

Redeemer Lutheran Church

San Antonio, Texas

December 25, 2022
Christmas Day

NOTES: Offerings will not be collected by passing plates. Please place your attendance cards and offering in the plates located by the narthex.

Masks are not required, but you can wear one at your own discretion. There is no specified seating for bible class or worship.

Prelude

First Lesson: John 1:1-5, 10-14

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. ¹¹ He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. ¹² Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God — ¹³ children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. ¹⁴ The Word

became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Hymn:

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” – LSB # 366

Devotion:

(A Syriac Christmas Prayer Liturgy - late third or early fourth century)

Pastor: The radiance of the Father’s splendor, the Father’s visible image, Jesus Christ our God, peerless among counselors, Prince of Peace, Father of the world to come, the model after which Adam was formed, for our sakes became like a slave: in the womb of Mary the virgin, without assistance from any man, he took flesh, our flesh to know every sin, and temptation as us.

Congregation: Enable us, Lord, to reach the end of this luminous feast in peace, forsaking all idle words, acting virtuously, shunning our passions, and raising ourselves above the things of this world. Bless your church, which you brought into being long ago and attached to yourself through your own

life-giving blood. Help all orthodox pastors, heads of churches, and theologians.

Pastor: Bless your servants, whose trust is all in you; bless all Christian souls, the sick, those tormented by evil spirits, and those who have asked us to pray for them.

Congregation: Show yourself as merciful as you are rich in grace; save and preserve us; enable us to obtain those good things to come which will never know an end.

Confessional Prayer: (Adapted from Psalm 86)

Pastor: In the day of my trouble, I will call to you, for you will answer me.

Congregation: When I have sinned and done what is wrong and displeasing in your sight, O Lord, extend your love to correct me. When I ignore those in need and pretend that all is right with the world, O Lord, help me to face the truth. When I turn a blind eye to those who have been stricken with poverty and are facing the injustices that come along with it, O Lord, teach me your way. Enable me to extend your love; and give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.

Pastor: Our sins of evil thoughts, evil words, and evil deeds have separated us from God. But now in this incarnation of God in the flesh; our Savior Jesus Christ, whose name given means He will save His people from their sins brings good news that He has done that from that manger, to death on the cross, and through a tomb to resurrection for us, has forgiven us so that we may say together,

All: I will praise you, O Lord my God, with all my heart; and I will glorify your name forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn:

“Oh, Come All Ye Faithful” – LSB # 379

Second Lesson: Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.

¹⁹ Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as

your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³ “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”). ²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵ But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

Hymn:

“What Child Is This” – LSB # 370

Third Lesson: Luke 2:1-20, "Mary's Boy Child"

Long time ago in Bethlehem,
So the Holy Bible say.
Mary's Boy Child, Jesus Christ,
Was born on Christmas Day!

Hark! Now hear the angels sing:
“New King's born today
And man will live for evermore
Because of Christmas Day!”

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
They saw a bright new shining star.
And heard a choir from heaven sing,
The music came from afar.

Hark! Now hear the angels sing:
“New King’s born today
And man will live for evermore
Because of Christmas Day!”

Now Joseph and his wife Mary,
Came to Bethlehem that night.
They found no place to bear her Child,
Not a single room was in sight.

By and by they found a little nook,
In a stable all forlorn.
And in a manger cold and dark,
Mary’s little Boy/Child was born.

Trumpets sound and angels sing,
Listen to what they say!
That man will live forevermore,
Because of Christmas Day!

Hymn:

“A Great and Mighty Wonder” – LSB # 383

Congregational Prayers:

(**Pastor:** Let us pray to the Lord.)

(**Congregation:** Lord, Have Mercy.)

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.

Words of Institution for Holy Communion

Pre-communion Hymn:

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” – LSB # 393

Holy Communion:

Please come up single file, socially distanced, in the center aisle. Pastor will distribute both the bread and wine, prompting you for each element. We have gluten-free wafers available, and we have non-alcoholic white grape juice in the center of the tray. After you are dismissed, please return down the side aisle(s).

Benediction:

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Closing Hymn:

“Joy to the World” – LSB # 387

Announcements

Postlude

* Please take the bulletin home or discard in trash before you leave. *