

**Redeemer Lutheran Church
San Antonio, Texas**

**December 10, 2022
Second Sunday in Advent
Divine Service Setting 3: Pgs. 184-202**

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

We offer large print copies of the liturgy, and for Holy Communion we offer gluten free wafers and non-alcoholic white grape juice.

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

Prelude

Confession and Absolution: Pg. 184

Service of the Word: Pg. 185

The Opening Hymn:

“On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry” – LSB # 344

The Readings:

The First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-11

¹ Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her

that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. ³ A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. ⁵ And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken." ⁶ A voice says, "Cry out." And I said, "What shall I cry?" "All people are like grass, and all their faithfulness is like the flowers of the field. ⁷ The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever." ⁹ You who bring good news to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good news to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God!" ¹⁰ See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, and he rules with a mighty arm. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him. ¹¹ He tends his flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

The Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

⁸ But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare. ¹¹ Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives ¹² as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. ¹³ But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. ¹⁴ So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Alleluia: Pg. 190

The Gospel Reading: Mark 1:1-5

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st chapter.

Congregation: Glory be to Thee, O Lord!

¹ The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, ² as it is written in Isaiah the prophet: “I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way” — ³ “a voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.’” ⁴ And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed: Pg. 191

Message Hymn:

“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People” – LSB # 347

Collect of the Day:

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Message:

Offeratory: Pg 192

Prayer of the Church: Pg 193

(**Pastor:** Lord, in your mercy,)

(**Congregation:** Hear our prayer.)

Confession and Absolution is a return to our Baptisms. In Confession, we take all our sins and throw them back into the baptismal font, burying them with Christ, washing them away in his blood. Then in Absolution, the forgiveness of Baptism is brought to us again, so that we may live new, resurrected lives today (**Romans 6:4**).

Confession and Absolution in our services reflect the experience of Isaiah in a vision (**Isaiah 6:1–8**). He was in God’s presence in the Temple. He was terrified to be there because he knew he was a sinner (Confession). An angel touched his lips with a coal and told him he was forgiven – purified (Absolution). Only then was he able to serve the Lord in gladness (“Here I am. Send me.”).

Service of the Sacrament: Pg 194

Pre-Communion Hymn:

“Sing Praise to the God of Israel” – LSB # 936, v. 1, 2, 4

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).

The Benediction:

The Closing Hymn:

“Prepare the Royal Highway” – LSB # 343

Announcements:

Postlude

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

Watch your thoughts,
They become your *words*.
Watch your words,
They become your *actions*.
Watch your actions,
They become your *habits*.
Watch your habits,
They become your *character*.