



**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH  
320 WEST CENTRAL AVENUE  
ARKANSAS CITY, KS 67005-2637**

**[www.rlcarkcity.com](http://www.rlcarkcity.com)**

A congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod – lcms.org

Adopted mission: West Africa – Pastor Tim and Beth Heiney

Dominican Republic — Pastor Daniel and Kathy Conrad

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**Pastor Christopher Warneke    [pastorcwarneke@gmail.com](mailto:pastorcwarneke@gmail.com)**



**LSB Divine Service Setting I  
Fourth Sunday in Advent  
December 21, 2025**

## The Pre-Service Music

**Lighting of the Candles** *Jesus says: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."*  
*John 8:12*

### Hymn of Invocation "O Little Town of Bethlehem" No. 361



1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!  
2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, And, gath - ered all a - bove  
3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!  
4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, De - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by;  
While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love.  
So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n.  
Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.



Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light.  
O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth,  
No ear may hear His com - ing; But in this world of sin,  
We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.  
And prais - es sing to God the king And peace to all the earth!  
Where meek souls will re - ceive Him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.  
O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Text: Phillips Brooks, 1835–93 Tune: Lewis H. Redner, 1831–1908 Text and tune: Public domain

*(stand)*

## Confession and Absolution

**P:** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.** *Matthew 28:19 and 18:20*

**P:** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

**P:** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

*I John 1:8-10 and Philippians 1:6*

### **Introit**

*Psalm 130:5-8; antiphon: Isaiah 64:1*

P: Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,

**C: that the mountains might quake at your presence.**

P: I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,

**C: and in his word I hope;**

P: my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning,

**C: more than watchmen for the morning.**

P: O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love,

**C: and with him is plentiful redemption.**

P: And he will redeem Israel

**C: from all his iniquities.**

**All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,

**C: that the mountains might quake at your presence.**

### **Lord Have Mercy (Kyrie)**

Mark 10:47

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord



P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



P: For the peace of the whole world,  
for the well-being of the Church of  
God and for the unity of all let us  
pray to the Lord.



P: For this holy house and for all who  
offer here their worship and praise,  
let us pray to the Lord.



P: Help, save, comfort and defend us,  
gracious Lord.



### Salutation and Collect

P: The Lord be with you.



P: Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by  
Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by  
Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the  
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

(sit)

### Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 7:10–17*

<sup>10</sup>Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup>"Ask a sign of the LORD your God;  
let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, "I will not  
ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." <sup>13</sup>And he said, "Hear then,  
O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary  
my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold,  
the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name  
Immanuel. <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to  
refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup>For before the boy knows how to  
refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you  
dread will be deserted. <sup>17</sup>The LORD will bring upon you and upon your  
people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since  
the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Learn-By-Heart Scripture

*Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.*

**Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem. Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless you.**

## Epistle

*Romans 1:1–7*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, <sup>2</sup>which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, <sup>3</sup>concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh <sup>4</sup>and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, <sup>5</sup>through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations, <sup>6</sup>including you who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

<sup>7</sup>To all those in Rome who are loved by God and called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(stand)*

## Alleluia and Verse

*John 6:68*

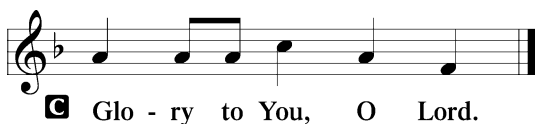


Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 1:18–25*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the first chapter.



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

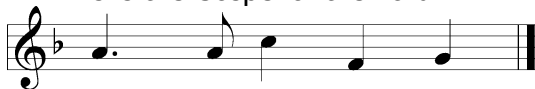
<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of

David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

<sup>23</sup>“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). <sup>24</sup>When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, <sup>25</sup>but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ. *(Sit)*

## Hymn of the Day "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" No. 357



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som  
2 O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, Who or - d'rest  
3 O come, O come, Thou Lord of might, Who to Thy  
4 O come, Thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, Free them from

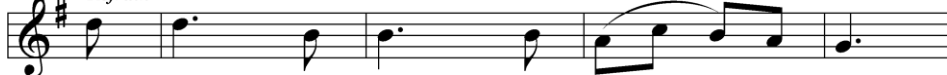


cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly  
all things might - i - ly; To us the path of  
tribes on Si - nai's height In an - cient times didst  
Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny That trust Thy might - y



ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
knowl - edge show, And teach us in her ways to go.  
give the Law In cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.  
pow'r to save, And give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.

*Refrain*



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

- 5 O come, Thou Key of David, come,  
And open wide our heav'nly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery. Refrain
- 6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight. Refrain
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,  
And be Thyself our King of Peace. Refrain

Text: Latin, c. 12th cent.; Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum, 1710, Köln; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-66, alt. Tune: French, 15th cent. Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

*(stand)*

### The Apostles' Creed

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

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.**

**Prayer of the Church** *After each petition*

P: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*(sit)*

## Offering

*(stand)*

### Offertory

What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**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.**

### **Concluding Collect**

P: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### **The Benediction**

*Numbers 6:24-26*

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you And be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

*(Sit)*



# Closing Hymn "Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord" No. 352



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has tru - ly  
 2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'  
 3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,  
 4 As Your com - ing was in peace, Qui - et, full of



kept His word And at last to us did send  
 heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,  
 Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—  
 gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.  
 Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.  
 Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.  
 Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

- 5 Bruise for me the serpent's head  
 That, set free from doubt and dread,  
 I may cling to You in faith,  
 Safely kept through life and death.
- 6 Then when You will come again  
 As the glorious king to reign,  
 I with joy will see Your face,  
 Freely ransomed by Your grace.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter Text and tune: Public domain Public domain

† † † † †

† **THE ALTAR POINSETTIAS** are given to the glory of God by

The Altar Fund	Ray Pool
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Duane & Pattie Oestmann	Nancy & Bryson Pond
Jane Osburn	Val & Rick Rush
Jim & Joyce Holloway	Raymond & Jody Rahn
Jim & Teresa Holloway	Wendy Thomson
Pastor & Sarah Warneke	Eric Snider

† **IN OUR PRAYERS** we remember all who are ill or under medical care, Cindy Griffith, Barb Sweet, Marty Villers, Diana Trent, Randy Sweet, Sue Krueger, Marcie Wellday, Dana Anderson, Janet Shrewsberry, Tyler Voegle, Deanna Hegedus, Elise Smith, Mark Eckstein, Traci Williams, Vida Rood, Terry Krueger, Alberta Kahle (Duane Oestmann's cousin).

## Christmas Caroling December 21<sup>st</sup>

We will be going Caroling on **TODAY** - December 21<sup>st</sup> about 1 pm. We will have lunch after the service.

Thank you to all who have made the soup, chili, stew, etc. to share. Everyone else can bring finger foods to share. Planning to see: Diana Trent, Steve & Deanna Hegedus, Fern Knocke, (all in Ark City) Barb Sweet, Terry Krueger, Marty Viller, (in Winfield), and Sue Krueger (Wellington)



Volunteers needed after service on the **TODAY** to prepare Christmas Eve treat bags for the children. The more volunteers we have, the quicker it will be. Thank you, Susan Buckbee



**Check out the Christmas cards on the Christmas Tree and Bulletin Board!**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS SIGN-UP** – There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for teachers for 2026. If you are interested in teaching, please sign up. It can be once, or once a month, or as much as your schedule will allow.

A big thank you to those who have faithfully taught our youth this year.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## 2025 SPECIAL SERVICES AND OFFERING DESIGNATIONS

\* indicates Holy Communion

Christmas Eve 6:00 pm, Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

Concordia Academy Wichita

\*Christmas Day 10:15 am, Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup>

Vicar Nash Ringquist

\*New Year's Eve 7:00 pm, Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

Missions – Heiney

**The Epiphany Service** - 7:00 pm, Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>

The offering is designated to go to Fairmount Ministries

(This will be a joint service at Redeemer)

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Trinity is inviting Redeemer for our New Years's Eve Game night following the service that evening. We are just suggesting snacks and if anyone has a favorite game, they can bring it along.

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### More from Trinity

**Youth Ice Skating Party on January 4<sup>th</sup>!** We will leave promptly at 11:30 am. Youth are expected to attend the worship service and Sunday School prior to leaving. Bring coats, gloves and appropriate socks. We have a youth whose parents have generously offered to pay the fee and skate rental for all in attendance, so there is no skating cost for youth to attend! Youth should bring money for a fast-food lunch on the way to Wichita. We will return to the church parking lot at approximately 4:30 pm. Redeemer Ark City is invited. Friends are welcome. Please RSVP to Debbie 620-229-1991 by December 31 so that we can plan for enough transportation.

**Middle School Huddle is April 17-18, 2025.** Pastor Warneke is on the planning committee and Pastor Meyer is the keynote speaker for this event. We want to have good participation from our Trinity and Redeemer youth!

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS –**  
**OLD TESTAMENT:** Jeremiah 31:15-17  
**EPISTLE:** Revelation 14:1-5  
**GOSPEL:** Matthew 2:13-18

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**THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER**

**TODAY:** 9:00 am Sunday School  
10:15 am Divine Service without Holy Communion

**After the service: Lunch & Christmas Caroling**

**WEDNESDAY: 6:00 pm Christmas Eve Service**

**THURSDAY: 10:15 am Christmas Day Service**

**NEXT SUNDAY:** 9:00 am Sunday School  
10:15 am Divine Service with Holy Communion  
8:00 am Lutheran Hour on 1280 AM  
10:30 am Lutheran Hour on 95.9 FM

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**THOSE SERVING AT REDEEMER**

**Officiating Elder:** Eric Snider  
**Altar Committee:** Jody Rahn, Sarah Warneke, Julie Thatcher  
**Greeter:** Jody Rahn

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**STEWARDSHIP**

**December 10, 2025 – Midweek 2–** Worship – 18 @ 1 pm & 13 @ 7 pm  
Youth Group Trip - \$258.00

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**December 14, 2025 -** Worship – 51  
**Budget Needs Weekly - \$3,421.94**  
**Home Budget Offering - \$3,375.00**  
**Reimbursement from Trinity - \$1,893.81**  
Shekels for a Seminarian - \$13.00