

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR REDEEMER

SHARE JOY

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT | SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025, 9:30 A.M.



Welcome (please pass the black welcome pads)

Inspired by the abundant hospitality of Jesus Christ, Lutheran Church of Our Redeemer welcomes all of God's children into the life of the church as 'we make God known through words and deeds'.

Call to Worship

As we move deeper into the season of Advent, focusing on our Lord's coming, we light the third candle—the candle of joy. This is the joy the angel spoke about to the shepherds as he said:

I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people.

(The first two blue candles and one pink candle are lit.)

Though you have not seen Christ, you love him;

Even though we do not see him now, we believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy.

For you are receiving the goal of your faith,

The salvation of our souls.

So with all the joy of Christ's coming, we gather together.

Confession and Forgiveness

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

We confess our sin. **Lord, we come before you in prayer today, asking for forgiveness. We have not loved as we ought to love, we have not given as we ought to give, and we have fallen short of the mark of truly being your sons and daughters.**

We recognize our sins and in this moment of silence, we privately remember our shortcomings in love and life.

Silence for reflection.

God, our heavenly Father, hears the prayers of his children and answers those prayers. Our prayer for forgiveness is answered in the person of Jesus Christ, his Son, who died for our sin that we might have new life in him. To those who believe his Word of truth he gives power to be the people of God. Praise God for his gift of love to us. **Amen.**

Opening Song

"You Are Holy (Prince of Peace)"

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. **O Lord Jesus Christ, you came to earth to share the joy of heaven. Help us to share the joyful news about your birth with all those we meet. May the sweetness of your words of promise and hope and salvation energize us for living in your name and according to your will. Remind us all that no trouble on earth can ever separate us from you. Amen.**

First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the Lord.

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

Psalm

Psalms 146:5-10

⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;
⁶ **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;**
⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.
⁸ **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**
⁹ The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.
¹⁰ **The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!**

Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

Special Music

"Born God's Only Son" arr. Karen Roth

Handbell Choir
Directed by: Bev Splinter

Children's Sermon and Children's Church (congregation please sing 'Jesus Loves Me' as children gather)

Gospel Acclamation

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

#257 vs. 3

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

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:39-46

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord."

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

Hymn of the Day

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

#634 vs. 1-4

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer Song

“Come Emmanuel”

Prayers of the Church

Hospitalized/Ill: *Betsy Spartz- Daughter of Denise Schmahl and Sister of Alissa (Mark) Iverson, Katie Stavig, Bud Webb, JoAnn Roti, Carter Silvernail- Son-in-law of Ron & Carol Bergan, Dave Wicks, Lucille Olson, Ed Knadle, Matthew Harty – Brother of Megan (Ryan) Thyen, Buck Schaack- Brother of Joyce (Marvin) McGillivray, Liz Ewald- Friend of Lesa Franken, Dianna Lambert, Vince Brueggeman- Father of Karla Christensen Brad Bergh- Son of Margaret Bergh, Robin Faulstich- Sister-in-law of Phyllis Bowersox, Karla Stimson,*

Death: *David Dahl*

Prayer Song

“Come Emmanuel”

Offering

Text to Give: 888-303-5012 or Scan the QR code located in the pew
Noisy Can Offering (for all ages) Mission of the Month:
Brothers and Sisters Behind Bars & St Francis House



Stewardship Snapshot

One Week Offering Goal: \$20,094.00
(Pledged \$13,360.00 | Non-Pledged \$6,734.00)

One Week Offering Received (Nov. 30 –Dec. 6): \$15,517.33
(Pledged \$9,878.33 | Non-Pledged \$5,639.00)

77% of our goal was met.

Offertory Response

“Alleluia”

Offering Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, we have heard your voice. We have seen you in action. And we believe! Accept these offerings, signs of our faith. And bring us, at last, to see you face to face. You are the Lord forevermore. **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 (from Psalm 51:12)

Now may the Lord restore to us the joy of his salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace. **Amen.**

Sending Song

“Prepare Him Room”

Call to Service

Go in peace. Keep awake.

Thanks be to God.

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Serving Preaching: Pastor Laura Overbo; **Worship Team;** **Lector:** Robbyn Givens; **Greeters:** Fred & Mary Garland;
Acolytes: Abby Turbak, Kyler Iverson; **Welcome Center:** Heather Rasmussen, Clea Urevig; **Ushers:** Mark & Alissa Iverson;

THE WEEKLY WORD

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR REDEEMER

Redeemer's Kitchen - December 21

Redeemer's Kitchen will meet the 3rd Sunday of each month after the 9:30 a.m. worship to prep seven freezer meals. For December we will gather on **Sunday, December 21.**

December Menu:

- Potato & Sausage Soup
- Chicken Noodle Soup
- Lentil Bolognese
- Beans & Ham
- Chicken & Potato Soup
- Meatball Tortellini Soup
- Thai Peanut Chicken w/ Rice
- Lemon Crinkle Cookies

More information, including pricing and sign-up are available at the Welcome Center or by contacting Karri in the church office at karri@lcoorwatertown.org or (605) 886-2696.

Holiday Schedule

Wednesday, December 17 | 10:00 a.m.

Preschool Christmas Program (*preschool Christmas break is Monday, December 22 - Monday, January, 5*)

Wednesday, December 17 | 6:30 p.m.

Church School Christmas Program (*last day, church school & confirmation classes resume on Wednesday, January 7*)

Sunday, December 21 | 9:30 a.m.

Church School Christmas Program (*last day, church school & confirmation classes resume on Sunday, January 11*)

Wednesday, December 24 | Christmas Eve

Church office closes at 12 p.m. & reopens Monday, Dec. 29.

1:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion

3:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion

5:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Saturday, December 27 | 5:30 p.m.

Lessons & Carols Worship

Sunday, December 28 | 9:30 a.m.

Lessons & Carols Worship

Wednesday, December 31 | No Worship (New Year's Eve)

Church office closes at 12 p.m. & reopens Friday, Jan. 2.

Do YOU use our Online Church Directory??

Stay connected with your church family through **LCOOR's Online Church Directory!** If you already have an online directory account, you can easily update your contact information, family photo, and more by logging in either through the website or the mobile app. To use the mobile app, simply search "**Instant Church Directory**" in the App Store or Google Play. Prefer a computer? Visit members.instantchurchdirectory.com to access your profile. If you're unsure whether you have an account—or if you need to be added—please contact the church office. Our staff will create your account using your preferred email so you can begin the sign-up process. **New for existing users:** You can now access our church website directly from the app's homepage! Come join the directory and help our LCOOR community stay connected.

SIGN-UP TO SERVE AT WORSHIP!

SCAN HERE



Calendar & Attendance

Sunday December 14

Christmas Eve Illumination Sponsor Deadline

8:30 a.m. Confirmation Workshop
8:45 a.m. Church School
9:30 a.m. Worship
11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. LCOOR Mobile Soup Kitchen
6:00-7:30 p.m. Family Fun Night: Christmas Bingo

Monday December 15

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

Tuesday December 16

10:00 a.m. Prayer Shawl Group
11:00 a.m. Text Study
1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
5:15 p.m. Stewardship Committee Meeting
6:00 p.m. Council Meeting

Wednesday December 17

8:00 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry
10:00 a.m. Preschool Christmas Program
12:15 p.m. Men's Lunch
5:00 p.m. Community Meal
5:30 p.m. Confirmation Workshop
5:45 p.m. Church School
6:30 p.m. Church School Christmas Program
7:15 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal
7:15 p.m. Luther League (9-12 Grade)

Thursday December 18

9:00 a.m. Quilting
10:00 a.m. Book Club
5:15 p.m. Al-Anon

Friday December 19

Church Office Closes at Noon
8:00 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry
9:00 a.m. Quilting

Saturday December 20

5:30 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday December 21

8:30 a.m. Confirmation Workshop
8:45 a.m. Church School
9:30 a.m. Church School Christmas Program
10:30 a.m. Redeemer's Kitchen

Monday December 22

No Preschool | Christmas Break (Dec. 22 - Jan. 1)
8:00 a.m. Watertown Sandwich Ministry
6:45 p.m. Al-Anon

Tuesday December 23

11:00 a.m. Text Study
1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

Wednesday December 24 (Christmas Eve)

No Activities or Community Meal
Church Office Closes at Noon
1:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion
3:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion
5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion

Attendance

- **Sunday, November 30 Livestream:** 114
- **Saturday, December 7:** 60
- **Sunday, December 8:** 296
- **Wednesday, December 3:** 142

Church Staff

Senior Pastor

Dan Overbo

Associate Pastor

Laura Overbo

Director of Faith Formation

Wendy Kruger

Welcoming & Caring Ministries

Karri Willhite

Business Manager

Jodi Spilde

Business Administrative Assistant

Megan Thyen

Preschool

Nikki Landmark, Director/Teacher

Wendy Kruger, Paraprofessional

Sound & Technology

Sam Langner

Custodian

Roman Gainor



CAR QUESTION FOR THE RIDE HOME:

Share your favorite Christmas memory.
What made this memory so special?

