

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
(319) 231-9761

Rev. Dr. Brian Saunders, Pastor
(319) 389-5526

Matthew Baker, Vicar
(605) 342-0259

Church Office: 266-2509

Email: orlc@cfu.net Website: theforgivenessplace.org

The 1st Sunday In Advent December 3, 2023

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 plate.
- ✘ 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.

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 Baker about Holy Communion and about becoming a communicant member of this congregation.

THOSE SERVING GOD’S PEOPLE THIS WEEK

Elder: Alan Czarnetzki **Ushers:** Jason Knox, Jim Bunkofske

Service Assistants: Steven Dekutoski, Logan Baker **Organist:** Roxann List

Tellers: Chris Fink, James Mishler **Shut-Ins:** Jake Jackson



TODAY IS THE 1st SUNDAY IN ADVENT. It is also the 1st Sunday of the New Church Year so “Blessed New Year!” The first season of the Church Year is called Advent. Advent is very important as a time of preparation for Our Lord’s coming therefore every Lutheran ought to know about the significance and meaning of Advent.

The theme of Advent is indicated by where it falls in the Church Year. Advent comes “between” the end of the Pentecost Season and the beginning of the Christmas Season. As you have listened to the Word of God over the Last Three Sundays of the Church Year, the emphasis has been on the end of all things—the end of life, the remembrance of all the blessed dead, the Last Day, and the hope of the resurrection. Looking

forward, the Christmas Season deals with Our Lord’s coming in human flesh to bear mankind’s sin and be their Savior.

Advent brings to the Church’s attention a three-fold coming of Our Lord:

- His coming as Redeemer in flesh to bear man’s sin,
- His coming as Savior to dwell in men by the Sacrament of the Altar, and
- His glorious promised Second Coming as Judge.

God’s people should not be surprised to learn, then, that the word “Advent” means “coming.”

The beginning of a new Church Year, like the end, reminds the Church that she stands that much closer to the day when Christ will appear for judgment day. At the same time, the Church readies herself during this season to remember His birth. Such is the tension of the Christian life, for Christians live in “the time between the times.” You are, at one and the same time, ever ready to go home to glory, yet ever ready to invest yourselves in the tasks of today, with an eye on tomorrow. You prepare your earthly homes and families for yet another Christmas even as you look forward to your final rest in your heavenly home with the whole family of God.





On this 1st Sunday in the Church Year the cry, “**Hosanna, blessed Is He who comes in the name of the Lord**” echoes in the church. These words, spoken of old by the prophets (Psalm 118:25) and repeated on the day that the Lord entered Jerusalem, are still heard in the Church throughout the year because the Lord still comes to His people. He comes in the water of Holy Baptism. He comes in the word of Absolution. He comes in the word which is preached. He comes in the bread and wine as He feeds the Baptized with His body and blood. The one who is “blessed” comes with the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

BECAUSE ADVENT IS A PENITENTIAL SEASON we observe a few liturgical changes.

- We omit the singing of the Gloria in Excelsis. (p. 187-189)
- We do not make use of flowers. The exception to this is on the 3rd Sunday in Advent, Gaudete Sunday, the Sunday you will also see the Rose colored paraments.

I. THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

The Service begins with a Procession.

After the Bell rings, please rise to face the Processional Crucifix and the singing of the Processional Hymn.

Stand

Processional Hymn

“Savior of the Nations, Come” LSB #332

(The Choirs are singing stanzas 3, 4, & 7)

Cong.	1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make	
Cong.	2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it	
Choir	3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a	
Choir	4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and	
	here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth, of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh— vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown: king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,	
	That the Lord chose such a birth. Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh. God was there up - on His throne. His he - ro - ic course be - gan.	

- 5. **God the Father was His source,
Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down,
Back then to His throne and crown.**
- 6. **For You are the Father's Son
Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
By Your mighty pow'r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.**

Choir 7. *From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.*

- 8. **Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.**

Remain Standing

Introit



Cantor: Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;*
righteous and having sal- | vation.

Cong: To You, | O Lord,*

I lift | up my soul.

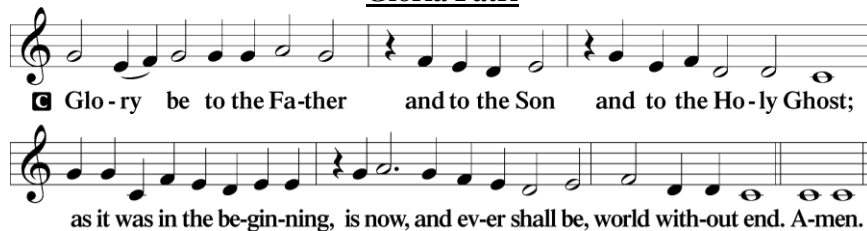
**O my God, in You I trust; let me not be | put to shame;*
let not my enemies exult | over me.**

**Indeed, none who wait for You shall be | put to shame;*
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly | treacherous.**

Cantor: Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;*
righteous and having sal- | vation.

(Ps. 25:1-3; antiphon: Zech.9:9b, alt)

Gloria Patri

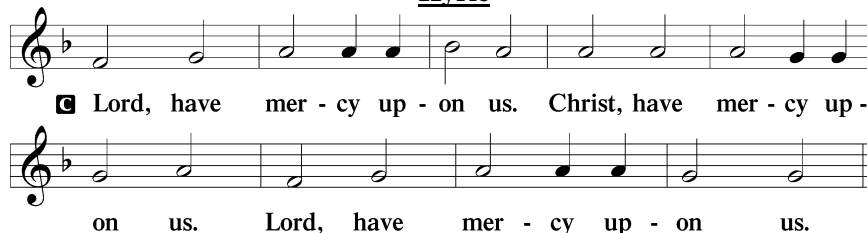


G Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;

as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



G Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis
is omitted during Advent

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

The Salutation



P The Lord be with you.

II Timothy 4:22



C And with thy spir - it.

The Collect of the Day

P: Let us pray: Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Be seated

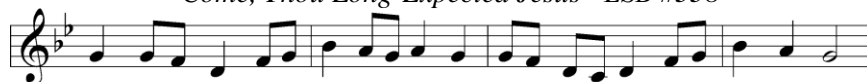
The Old Testament
Isaiah 64:1-9

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

The Gradual Hymn

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” LSB #338



1 Come, Thou long-ex-pect-ed Je-sus, Born to set Thy peo-ple free;
2 Born Thy peo-ple to de-liv-er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re-lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.
Born to reign in us for-ev-er, Now Thy gra-cious king-dom bring.



Is-rael's strength and con-so-la-tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,
By Thine own e-ter-nal Spir-it Rule in all our hearts a-lone;



Dear de-sire of ev-'ry na-tion, Joy of ev-'ry long-ing heart.
By Thine all-suf-fi-cient mer-it Raise us to Thy glo-rious throne.

Text and tune: Public domain

The Epistle

I Corinthians 1:3-9

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: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O | ancient doors, *
that the King of glory | may come in.. (Psalm 24:7)



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

The Holy Gospel

Mark 11:1-10

P: The Holy Gospel according to the Evangelist Mark, the 11th 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

*“Lift Up Your Heads, You Everlasting Doors” #339
(The Choir is singing stanza 3)*

Cong. 1 Lift up your heads, you ev - er - last - ing doors,
Cong. 2 Who is this King of great and glo - rious fame?
Choir 3 Who may as - cend Mount Zi - on's ho - ly hill
Cong. 4 “Wor - thy is Christ!” The Lamb who once was slain

And weep no more! O Zi - on's daugh - ter, sing,
What is His name? Lord God of Sab - a - oth,
To do God's will? The One whose un - stained hands
Now lives to reign. He rules our earth - ly ways

To greet your com - ing King; Now wave the vic - tor's
Of whom the proph - ets wrote, Whose cho - sen, hum - ble
Can meet the Law's de - mands, Whose pu - ri - ty with -
As Lord of An - cient Days— O join the end - less

palm And sing the an - cient psalm: “Lift up your
steed De - clares Him king in - deed! Ho - san - na,
in Re - veals One free from sin. Come, praise this
song Sung by the ran - somed throng: “Wor - thy is

heads, you ev - er - last - ing gates!” Your King a - waits!
Lord! Mes - si - ah, come and save From sin and grave.
King who claims the cross as throne— Praise Him a - lone!
Christ!” The Lamb be praised a - gain! A - men! A - men!

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. 12/3	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service at Our Redeemer
	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School and Bible Class
	4:30 p.m.	Mary-Martha Christmas Dinner
Mon. 12/4	9:30 a.m.	Mary Martha Sewing
Tue. 12/5	9:00 a.m.	Brunch Bunch at the Cedar Falls Family Restaurant
	6:00 p.m.	Bible Study at Peace Shell Rock
	7:00 p.m.	Midweek Advent Service at Peace-Shell Rock
Wed. 12/6	10:00 a.m.	Our Redeemer Book Club
	11:00 a.m.	Midweek Bible Class (Weekly Readings)
	12:00 p.m.	Midday Advent Service at Our Redeemer
	5:25 p.m.	Adult Choir
	6:30 p.m.	Midweek Advent Service at Our Redeemer
	7:30 p.m.	Midweek Bible Class (Weekly Readings)
Sat. 12/9	6:00 p.m.	Bible Class at Peace – Shell Rock
	7:00 p.m.	Divine Service at Peace – Shell Rock
Sun. 12/10	9:00 a.m.	Divine Service at Our Redeemer
	10:30 a.m.	Sunday School and Bible Class

HYMNS/READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Wednesday, December 6 – Midweek Advent Service I

Liturgy: Evening Prayer - LSB page 260; Reading: I Corinthians 1:3-9;

Office Hymn: “Prepare The Royal Highway” LSB #343

December 10, 2023 The 2nd Sunday in Advent

Readings: Isaiah 40:1–11, II Peter 3:8–14, Mark 1:1–8

Invocation: On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry 344

Gradual: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus 338

Hymn of the Day: Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding 345

Distribution: Arise, O Christian People 354

Distribution: Comfort, Comfort Ye My People 347

Distribution: The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns..... 348

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

THE SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday. This class is currently studying Revelation.

SUNDAY SCHOOL meets from 10:30 – 11:15 each Sunday. Parents, the children are beginning to work on music and recitations for the Christmas Music Festival on December 17.

WEEKLY READINGS/HYMNS STUDY This class meets each Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. and at 6:30 p.m. During Advent the evening Class will meet following the Midweek Service, approximately 7:30 p.m. The class studies the weekly readings, hymns, and propers for the upcoming Sunday. It is a way to prepare for the coming week’s Divine Service.

THE VICAR’S BIBLE STUDY This Fall Vicar Baker meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 9:00 a.m. The class also meets at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday evenings of the same week at Peace in Shell Rock.

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY **YOUTH BIBLE STUDY** The Jr. High/Sr. High Youth meet for Bible Study with our Vicar on Sunday mornings from 10:30-11:15 and on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. On Sunday mornings the youth will be studying 1 Corinthians. During Advent the youth will not meet on Wednesdays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



THE MEN'S CHOIR will sing again during Advent. Men – if you would like to sing with them next time, they have short rehearsals following Bible study on Sunday mornings. Please speak with Vicar Baker if you are interested in singing.

UPDATED PHOTO DIRECTORY Sometime after the New Year we will be printing a new Congregational Photo Directory. If you would like to update your photo, Tammy will be taking photos for the next several weeks in the lower level of the Education Wing during refreshment time. Would everyone please check the draft directory which is in either the Narthex or in the Parish Hall. Make sure that your information is correct. If everything is ok, put a check mark or your initials in the margin. If information needs to be corrected, please note what changes need to be made.

BRUNCH BUNCH will meet this week, Tuesday, December 5th at 9:00 am at the Cedar Falls Family Restaurant in North Cedar. Please note the date change. Brunch Bunch will now meet on the First Tuesday of the month. All are welcome.

MID-WEEK ADVENT SERVICES will begin on Wednesday, December 6 with services at Noon and 6:30 p.m. Services will be held on December 6, 13, and 20. This year throughout Advent we will focus our attention on the words of the Epistle readings for the week. Advent Services will also be held at Peace Lutheran on Tuesday evenings of the same week at 7:00 p.m.



ANGEL TREE Our Redeemer is again hosting an Angel Tree, working with the Salvation Army and Cedar Valley Friends of the Family. The Angel Tree is in the Parish Hall with tags for the Salvation Army clients, all children, and an adult individual client with Friends of the Family. Feel free to take a tag, shop for the items (or some of the items) on the tag. Return the tag and the item back to church, placing it in the large box by the tree, by Dec. 7. Please note, the Salvation Army gifts are to be returned UNWRAPPED. The items for the Friends of the Family individual may be wrapped. Want to help, but hate to shop? The Christian Care committee members would be glad to take monetary donations and do the shopping for you. Money can be given to Char Strub. Thank you to those that can share their abundance, brightening another's holiday season. RETURN TAGS AND GIFTS BY DECEMBER 7TH

TEXT BLAST INFORMATION Included with your bulletin during the past several weeks, and available again in the Narthex today, is an information sheet provided by the Communication and Outreach Committee. (Printed on Green paper) Our Redeemer uses a computer software program entitled "Church 360" to keep track of membership, record offerings, and track church attendance. A new feature was recently added which allows congregational leadership to send a text message to the congregation in the event that important or last minute information needs to be provided quickly. If you would like to be included in this text message service please fill out the form and place it in the proper container in the Narthex or Parish Hall.

OUR REDEEMERS ANNUAL ADVENT/CHRISTMAS DINNER is this evening beginning with Social Gathering at 4:30. Please plan to attend to enjoy the Union Carolers and lots of good food and fellowship. Each family is asked to bring a salad or dessert to share. If you aren't able to bring a salad or dessert come anyway. There is always plenty. See you this evening. Anyone that would need a ride, please contact Char Strub 319-269-6118 or Judy Fink 319-231-1829.



FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS MUSIC On Sunday, December 17th, at 4:00 p.m. the congregation is invited to celebrate the Christmas Gospel in Word and Song. (The time is still to be determined.) The festival will include Advent and Christmas music sung or played by instrumentalists, vocalists, the Sunday School students, the Adult Choir, and the congregation. This is an expansion of what we might have thought of as the Children's Christmas program. It is important for our Sunday School students to be regular in their attendance because they are working on recitations and music for this music festival.

COOKIES AND COCOA Mark your calendars! On December 17th there will be "Cookies and Cocoa" after the Christmas Music Festival. There is a sign-up list to bring cookies, hot chocolate, plates, etc. downstairs in the Parish Hall. Contact Michaela Knox with any questions.

MARY-MARTHA SEWING AND QUILTING will meet this Monday December 4 at 9:30 am. No sewing experience needed. Please join us as we work on projects for missions. All are welcome.

MUSICAL ACCOMPANIMENT for the next couple of weeks is coming from our Clavinova. (Electric Piano). Parts have been ordered to repair the church organ. Thanks for everyone's patience and understanding. The organ is more than 30 years old. Imagine trying to get parts for your 30-year-old TV or computer.