Lord's Supper and are not a communicant member of Our Redeemer or a sister congregation in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we respectfully ask that you not commune this morning.

Rather, we would invite you to speak with Pastor Knox, Pastor Saunders, or Vicar Goodroad about Holy Communion and about becoming a communicant member of this congregation.

THOSE SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE THIS WEEK

Elder: Matt Kenitzer **Service Assistants:** Steven Dekutoski

Organists: Roxann List/Sheryl Dekutoski

Ushers: El Heth and Chris Fink

Tellers: Dean Fink, Dean Garms **Shut-Ins:** Sara Lair

Sunday, December 18, 2022

Attendance: 98 Communion: 84

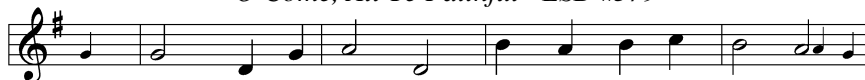
Wednesday, December 21, 2022

Attendance: 24/33

I. THE PREPARATION

Invocation

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” LSB #379



1 O come, all ye faith - ful, Joy - ful and tri - um - phant! O
2 High - est, most ho - ly, Light of Light e - ter - nal,
3 Sing, choirs of an - gels, Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,
4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this hap - py morn - ing;



come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;
Born of a vir - gin, a mor - tal He comes;
Sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a - bove!
Je - sus, to Thee be glo - ry giv'n!



Come and be - hold Him Born the king of an - gels;
Son of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!
Glo - ry to God In the high - est:
Word of the Fa - ther Now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

Refrain



O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,



O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord!

Text: tr. Frederick Oakeley, 1802–80, alt.
Text and tune: John F. Wade, c. 1711–1786
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Invocation

P/V: In the name of the Father and of the (✠) Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

C: **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

P/V: 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. *[Hebrews 10:22]*

P/V: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **who made heaven and earth.**

Psalms 124:8

P/V: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

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

Psalms 32:5

P/V: 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/V: 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 be 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.**

Mark 16:16; John 1:12

II. SERVICE OF THE WORD

The Introit



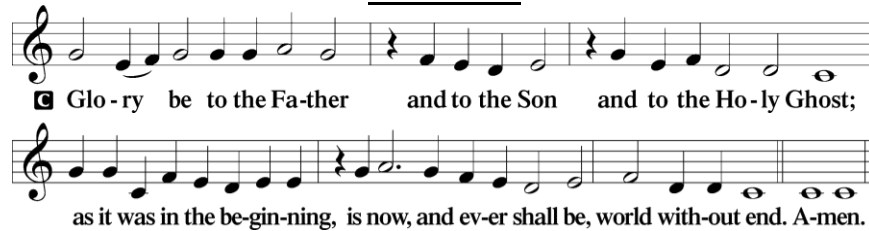
Cantor: For to us a child is born, to us a son is | given;*
and the government shall be upon His | shoulder,
and His name shall be called Wonderful | Counselor,*
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.

Cong: **Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done | marvelous things!***
His right hand and His holy arm have worked salva- | tion for Him.
The Lord has made known His sal- | vation;*
He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the | nations.
He has remembered His steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of | Israel.*
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation | of our God.
Make a joyful noise to the Lord, | all the earth;*
break forth into joyous song and sing | praises!

Cantor: For to us a child is born, to us a son is | given;*
and the government shall be upon his | shoulder,
and His name shall be called Wonderful | Counselor,*
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, | Prince of Peace.

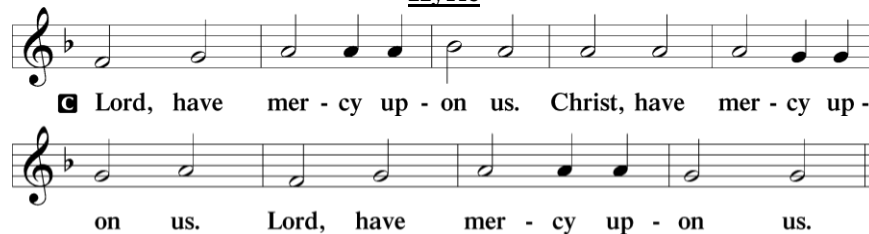
(Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon: Isaiah 9:6)

Gloria Patri



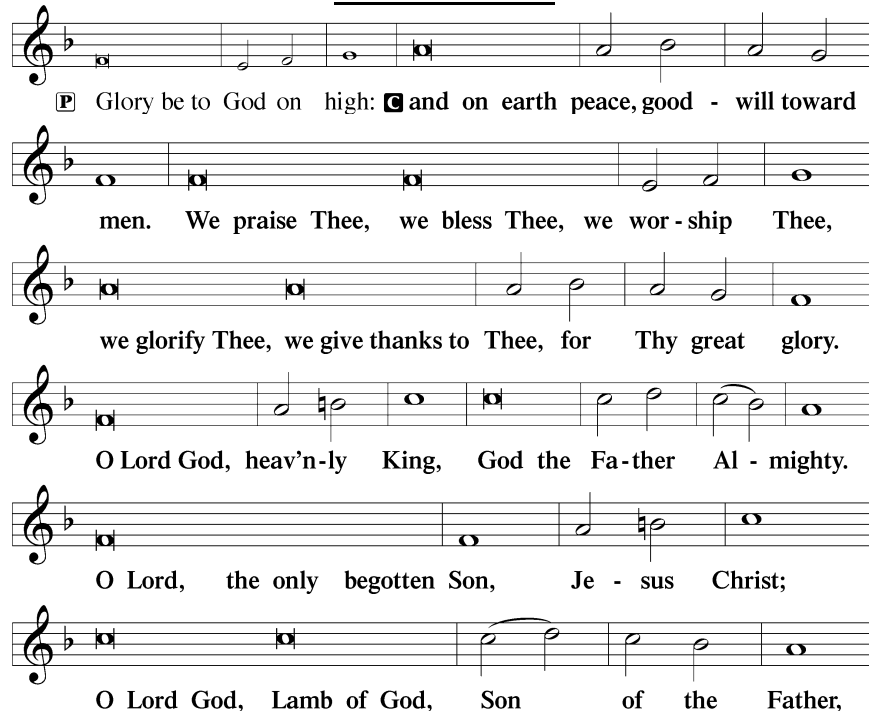
Kyrie

Mark 10:47



Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

The Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

II Timothy 4:22

C And with thy spir - it.

The Collect of the Day

P: 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 A - men.

Be seated

The Old Testament

Isaiah 52:7-10

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

The Gradual

"Let All The Earth Now Praise The Lord" LSB #352

1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has tru - ly
 2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'
 3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,
 4 As Your com - ing was in peace, Qui - et, full of

kept His word And at last to us did send
 heart in - spired, What they longed for man - ya year,
 Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—
 gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me

Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.
 Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.
 Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.
 Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

5. Bruise for me the serpent's head that, set free from doubt and dread,
I may cling to You in faith, safely kept through life and death.
- 6 Then when You will come again as the glorious king to reign,
I with joy will see Your face, freely ransomed by Your grace.

*Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter
Text and tune: Public domain*

The Epistle

Hebrews 1:1-12

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

The Alleluia/Verse



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Cantor: “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and | bear a son, *
and they shall call His name Im- | manuel.”

(Matthew 1:23a)

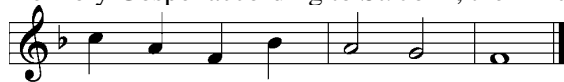


☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel

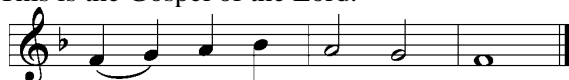
John 1:1-18

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1st chapter.



☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

The Nicene Creed

**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**

The Hymn of The Day

“Let All Together Praise Our God” LSB# 389



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His
2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an
3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -
4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To
in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies
at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The
hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.
splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.
glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.

- 5. He is a servant, I a lord:
How great a mystery!
How strong the tender Christ Child's love!
No truer friend than He, No truer friend than He.
- 6. He is the key and He the door
To blessèd paradise;
The angel bars the way no more.
To God our praises rise, To God our praises rise.
- △ 7. Your grace in lowliness revealed,
Lord Jesus, we adore
And praise to God the Father yield
And Spirit evermore; We praise You evermore.

Text (sts. 1, 3-7): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913-2001; (st. 2): tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.

Text and tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561

Text (sts. 1, 3-7): © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110001799

Text (st. 2) and tune: Public domain

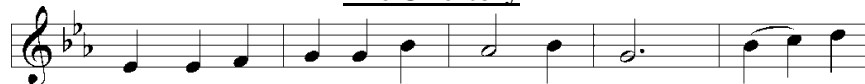
The Sermon

Following the Sermon, please rise to sing the Offertory

Stand

The Offertory

Psalm 51:10-12



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -



tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

The Prayers

Various Petitions are prayed. Each petition will conclude with the response:

P: Lord, in Your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

The Congregation, gathered for worship in person, will now be receiving the Sacrament of the Altar. This most significant portion of the Divine Service, when our Lord Jesus Christ draws near to His people with His flesh and blood, will not be streamed. Members desiring to receive the Sacrament who are unable to be present in the Church will be visited by one of our pastors to bring them the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.

*Those who have joined us online for the Service of the Word
are now encouraged to pray the Lord's prayer.*

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.

May the Lord bless and keep you.

Please call Pastor Knox (319/231-9761) if you would like to receive a Pastoral visit.

✠ OUR WEEK TOGETHER IN THE BODY OF CHRIST ✠

Sun. 12/25	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service at Our Redeemer (No Sunday School or Bible Class)
Wed. 12/28		(No Book Club - resume on January 4) (No Midweek Bible Class - resume on January 4)
Sat. 12/31	6:00 p.m.	Bible Class at Peace
	7:00 p.m.	Divine Service at Peace
Sun. 1/1	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service at Our Redeemer
	10:30 am.	Bible Class (No Sunday School)

Readings and Hymns for January 1, 2023 – The Circumcision and Naming of Jesus

The Readings: Numbers 6:22-27; Galatians 3:23-29; Luke 2:21	
Invocation: O Rejoice, Ye Christians, Loudly	897
Gradual: A Great and Mighty Wonder.....	383
Hymn of the Day: The Ancient Law Departs	898
Distribution: Jesus! Name of Wonderous Love.....	900
Distribution: O Sing Of Christ	362
Distribution: Let Us All With Gladsome Voice	390

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOTH PASTOR AND VICAR will be out of town during the week after Christmas. In case Pastoral Care needs arise, please contact Pastor Knox by calling his cell phone (319/231-9761) or contact your Elder for assistance.

SUNDAY SCHOOL There will be no Sunday School on December 25 or January 1

THE SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS There is no class today but we will resume this study on January 1 as we study the account of the presentation in the Temple and the sacrifice for Mary following the birth of Jesus in Luke. We will then return to Matthew and the account of the visit of the Magi.

THERE WILL BE NO PERICOPE BIBLE STUDY THIS WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28 We will resume normal Schedule on Wednesday, January 5.

THE BOOK CLUB will not meet this week. Book Club will resume on Wednesday, January 4 at its regular time.

THE YOUTH BIBLE STUDY, which meets with Vicar Goodroad on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. will resume in January on the 4th.

CHURCH FINANCES The church budget is tight. We estimate approximately \$16,000 in expenses for the remainder of the year. With the understanding that the downturn in the economy has made things challenging at home, the same has happened at church. The leadership of the congregation asks all of our members to reflect on the blessings which God gives you through His word and sacraments and then joyfully support the proclamation of the Gospel with your offerings

2023 OFFERING ENVELOPES Please pick up your envelopes for 2023. They are on a table in the Parish Hall. If you have questions, please see Rod Lair.

2023 OFFICERS The Installation of Officers will take place on Sunday, January 8th.

THE UPDATED PHOTO DIRECTORY is available in the Narthex after the Service this morning. We have done our best to make it accurate. If you see a correction which needs to be made, please alert Tammy Knox.

THE JAN.-MARCH POTALS OF PRAYER AND THE DECEMBER LUTHERAN WITNESS are available in the Narthex and the Parish Hall.



EPIPHANY SERVICE – FRIDAY, JANUARY 6 Our Redeemer and Peace will observe the Festival of The Epiphany of Our Lord on Friday, January 6 with the Divine Service at 6:30 p.m. at Our Redeemer. On this day the Church marks the beginning of the Epiphany Season and recalls the visit of the Magi who worship the King of the Jews.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN A NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE – there will be a Service at Peace in Shell Rock on Saturday, December 31, at 7:00 p.m. This will be their regular service and use the same readings/proper as we will use here at Our Redeemer on Sunday, January 1. In the

Church Year this service is called the Circumcision and Naming of Jesus.