

# CHRIST OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Advent 2 - Pastor Mark Voss – December 10, 2017

## MESSENGERS OF THE KING

### Call the Lost Like Elijah

#### OPENING HYMN - "Prepare the Royal Highway"

CWS 702 All rights reserved. Text: F. M. Franzen

Tune: Swedish Folk Tune Setting: Kermit Modldenbauer. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under OneLicense.net #A-705751



Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near! Let  
God's peo - ple, see him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal King! Palm  
Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised King! Your  
His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove. His  
ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear! Then  
branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing! God's  
King, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring. All  
rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love. So  
greet the King of glo - ry, Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry  
prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!  
lands, bow down be - fore him! All na - tions now a - dore him!  
let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:  
Ho - san - na to the Lord, For he ful - fills God's Word!

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you.

# CONFESSION OF SINS

P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

*Pause for silence*

**ALL: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen.**

# PRAYER AND PRAISE

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless-ed are they who take  
re-fuge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e-ter - nal; it stands firm in the  
heav - ens. Your faith-ful-ness con - tin-ues for - ev-er. Oh, taste and see that the  
Lord is good. Bless-ed are they who take re-fuge in him.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray,

Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming give us strength in our conflicts and shed light on our path through the darkness of this world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## MUSICAL SELECTION – Tone Chime Choir

*“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”*

Arranged by Martha Lynn Thompson ©1993 Agape, Carol Stream

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

P: We light two Advent candles remembering Jesus, who came in history. He came into a world of sin and death.

**C: We remember Jesus, who came as the promised Messiah. John the Baptist prepared the way of the Lord.**

P: We hear his call to repent.

**C: We light two Advent candles as a sign of our repentance and desire for renewal.**

P: Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

**C: Through your Word and Spirit may our souls be blessed.**

*Two Advent candles are lit.*

# THE WORD

## 1 Kings 18:21-29

<sup>21</sup>Elijah went before the people and said, "How long will you waver between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal is God, follow him." But the people said nothing. <sup>22</sup>Then Elijah said to them, "I am the only one of the LORD's prophets left, but Baal has four hundred and fifty prophets. <sup>23</sup>Get two bulls for us. Let them choose one for themselves, and let them cut it into pieces and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. I will prepare the other bull and put it on the wood but not set fire to it. <sup>24</sup>Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the LORD. The god who answers by fire--he is God." Then all the people said, "What you say is good." <sup>25</sup>Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one of the bulls and prepare it first, since there are so many of you. Call on the name of your god, but do not light the fire." <sup>26</sup>So they took the bull given them and prepared it. Then they called on the name of Baal from morning till noon. "O Baal, answer us!" they shouted. But there was no response; no one

answered. And they danced around the altar they had made. <sup>27</sup>At noon Elijah began to taunt them. "Shout louder!" he said. "Surely he is a god! Perhaps he is deep in thought, or busy, or traveling. Maybe he is sleeping and must be awakened." <sup>28</sup>So they shouted louder and slashed themselves with swords and spears, as was their custom, until their blood flowed. <sup>29</sup>Midday passed, and they continued their frantic prophesying until the time for the evening sacrifice. But there was no response, no one answered, no one paid attention.

**VERSE OF THE DAY**

P: Alleluia. Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. All mankind will see God's salvation. Alleluia. Luke 3:4, 6

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! These words are  
 writ-ten that we may be-lieve that Je-sus is the Christ, the  
 Son of God. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

**1 Kings 18:30-39**

<sup>30</sup>Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come here to me." They came to him, and he repaired the altar of the LORD, which was in ruins. <sup>31</sup>Elijah took twelve stones, one for each of the tribes descended from Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD had come, saying, "Your name shall be Israel." <sup>32</sup>With the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD, and he dug a trench around it large enough to hold two seahs of seed. <sup>33</sup>He arranged the wood, cut the bull into pieces and laid it on the wood. Then he said to them, "Fill four large jars with water and pour it on the offering and on the wood." <sup>34</sup>"Do it again," he said, and they did it again. "Do it a third time," he ordered, and they did it the third time. <sup>35</sup>The water ran down around the altar and even filled the trench. <sup>36</sup>At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: "O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. <sup>37</sup>Answer me, O LORD, answer me, so these people will know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again." <sup>38</sup>Then the fire of the LORD fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench. <sup>39</sup>When all the people saw this, they fell prostrate and cried, "The LORD--he is God! The LORD--he is God!

# SERMON

Based on the Lesson

## *Call the Lost Like Elijah*

### APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

# THANKSGIVING

### OFFERING AND FRIENDSHIP REGISTER SIGNING

HYMN – *"Jesus, Came, The Heavens Adoring"*

CW 26

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Eternal Father, throughout the centuries you repeated and affirmed your promise to send the offspring of the woman to crush the serpent's head. Through your prophets of old, you continually directed the eyes of your people to the advent of their Savior.

**C: We praise you, O Lord, for keeping your promise and sending your Son to destroy the works of the devil.**

P: As we prepare to celebrate the birth of our King, use your mighty Word to shatter our pride and to rouse us from spiritual slumber and apathy.

**C: Move us to take to heart the words of John: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near."**

P: You sent your Son to redeem us from sin. Let this good news be our joy and strength. Use it to cheer the lonely, encourage the fearful, and give hope to the despairing. In these days before Christmas, spare us from the stress of deadlines and the frenzy of commercialism.

**C: Fill our lives with the message of your peace and the music of your grace.**

P: Direct our eyes not only to the manger but also to the skies, where we will see your Son coming again, not as a lowly child but as the Lord of lords.

**C: Lift up our hearts in joyful anticipation of that day.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

P: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer*

P: Come quickly, Lord Jesus, in your grace, in your power, and in your glory.

**C: Come, Lord Jesus! Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

## **CHILDREN'S LESSON**

P: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace, live in harmony with one another, serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you his peace.

**C: Amen.**

**CLOSING VERSES – “I Love to Tell the Story”**

**CW 562**

## THANK YOU

Our thanks to everyone who helped with this year's Living Nativity. What a wonderful message we are privileged to share!

Gail Wepfer would like to thank everyone for their cards and prayers following her surgery. How blessed it is to be a member of God's family.

**VOLUNTEER LIST:** The volunteer list for January and February will be made out December 18<sup>th</sup>. Please let the church office know of any scheduling conflicts. Thanks!

**SENIOR BRUNCH:** A reminder to please RSVP to the Senior Brunch, this Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30a, by Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to seeing you there!

<b>UPCOMING EVENTS:</b>		
<b>Today</b>	<b>December 10<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Advent 2 Worship at 8 &amp; 10:30a Bible Class, Sunday School &amp; Christmas Practice at 9:15a Catechism at Noon</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>December 13<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6-6:45p Advent Dinner (Pulled Pork) 7:00p Advent Devotion</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 15<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10:30a Sr. Brunch 7p Rocky Mountain Lutheran High School Christmas Concert at Zion in Denver</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 17<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Advent 3 Worship at 8 &amp; 10:30a Bible Class, Sunday School &amp; Christmas Practice at 9:15a Catechism at Noon Youth Group at 1:30p</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>December 20<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6:30p Christmas Cookies by COR Students 7p Children's Christmas Service</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 24<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>Advent 4 Worship at 9a, no fellowship following Christmas Eve Worship at 5 &amp; 7p</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>December 25<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9a Christmas Day Worship</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 31<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>9a New Year's Worship with Communion 10a Fellowship</b>

# Christ Our Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church and School

17700 East Iliff Avenue  
Aurora, CO 80013  
corchurch.com

Worship services Sundays  
at 8 and 10:30a and  
Thursdays at 7p

Bible Study and Sunday  
School at 9:15a



Pastor Mark Voss  
303-337-0025  
303-808-0611  
markvoss@corchurch.com

Principal Phil Scriver  
303-337-3108  
philscriver@corchurch.com

- A warm welcome to our visitors. May the Lord bless your worship with us today. We ask that you please sign the friendship register located at the end of the pew.
- Children – Activity bags are available in the coat room, off the narthex. During our 10:30a service a staffed nursery is located straight ahead and to your left as you exit the sanctuary. While we encourage young children to be in the service, families may like to use the nursery and are invited to do so.
- Please let an usher know if you require a larger print bulletin.
- Our services can also be viewed online. Go to our website [corchurch.com](http://corchurch.com) and click on Video Broadcast.
- As a member of Christ Our Redeemer we are connected to each other through our unity of faith and the public confession of that faith in Lord's Supper. To read what our profession of faith is, go to [www.corchurch.com](http://www.corchurch.com) and click on "Our Beliefs" or take a copy of the tract "What We Believe" in the Visitor Information Center kiosk. To become a member of our church family, please speak with the pastor.