



Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer

2001 2nd Street NW - Watertown, South Dakota

Email: office@lcoorwatertown.org Website: <https://lcoorwatertown.org/>

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YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@LutheranChurchofOurRedeemer>

Season of Advent

Sunday December 10, 2023, 9:30 a.m.

Welcome and Call to Worship *(please sign & pass the welcome pad down the pew)*

We gather today. —————> **It is time to worship!**

We listen for God. —————> **It is time to hear!**

We receive God's grace. ———> **It is time to be loved!**

We leave in peace. —————> **It is time to serve others!**

As we wait for Jesus' arrival, Emmanuel, God-with-us, is already here in this time and place.

Confession and Forgiveness

People of God, when we think that we have nowhere left to turn, we can always turn to God. Whether we feel frozen or are rushing with no time to rest, whether it feels like life is happening to us too quickly or like our lives will never change, God is with us. For God, there is always time for forgiveness.

We trust God, and we confess our sins together. *(Silence is kept for reflection)* Holy One,

We have not stayed awake. We have missed you when you appeared in our neighbors, in strangers half a world away, in the suffering planet. We have wasted the time and the skills that you gave us and assumed we were powerless to mend the breaches in our world. Sometimes, we even gave up on your mercy, justice, and love. God, is it too late for us? Speak tenderly to our anxious hearts.

Tear open the heavens and heal what we have done. Amen.

People of God, God's judgment is certain and God's forgiveness is lightning fast. Hear this good news: in the name of Jesus Christ, all your sins are forgiven. Forgiveness gives us the courage we need. Wherever we wait for God's time to come, we will witness wonders. **Amen.**

Opening Song

"You Are Holy (Price Of Peace)"

(Verse) You are holy (You are holy) You are mighty (You are mighty) You are worthy (You are worthy)
Worthy of praise (worthy of praise) I will follow (I will follow) I will listen (I will listen)
I will love You (I will love You) All of my days (all of my days)

I will sing to and worship The King who is worthy And I will love and adore Him
And I will bow down before Him And I will sing to and worship The King who is worthy
And I will love and adore Him And I will bow down before Him You're my Prince of Peace
And I will live my life for You (Verse)

You are Lord of lords You are King of kings You are mighty God Lord of ev'rything
You're Emmanuel You're the Great I Am You're the Prince of Peace who is the Lamb
You're the living God You're my saving grace You will reign forever You are Ancient of Days
You are Alpha Omega Beginning and End You're my Savior Messiah Redeemer and Friend
You're my Prince of Peace And I will live my life for You (x2)

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. **Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

“Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” (Matthew 25:37-39)

Let us pray. **Giver of all good things: You give us our days on this earth, but we determine how to use them. When we don't know what's right, when we fail to care for others, when we don't recognize you, reveal yourself to us. As we light another candle on this wreath, remind us that you are the one who gives, even purpose for our days, and direction for our deeds. Amen.**

Children's Message

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

¹Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. ³A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." ⁶A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" ¹⁰See, Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. ¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 85: 1-2, 8-13

¹You have been gracious to your land, O LORD; you have restored the good fortune of Jacob. ²You have forgiven the iniquity of your people and blotted out all their sins. ⁸I will listen to what the LORD God is saying; for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you. ⁹Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you, that your glory may dwell in our land. ¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other. ¹¹Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth, and righteousness shall look down from heaven. ¹²The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, and our land will yield its increase. ¹³Righteousness shall go before the LORD and shall prepare for God a pathway.

Second Reading

2 Peter 3:8-15a

⁸Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. ¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. ¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ^{15a}and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

“Out of Time”

Out of time Out of space Now we hope for better days
Keeping watch when the waiting wears us down
Drawn out thin Pulled in tight Searching for the break of day
Will we ever find you drawing near

(Chorus) You come to us from just beyond You call to us from out of time
You tear the heavens open wide Shining love across the starlit sky

Time flows fast Make it slow Give more time for all we love Time grows long
Turn our waiting to its end In our years In our days God your goodness is at work
Can it be you might be drawing near (Chorus)

When the earth yearns for peace And the people cry for bread With a hunger that you alone can fill
We will pray We will work We will all prepare the way And in time we find you drawing near (Chorus)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st Chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:1-8

¹The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, “See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’” ⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

“Time Flies”

Pastor Overbo

Hymn of the Day

“From Heaven Above”

#268 vs. 1-3

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Prayer Song

“Come Emmanuel”

Come and speak to us Come and renew us Come and live through us Emmanuel

Grace to implore us Ever before us Come and restore us Emmanuel

Come Emmanuel come Emmanuel Come Emmanuel come Emmanuel

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Prayers of the Church

Hospitalized/ill: Jessica Fischer, Ashlea West, Dave Satter, Byron Johnson, Jeanine Eide, Kevin Stark, Ric Holmquest, Jack Pereira, Judith Glembin, Matt Schlaht-Friend of Rachel & Jesse Hauck, Gretchen Morrow Bray- Daughter of Darline Morrow & Sister of Ann (Greg) DeSpiegler, Char Loterbauer, Kenneth Bailly, Liz Hustad,

Death: Clarris Hedtke- Mother of Renee (Brad) Howell;

Prayer Song

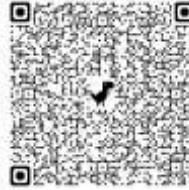
“Come Emmanuel”

Love that begins us Pardons and wins us Come and reign in us Emmanuel Come and speak to us
Fill and renew us Come and live through us Emmanuel Emmanuel Emmanuel

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Offering

Text to Give: 605-250-6765 or Scan the QR code located in the pew
*Noisy Can Offering (for all ages) Mission of the Month: **LCOOR Care Fund***



Offertory Response

“Create In Me A Clean Heart”

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me (repeat)
Cast me not away from thy presence, O Lord and take not thy Holy Spirit from me
Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and renew a right spirit within me
Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. (repeat)

Offering Prayer

God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Lord’s Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Announcements

Blessing

The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the anointing of the Spirit ✠ remain upon you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song

“Love the Lord”

Love the Lord your God with all your heart With all your soul with all your mind
And with all your strength (Repeat Verse)

With all your heart with all your soul With all your mind with all your strength
Love the Lord your God with all your heart With all your soul with all your mind
And with all your strength

I will serve the Lord With all my heart with all my soul
With all my mind and with all my strength (Repeat Verse)

With all my heart with all my soul With all my mind with all my strength
I will serve the Lord with all my heart With all my soul with all my mind
And with all my strength

I will love You (I will love You) I will praise You (I will praise You)
I will serve You (I will serve You) I will trust You Lord (I will trust You)

With all my heart with all my soul With all my mind with all my strength
With all my heart with all my soul With all my mind with all my strength

I will love You Lord with all my heart With all my soul with all my mind
And with all my strength (Repeat Verse x2)

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Call to Service

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please share the peace, as well as your name when you leave today.

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Serving This Morning

Preaching: Pastor Overbo; **Sound & Projection:** Zach Staton, Kent Anderson, Kyndall Bender; **Worship Team;**

Lector: Kole Muller; **Ushers:** Hugh Bartels, Kevin Luoma, Ken & Renae Madison;

Coffee Servers: Kevin & Bernie Luoma; **Welcome Center:** Pam Luckhurst;

*Notice: This worship service is livestreamed and shared on YouTube & LCOOR's Facebook page.



God uses money as a
testimony in the lives of His
people.

“But strive first for the
kingdom of God and his
righteousness,
and all these things will be
given to you as well”.

Matthew 6:33

SALVATION ARMY DONATIONS

Boxed Cereal & Peanut Butter

As you go grocery shopping, please consider picking up a couple extras to donate. Drop these items off at LCOOR and we will deliver them to the Salvation Army. Thanks in advance for your generosity!



CHRISTMAS Eve POINSETTIAS

\$20

ORDER A POINSETTIA IN HONOR OR IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE OR TO THE GLORY OF GOD TO BEAUTIFY THE SANCTUARY FOR CHRISTMAS EVE.

We Need Piano Players!

To play with our Worship Teams on Wednesday Evenings & Sunday Mornings.



Contact Megan in the church office at 886-2696 or meganelcoorwatertown.org

LOCATED AT CITY PARK

LCOOR at WINTER Wonderland

CHECK OUT OUR NEWEST DISPLAY!

Open Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from 6 to 9 p.m. through Dec. 24, plus 6 to 9 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 25.

HOLIDAYS GOT YOU DOWN?

IF YOU'RE JUST NOT FEELING IN THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT, OR SIMPLY WISH YOU HAD SOMEONE TO TALK TO AS THE HOLIDAYS APPROACH, OUR BEFRIENDERS ARE HERE FOR YOU. PLEASE CALL TWILA IN THE CHURCH OFFICE AT 605-886-2696 TO LEARN MORE.

DECEMBER CIRCLES & BIBLE STUDY

Join the members of Priscilla and Martha Circles as they meet at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, December 13, for a time of fellowship and devotions. Pastor Laura will lead the bible study.

DECEMBER MISSION OF THE MONTH

LCOOR Care Fund

Mission of the Month dollars are above and beyond your regular giving. Please clearly mark your offering with Mission of the Month. Thank you!

COOKIES NEEDED

Sandwich Ministry is in need of cookies. We have cookie kits available for pick up at the Welcome Center or church office. You can also bake your own & drop them off at the church. Thank you!

Offering Envelopes

Stop by before or after worship across from the Welcome Center to pick up your next year's offering envelopes. Or stop into the church office Monday - Thursday 8:30am - 5pm or 8:30-Noon on Friday to pick up your envelopes.

DELIVER A CARING CASSEROLE

KNOW SOMEONE WHO JUST GOT HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL? A FAMILY WHO RECENTLY HAD A BABY? A FREEZER FILLED WITH CASSEROLES IS LOCATED IN TWILA'S OFFICE. PLEASE STOP BY AND PICK UP ONE (OR TWO) AND SHARE IN THIS CARING MINISTRY.

Sunday December 10

8:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study w/ Pastor Dan
 8:30 a.m. Church School
 8:30 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry
 9:30 a.m. Blended Worship
 6:00 p.m. HS Youth Group

Monday December 11

8:00 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry
 6:45 p.m. Al-Anon

Tuesday December 12

11:00 a.m. Text Study
 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
 5:30 p.m. Foster Family Christmas
 6:00 p.m. Executive Committee
 6:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting

Wednesday December 13

8:00 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry
 9:30 a.m. Combined Circle Christmas Gathering
 12:15 p.m. Men's Lunch
 4:45 p.m. Community Meal- Pizza
 5:30 p.m. Adult Bible Study w/ Pastor Dan
 5:30 p.m. Church School
 6:30 p.m. Church School Christmas Program
 7:15 p.m. 7th/8th Grade Confirmation
 7:15 p.m. HS Hang-out in Youth Room
 7:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal
 7:30 p.m. Praise & Rejoice Choir Rehearsal

Thursday December 14

9:00 a.m. Quilting
 10:00 a.m. Preschool Chapel Time
 1:00 p.m. Chair Yoga
 5:15 p.m. Al-Anon

Friday December 15

Church Office Closes at Noon
 8:00 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry

Saturday December 16

Stewardship Moment
 5:30 p.m. Traditional Worship w/ Holy Communion

Sunday December 17

Stewardship Moment
 8:30 a.m. Adult Bible Study w/ Pastor Dan
 8:30 a.m. Church School
 8:30 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry
 9:30 a.m. Church School Christmas Program



Attendance & Offering

November 26 Live Stream- 100
 Saturday, December 2- 64
 Sunday, December 3- 332
 Wednesday, December 6- 197
Offering (12/3):
 General Fund: \$8,868; Other: \$710;
 Mission of the Month: \$119.80;
 Debt Reduction: \$60; Church School: \$31.05;
Simply Giving Offering (11/27-12/1):
 General Fund: \$9,081.15;
 Debt Reduction: \$83; Other: \$382;
 Mission of the Month: \$125;

Staff

Senior Pastor
 Dan Overbo
 Associate Pastor
 Laura Overbo
 Welcoming & Caring Ministries
 Twila Schmitt
 Director of Faith Formation
 Philip Lickei
 Business Manager
 Jodi Spilde
 Business Administrative Assistant
 Megan Thyen
 Preschool
 Nikki Landmark, Director/Teacher
 Wendy Kruger, Paraprofessional
 Custodian
 Adam Lauseng

DECEMBER 10, 2023

God brings peace and forgiveness.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Mark 1:1-8	The beginning of the good news
Monday	Isaiah 40:1-11	Comfort my people
Tuesday	2 Peter 3:8-15a	Promise of the Lord's coming
Wednesday	Matthew 5:9	Blessed are the peacemakers
Thursday	Psalms 29	The voice of God in a storm
Friday	Isaiah 52:7-10	Let Zion rejoice
Saturday	Psalms 85:1-2, 8-13	A prayer for God's peace
Sunday	John 1:6-8, 19-28	John's witness to the light

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

Isaiah 40:1-2 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, help us to rely on you above all things that our lives may find rest and peace through Christ Jesus, the Son of God. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this food; we pray for a fair distribution of the fruit of the earth that all may have enough to eat. In Jesus' name, amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the steadfast love and faithfulness of God give you peace. (Psalm 85:10)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Think or talk about a time when you experienced peace.
- When have you felt God's peace in your life?

