

# Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

Advent Four - December 22, 2018

Pastor Mark Voss

## ADVENT WATCHWORDS

# Faith

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### THE CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way.

**C: Come, O precious Ransom come, only hope for sinful mortals!**

P: Say to those with fearful hearts, "Be strong, do not fear, your God will come.

**C: Come, O Savior of the world! Open are to you all portals.**

P: He will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you.

**C: Come, your beauty let us view; Anxiously we wait for you!**

OPENING CAROL – *"Come O Precious Ransom Come"*

CW 8

### PSALM OF CONFESSION – PSALM 25

**All: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul; in you I trust, my God.**

P: To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul; in you I trust my God.

**C: Remember, O LORD, your great mercy and love, for they are from of old.**

P: Remember not the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to your love remember me.

**All: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul; in you I trust, my God.**

P: Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted.

**C: Look upon my affliction and my distress and take away all my sin.**

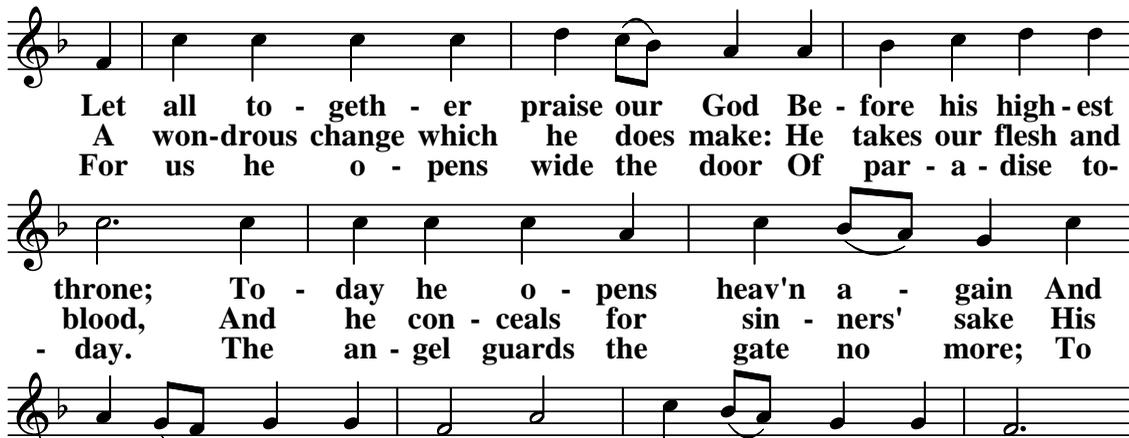
P: Guard my life and rescue me, for I take refuge in you.

**All: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul; in you I trust, my God.**

## SONG OF PRAISE

*“Let All Together Praise Our God”*

CW 41 vv 1, 4, 6 Text, Tune, Setting: Public Domain



Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore his high - est  
A won - drous change which he does make: He takes our flesh and  
For us he o - pens wide the door Of par - a - dise to -  
throne; To - day he o - pens heav'n a - gain And  
blood, And he con - ceals for sin - ners' sake His  
- day. The an - gel guards the gate no more; To  
gives us his own Son, And gives us his own Son.  
maj - es - ty as God, His maj - es - ty as God.  
God our thanks we pay, To God our thanks we pay.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, O Lord, and come. Take away the burden of our sins and make us ready for the celebration of your birth, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

**P:** We light four Advent candles, remembering Jesus, the Son of God and Son of Mary, He came to share our humanity.

**C:** We remember Jesus, whose name means Savior. He came to save his people from their sins.

**P:** We hear his call to give him a place in our hearts.

**C:** We light four Advent candles as a sign of our joy and hope.

**P:** Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest.

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

# God's Word

## OLD TESTAMENT – Isaiah 7:10-14 – *The virgin birth reveals Jesus as true God*

<sup>10</sup> Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup> “Ask the Lord your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.”

<sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the Lord to the test.”

<sup>13</sup> Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? <sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel. Alleluia.

Matthew 1:23



## GOSPEL – Matthew 1:18-25

### *Joseph reveals a strong faith*

<sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> 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.

<sup>20</sup> 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. <sup>21</sup> 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.”

<sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

<sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. <sup>25</sup> But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

## SERMON CAROL

## “Once in Royal David’s City”

CW 50 Text and Tune Public Domain



Once in roy - al Dav - id's cit - y Stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,  
He came down to earth from heav-en Who is God and Lord of all,  
But our eyes at last shall see him Through his own re - deem - ing love,  
Not in that poor, low - ly sta - ble With the ox - en stand - ing by



Where a moth - er laid her ba - by In a man - ger for his bed;  
And his shel - ter was a sta - ble, And his cra - dle was a stall;  
For that child, so dear and gen - tle, Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove,  
Shall we see him, but in heav-en, Set at God's right hand on high.



Ma - ry was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle child.  
With the poor and mean and lowly Lived on earth our Sav - ior holy.  
And he leads his chil - dren on To the place where he is gone.  
Then like stars his chil - dren crowned. All in white, his praise will sound.

## ADVENT WATCHWORDS

# “Faith”

*Based on the Gospel Lesson from Matthew*

## LUTHER'S MORNING PRAYER

I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, that you have kept me this night from all harm and danger. Keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please you. Into your hands I commend my body and soul and all things. Let your holy angel be with me, that the wicked foe may have no power over me. Amen.

## ADVENT CAROL

### *"Lovely Child, Holy Child"*

LAPPY 196 Text: David N. Johnson Tune: BETHLEHEM ©1969 Augsburg Publishing House.



Love - ly child, ho - ly child, Gen - tle, mild, un - de - filed; In - fant  
Child of light, born to - night, Our de - light, prom - ise bright; Child so  
Rest your head, sweet - est head; Gifts we'll spread at your bed. Je - sus  
To this boy, our great joy, We em - ploy hymns of joy, Child so



King, fair - est King, Gifts we'll bring and an - thems sing:  
fair see him there; Now de - clare him ev - 'ry where.  
Lord, be a - dored; May this word now be out - poured:  
fair see him there; Now de - clare him ev - 'ry - where.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

## OFFERING AND SIGNING OF FRIENDSHIP REGISTER

## CHILDREN'S LESSON

### ADVENT PRAYER

P: Loving God - as we approach the day of Christ's birth help us to throw wide the doors of our hearts in preparation. Help us to sense the importance of what happened so long ago when Mary was visited by the angel Gabriel, to remember the words of the angels and the prophets and the teachers of old, and to celebrate all the promises that you made through them. Help us to take firm hold of the meaning of all these things and to know in the depths of our being that even now you are seeking to work in us and through us to fulfill the promises you have made.

C: Lord hear our prayer.

P: Lord - may this Christmas season be for us and for those around us a season of healing, may it be a season of hope and of love and of joy, may it be a time of true sharing and of rejoicing in all the earth.

**C: Lord hear our prayer.**

P: We pray O God for those in need around us: for those who need a second birth, for those who need a tender touch and a healing word.

**C: Lord, hear our prayer.**

P: We pray too, O God for the children of our world - and all those of tender faith, all those who have no home to call their home, all those who are hungry and thirsty. Bless, we pray, all those who trust in you. Bless the humble and the powerless and bring down from their thrones those who are full of pride and those who are indifferent.

**C: Lord, hear our prayer.**

P: We ask these things O God, with hope and praise in our hearts, our minds, and our souls, through Christ Jesus our Lord.

**C: 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.

## BLESSING

## CLOSING REPSONSE

*"What Can I Give Him"*

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What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shep-herd



I would bring a lamb; If I were a wise-man I would do my part;



Yet what can I give Him? Give Him my heart.

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR – December 22

Today ADVENT WATCHWORD – Faith

8 & 10:30a Worship

9:15a Fellowship

9:15a COR Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday 6p Christmas Eve Worship

Wednesday 9a Christmas Day Worship

Sunday 8 & 10:30a Worship

9:15a Fellowship

Tuesday 7p Worship with Communion

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**DONATION BOX:** The COR Women's Group is looking for donations to help those in need during the holiday season.

- New or gently used athletic shoes are being collected for Aurora Labor Workforce.
- New or gently used winter coats, blankets, scarves, hats or gloves (not knitted) for Aurora Warms the Night. (*Aurora Warms the Night shelters those experiencing homelessness in the winter when temperatures reach 20 degrees or colder. Year round service includes meals, warm clothing, hygiene items, transportation to shelter, laundry vouchers, bus passes, partner agency referrals, and advocacy in order to ensure families and individuals meet their most basic needs. Learn new skills, and access resources to transition out of homelessness.*) The Women's Group will be serving a meal at their center in February. More information to come if you would like to help.

**CHRISTMAS MISSION MARKET:** A very big thank you to the members of COR. Through your generous donations and purchases we raised \$1,008 for our brothers and sisters in Venezuela. What a wonderful blessing! Thank you again. Look for the Mission Market again next year.

**THANK YOU:** Thank you to everyone for all their cards, prayers and words of encouragement following the death of my mother. How blessed it is to be a member of God's family.

Judith Burr

**THANK YOU:** Thank you to all the many people who helped with our Living Nativity. What a wonderful way to tell others about Jesus. We appreciate your help.

# Christ Our Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church and School

17700 East Iliff Avenue  
Aurora, CO 80013  
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Worship services Sundays  
at 8 and 10:30a (Summer  
Worship at 9a) and Thursdays  
at 7p

Bible Study and Sunday School  
at 9:15a



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Principal Kim Miller  
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principal@christredeemerschool.org

- 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 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.