



Fourth Sunday of Advent

It's All about God's Plan!

Thursday & Sunday, December 21 & 24, 2023

As We Gather

Soon and very soon our waiting and planning for Christmas celebrations will come to their close, and we will rejoice in Christ's coming to save us. Such waiting and planning for Christmas can also guide us as we prepare for Christ's final advent, His ultimate coming, when He returns on the Last Day. Until that glorious Day, when all portions of God's plan for our salvation will be accomplished, we are blessed with the peace "which surpasses all understanding" (Philippians 4:7). Such peace is an amazing gift that the Lord gave to the virgin Mary, the mother of our Lord, when she received God's Word from the angel Gabriel. According to God's own amazing plan, Mary would carry our salvation in her womb and then, some nine months later, deliver Him into the world He would die and rise again to save. "Let it be to me according to your word," she said, accepting the Lord's plan for her life (Luke 1:38). May we say the same today as we gather in the presence of our God.

10:45 AM Pre-Service Song “He Has Come For Us (God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen)”

6:30 PM & 8:15 AM Opening Hymn “Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord” *LSB* 352

10:45 AM Opening Song “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

P: Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for Him.

C: Wait for the LORD and keep His way.

P: The LORD waits to be gracious to you.

C: He exalts Himself to show mercy to you.

P: For the LORD is a God of justice;

C: blessed are all those who wait for Him.

Confession and Absolution

P: So that we may experience the peace of sins forgiven, let us come before our Lord with humble hearts as we confess together:

C: Gracious Father, we all have sinned and fallen short of Your glory. By what we have done and by what we have failed to do, we have broken Your commands and have not accomplished Your plans for our lives.

P: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, You alone give us the redemption and the restoration, the absolution and the ability to follow Your Word. Through the work of Jesus, the Word made flesh, do for us what is impossible apart from You.

C: Forgive us, renew us, and lead us so that we may follow Your plan for our lives and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: In the mercy of our gracious Father, Jesus came into this world, journeying from the crib to the cross, from the tomb and to His throne of glory in order to secure our forgiveness according to God's plan of salvation. Receive His assurance of

pardon this day as we celebrate Jesus' coming to save us. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen.**

Introit

P: Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness;

C: let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.

P: The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims His handiwork.

C: In them He has set a tent for the sun,

P: which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber,

C: and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

P: Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them,

C: and there is nothing hidden from its heat. 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: Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down righteousness;

C: let the earth open, that salvation and righteousness may bear fruit.

6:30 PM & 8:15 AM Hymn of Praise "From East to West" *LSB* 385

10:45 AM Song of Praise "What Child Is This"

Salutation

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray. Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might,

C: that we may know Your plan of salvation and trust that nothing is impossible with You;

P: for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Old Testament Reading 2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16

(after the reading)...

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Epistle Romans 16:25–27

after the reading)...

L: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

L: Please stand as you are able for the reading of the Holy Gospel.

Holy Gospel Luke 1:26–38

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord. *(after the reading)...*

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles' Creed

Children's Message & Celebrate Song 🎵

6:30 PM & 8:15 AM Hymn of the Day "O Come, all ye Faithful "
LSB 379

10:45 AM Sermon Song "Your Name"

Sermon

Prayer of the Church

P: In the peace of Christ, our coming King, let us bring our prayers before our gracious God. Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: Through Him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand.

P: For God's amazing plan of salvation to reach into our hearts, that all those for whom Christ Jesus came into this world may know the hope, love, joy, and peace of sins forgiven; for perfect peace to reign in the hearts and minds of all who believe, that we may be the Lord's instruments of peace in a world filled with troubles; in peace, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
C: will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

P: For the outpouring of the Spirit of peace upon the Church of Christ Jesus, that all who wait for His appearing would be strengthened in their faith and renewed in their boldness to confess His saving name before all the world; for all those who doubt God's plan for their lives, that like the virgin Mary, the Holy Spirit would make His Word come alive in them, transforming them from the inside out; in peace, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you.

C: Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

P: For the comfort and peace of Jesus to touch the lives of all who experience suffering, [*including . . .*]; for Christ's peace to dwell among us as we celebrate His coming to save us, looking forward to the ultimate Day in which He will come again in all power and glory; in peace, let us pray to the Lord: **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: With hearts of gratitude and praise, we join with the hosts of heaven and say:

C: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!"

P: Into Your hands, O gracious God, we entrust our prayers, through Jesus Christ, our King and Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Offering & Attendance / Involvement Cards

(The Offering of Peace is exchanged during Offering)

Lord's Prayer

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have accomplished Your plan of salvation in the coming of Jesus Christ, our Savior and King.

**C: As You have filled us with the peace of sins forgiven,
inspire us to share this blessing with others, that they,
too, may know Your love and salvation;**

P: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns
with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Benediction

P: May our gracious God strengthen your hearts, for His plan of
salvation has been revealed to us in the coming of His Son,
our Savior and King.

**C: “To the only wise God be glory forevermore through
Jesus Christ! Amen.”**

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.**

6:30 PM & 8:15 AM Closing Hymn “Hark the Glad Sound” LSB 349

10:45 AM Closing Song “Angels We Have Heard On High”

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome! A cordial welcome to everyone worshiping with us today. We are happy to have you share the joy of this Lord's Day with us. A special welcome to those worshiping with us for the first time. If you are looking for a church home and would like to know more about our congregation, please speak to a pastor after service or call the church at 712.276.1125.

Our worship services will continue to be available, traditional &/or contemporary, on our website: www.redeemersiouxcity.com or you can like us on Facebook: RedeemerLC or find us on YouTube: Redeemer Lutheran Church Sioux City.

Children's Bulletins and Quiet Bags are in the back of the church. Please place the Quiet Bags in the plastic container (next to the bags) when finished. Thank You!

Large-Print Bulletins and hearing devices are available from Ushers.

Please stop by Care Corner to sign a *birthday* card for Karyl Knecht.

Anniversary cards for Ron & Judy Buckley and Steve & Ann Peterson celebrating 50 years.

Sympathy card for Terry Olsen and Kim Zellmer and family on the passing of Terry's wife and Kim's mother, Nellie Olsen.

Altar Flowers are given by Lou & Bonnie Rossman in honor of their 47th anniversary.

Altar Flowers: There has been an unforeseen increase in the cost of Altar Flowers. Each vase is \$35 for a total of \$70 for both. Altar Guild would like to suggest that members can purchase just one of the bouquets or both. It would be your choice. This would start January 1, 2024. Going forward we will have a space on the flower chart for vase 1 or vase 2 or both 1 & 2 for you to choose. We appreciate our members. Please call Pam Naylor at 712-274-1642 with any questions. – Altar Guild.

A HUGE Thank You to everyone who took tags off the angel tree. Your generosity is very much appreciated by the residents at Mid-step Services and the children at the Boys & Girls Home.

Thank you to everyone for supporting Redeemer's Youth! With our latest fundraiser, the silent auction baskets, we raised over \$1300. This money will be used to fund our mission trip to Kentucky in June. Redeemer's youth are blessed to have such a supportive congregation.

Work on the kitchen remodeling project has begun with new lighting installation! The \$48,000 project will begin in earnest on February 1 and throughout the month of February. Your contributions to this project are greatly appreciated!

Endowment & Legacy meeting on Thursday, Jan. 4th, 2024, at 7:30 PM.

Christmas Eve Offerings will go to support missionaries Pastor Adam and Christine Lehman serving in Puerto Rico, and missionaries John and Jenn Wolf serving in Kenya, Africa.

Free-will offerings for the coffee and donuts on Sunday mornings will go towards the putting-up and taking-down of the outdoor Christmas lights (\$935).

Upcoming Bible Study: "The Law of Rewards"- In this study of God's motivational system, you will find out why he wired us for rewards, what kind he offers and when and how we can claim them. God does not guarantee power or possessions or pleasures in the world, but he promises, extravagant rewards in Heaven. We will find that we do not serve God just for rewards, but that he does offer them to his children as major incentives. God has wired us to desire rewards, but it's important to remember that God's reward system is for his glory, our good, and the good of others. This 6 week Bible study will begin Wednesday, at 5:45 pm, January 3, 2024, and go till February 7 (a week before Ash Wednesday). If you are interested in this course, text or call Curt Green at 712-560-5866 before the end of the month!

Newsletter Error: Save the Date correction: February 24th at 10:00 joint service event packaging "Mercy Meals" at Faith Lutheran Church. Redeemer Youth and Lutheran Women in Mission.

We still have about 125 Jars of jams & Jellies available in the Parish Hall. December proceeds go to the JJ Wolf missionary Family, working in Africa. Jams and Jellies: \$6 a jar or 5 for \$25, dill pickles (\$8 a qt) or 6 for \$40, & sweet pickles (\$6 a pt). ~~Pastor Zirpel

Aronia Jam

Aronia Berry Jelly

Aronia Cherry Jam

Aronia Jalapeno Jam

Aronia Jelly

Aronia Strawberry Jam

Black Raspberry Rhubarb Jam

Cherry Aronia Jam

Cherry Rhubarb Jam

Dark Cherry Jelly

Gooseberry Jelly

Grape Jelly

Jalapeno Mixed Fruit

Mixed Berry Jam

Mixed Fruit Jam

Peach Jelly

Pear Jam

Red Currant Jelly

Rhubarb Ginger Lime Jam

Rhubarb Jalapeno Jam

Rhubarb Jam

Strawberry Jam

Strawberry Jalapeno Jam

Wild Grape Jelly

Wild Plum Jalapeno Jam

Wild Plum Jam

Wild Plum Rhubarb

Wild Raspberry Jam

IOWAY appeal – With the ripping through of tornadoes in Tennessee last week, the loss of lives, and major property destruction, we are letting you know of one way to help if you so choose. IDW will be gathering funding at this time to share with the midsouth district and LERT (Lutheran Early Response Teams – disaster response and relief) who are on the ground in that area. Our goal is to get the funding shared in early January for the ongoing relief efforts. If you choose to donate, please send funds to: Iowa District West, c/o Julie Mann – IOWAY, 409 Kenyon Rd #B, Fort Dodge, IA 50501

BSF Bible Study will resume again on Thursday, Jan. 11th.

GriefShare: Calvary Lutheran Church, 4400 Central St., Sioux City, Call 712-239-5646 or 712-389-5226 (Diane Harris - GriefShare Coordinator). The winter GS cycle will begin Tuesday, January 9, at 10:30 a.m. and also on Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

Thrivent Members Who Have Choice Dollars: NEW Choice Dollars for the 3rd Quarter of 2023 are now available. Please direct them as soon as possible by calling Home Office at 1-800-847-4836 or by directing them online at www.thrivent.com. Thanks for your continued support of the Choice Dollar program at Redeemer.

School Bucks (Rules): All receipts must be from the Sioux City or South Sioux City Hy-Vee's or the Hy-Vee Mainstreet Store. Receipts must be dated August 1, 2023 – April 22, 2024. No Fuel, postal, money order, Western Union, lottery, Quest, Mid-American or gift card receipts will be accepted. If any of these receipts are found in any of the bundles, the entire bundle amount might not be counted and will not go towards your school total. If you have any questions regarding the receipts, contact Tara Vander Weil at 712-333-9507.

Additional Listening on Sundays:

1. Good Shepherd Hour- 8:00 AM KSCJ
2. Lutheran Hour- 8:30 AM KSCJ
3. Main Street Living- 10:00 AM KCAU, Channel 9.

December 31 airing - This Is the Life – “Burden Made Light” – The housekeeper helps a family through the struggle of an increasingly sick child. Worship Service – Rev. James Travis of Calvary Lutheran Church in Sioux City, IA, delivers the message “Take Advantage of Your Rights!” based on Galatians 4:4-5. Additional information is available on the web site: www.mainstreetliving.com.

Come Join Us on Facebook ---- LWML Redeemer Lutheran Church - Sioux City.

Please Like our Facebook

page <https://www.facebook.com/Bibishopemissiontrip>

Follow us for great stories, pictures, and updates. Thank you!

Please Like us our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/RedeemerLC>

Redeemer's Missionaries of the year for 2023 are the Adam Lehman Family and the JJ Wolf Family. Contributions may be made to their accounts to Redeemer Lutheran and earmarked as such at any time. Contributions are then sent through Mission Central (Gary Thies, Mapleton) by Redeemer. Thanks for your consideration!

Building Healthy Families: How has the fact that Jesus was born over 2000 years ago changed your life today? How would your life be different today if Jesus hadn't come? As a family, take time to read aloud the Christmas story (Luke 2) and engage them all in a discussion around these two questions. From the silly answer of a preschooler, to the shoulder shrug of a teenager, to the wise words shared by an older person, it will be interesting to see how each individual family member answers. Remember, even those who don't answer are still listening, and may remember this conversation for years to come! *Extra points for anyone who has a Bible verse to support their answer! (...think John 12:46; John 18:37; 1 Timothy 1:15...)* A Blessed Celebration of Jesus' Birth from your friends at **Lutheran Family Service!**

www.LutheranFamilyService.org

SERVING THIS WEEK- Christmas Eve Advent 4 Service (December 21 & 24, 2023): **USHERS:** Thurs. 6:30 PM – Harland Feddersen (Al & Melissa Joens, Shelly Fergan). **Sunday 8:15 AM – Team 2** (Scott Ernst, Brian Duff, Roy Olsen, Lamont Onken, Phil Schauer). **10:45 AM – Team 6** (Mark Shapiro, Jim Phillip's, Jeremy Schram, Aaron Schutt). **GREETERS: 8:15 AM-** Lamont & Drenda Onken; **10:45 AM-** Shirley Stokes. **ACOLYTES: 8:15 AM-** Joshua Gray; **10:45 AM-** (open). **TECHNOLOGIST: Thurs. 6:30 PM-** Tim Young; **Sun. 8:15 AM-** David Senstad; **10:45 AM-** Curt Green. **COUNTING TEAM: 2** (Mack & Hermelbracht's). **COFFEE & ROLL SERVERS:** TBD

Serving for Christmas Eve Candle Light & Contemporary Service (Sunday, December 24, 2023): **USHERS: 4 PM-** Team 6 (Mark Shapiro, Jim Phillips, Jeremy Schram, Aaron Schutt); **7 PM-** Team 7 (Doug Stucky, Nate Klaumann, Christian Stai, Tom Stokes); **11 PM-** Team 8 (Dave Schlotman, Scott & Beth Bowman, Steve Dirks, Brian Owens, Paul Scotman)

GREETERS: 4 PM- Gale & Carol Bobolz; **7 PM-** Scott & Beth Bowman; **11 PM-** Dick & Deanna Braun

ACOLYTES: 4 PM- (open); **7 PM-** (open); **11 PM-** (open)

TECHNOLOGIST: 4 PM- ; David Senstad; **7 PM-** Curt Green, **11 PM-** David Senstad

Serving for Christmas Day Service (Monday, December 25, 2023):

USHERS: 9 AM - Team 1 (Alex Erickson, Marc Benson, Kelly Bucy, Larry Nelson, Jerry Van Peurse)

GREETERS: 9 AM- Marty & Marcy Delperdang

ACOLYTES: 9 AM- *(open)*; **TECHNOLOGIST: 9 AM-** David Senstad

SERVING NEXT WEEK- (December 28 & 31, 2023): **USHERS:** *same as last week.* **GREETERS:** 8:15 AM- Cindee Suhr; 10:45 AM- Scott & Beth Bowman. **ACOLYTES:** 8:15 AM- *(open)*; 10:45 AM- Leland David. **TECHNOLOGIST:** Thurs. 6:30 PM- Tim Young; Sun. 8:15 AM- Hannah Koehler; 10:45 AM- TBD. **COUNTING TEAM:** 3 *(Bobolz's & Schmith's).* **COFFEE & ROLL SERVERS:** Paul & Cindy Fleckenstein

Serving New Year's Eve- December 31, 2023):

USHERS: 6 PM- Team 2 *(Scott Ernst, Brian Duff, Roy Olsen, Lamont Onken, Phil Schauer).*

GREETERS: 6 PM- Scott & Brenda Ernst; **ACOLYTES:** *(open)*

TECHNOLOGIST: 6 PM- TBD

Record of Our Discipleship: Week Ending December 17, 2023

Worship Attendance: Sunday, 44+150+111=305 (25%)

Adult Bible Study: 28; ROCK Sun. 31; ROCK Wed: N/A

Sudanese: 13

Date	Income	Budgeted Income	%
Dec. 17, 2023	\$13,329	\$15,568	86%
Year-to-date	\$714,004	\$793,975	90%

Building Fund Income:

Year-to-date	Weekly Income	Total
\$7,893	\$0	\$7,893

Kitchen Fund Income:

Year-to-date	Weekly Income	Total
\$9,255	\$420	\$9,675

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER

Sunday, December 24, 2023

Christmas Eve

8:15 & 10:45 AM Advent 4 Worship Service

4:00 PM & 11:00 PM Christmas Candle Light Traditional Service

7:00 PM Christmas Candle Light Contemporary Service

Monday, December 25, 2023

Christmas Day

Office is Closed

9:00 AM Christmas Day Worship w/Holy Communion

Tuesday, December 26, 2023

1:30 PM Staff/Bible Study Mtg.

Wednesday, December 27, 2023

No Midweek or ROCK Wednesday – Christmas Break

No Handbell Practice

No Adult Choir Practice

Thursday, December 28, 2023

5:30 PM Adult Fitness

6:30 PM Worship Service

7:00 PM Elders Mtg

Friday, December 29, 2023

9:00 AM – Noon Food Shelf

Sunday, December 31, 2023

New Year's Eve

8:15 & 10:45 AM Worship Service

9:30 AM Adult Bible Study

9:30 AM Adult Confirmation

No ROCK Sunday

1:00 PM Sudanese Worship

6:00 PM New Year's Eve Worship Service

December Worship Schedule

Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24: Advent Worship Services
at 8:15 & 10:45 AM

✙ Candlelight Services at 4 PM & 11 PM.

✙ Contemporary Candlelight Service at 7 PM

Christmas Day, Monday, Dec. 25: 9 AM Worship with Holy
Communion

Sunday, Dec. 31: (First Sunday after Christmas) 8:15 & 10:45
AM Worship Services

New Year's Eve, Sunday, Dec. 31: Holy Communion
Worship service at 6 PM