



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
2nd Sunday in Advent Worship
December 10, 2023

9:30am

**REMEMBER, YOU ARE IN GOD'S SANCTUARY. AS YOU ENTER
PLEASE SIT QUIETLY, PRAY, AND READ THROUGH YOUR
WORSHIP FOLDER TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP.**



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
46250 Ann Arbor Road Plymouth, MI 48170
734.453.5252 www.risenchrist.info

ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION – (2nd & 4th Sundays) We believe: that Christ’s body and blood are truly present for forgiveness and spiritual strength, that God desires our sincere confession, continuous seeking and giving forgiveness and, that being genuine in taking Communion so that we not harm ourselves by taking it in an unworthy manner. If you believe the above, are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to Pastor if you have any questions. The bread is offered before the “individual” and “common” cups of wine. (Note: White Non-Alcoholic Wine is in the center of the tray.)

OFFERING – Through the offerings of His faithful people, our Lord provides for the ongoing work of His Church. If you are a visitor, we are glad that you came to be served by the Lord this day. If you choose to contribute to the ongoing work of the Gospel, we give thanks that God has moved you to contribute toward the work of sharing the Gospel here in Plymouth and around the world! You can also take advantage of Online Giving by visiting www.RisenChrist.info

A WORD TO OUR GUESTS – Welcome and thank you for coming. Please complete a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate. Pastor will send you a welcome card. Please indicate that you “desire” a call for any further contact.

Large Print Bulletins – Available from an usher.

Listening Assistance Devices – Available at the Sound Booth.

Parent Room – A row of seating and plenty of area for standing or walking is available in the Welcome Area/Lobby (“Narthex”)

For Children – Children’s Book Cart for Worship: Available in the Welcome Area.

As We Gather – Advent is the season of waiting! As we await Christ’s coming again in power and glory, we know that the time we are given before that great Day is due to the Lord’s patience. “The Lord . . . is patient toward you,” says Peter (2 Peter 3:9). Why? More time before Christ’s return as King and Judge means more opportunities for us to share the life-giving Gospel with all the world. As people hear the message of Christ, repenting of their sin and turning to Him in faith, more souls will be brought into God’s eternal kingdom. And because He is working His wonders of salvation, we rejoice in Him and receive from Him all He seeks to give!

Preservice and Postlude Music *by Jennifer Kirk*

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

Did You Feel the Mountains Tremble

1. Did you feel the mountains tremble

Did you hear the oceans roar
When the people rose to sing of
Jesus Christ the risen One

Did you feel the people tremble
Did you hear the singers roar
When the lost began to sing of
Jesus Christ the saving One

And we can see that God You're moving
A mighty river through the nations
And young and old will turn to Jesus
Fling wide you heavenly gates

Prepare the way of the risen Lord **CHORUS**

**CHORUS: Open up the doors
and let the music play**

**Let the streets resound with singing
Songs that bring Your hope
Songs that bring Your joy
Dancers who dance upon injustice**

2. Do you feel the darkness tremble
When all the saints join in one song
And all the streams flow as one river

To wash away our brokenness

And here we see that God You're moving
A time of jubilee is coming

When young and old return to Jesus
Fling wide you heavenly gates

Prepare the way of the risen Lord **CHORUS**

CCLI Song # 1097028

Martin Smith

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P I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!

C **Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!**

P I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, **C** **and in His word I hope.**

Prepare the Royal Highway



1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of kings is near!
2 God's peo - ple, see Him com - ing: Your own e - ter - nal king!
3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen To greet your prom - ised king!
4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; It comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley A lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore Him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion Its trib - ute too should bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom And jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of Glo - ry Fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands, bow down be - fore Him! All na - tions, now a - dore Him!
So let your praise be sound - ing For kind - ness so a - bound - ing:

Refrain



Ho - san - na to the Lord, For He ful - fills God's Word!

Confession and Absolution

Based on Psalm 130

- P** With hope in the Lord's promises of renewal by His Word and Spirit, let us together confess our sins to Him.
- C** **Out of the depths I cry to You, Lord!**
- P** Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to my pleas for mercy!
- C** **If You, O Lord, should mark iniquities, I would have no hope.**
- P** But with You there is forgiveness, therefore we place our trust in You.
- C** **Restore us, Lord God, and set us free from our sins.**
- P** Renew us in Your hope, that we may wait for Your salvation.
- C** **Because of Your steadfast love for us in Christ, redeem us from all our iniquities. Amen.**
- P** As we wait for Jesus' final coming, we place our hope and our confidence in the promises of His Word and find our home in the presence of His Spirit. Confessing our sins and turning away from them through lives of repentance, we are assured again this day of the Lord's steadfast love and plentiful redemption for 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

Psalm 80:1, 8a, 9b, 7; antiphon: v. 3

- P** Restore us, O God;
- C** **let Your face shine, that we may be saved!**
- P** Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock!
- C** **You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.**
- P** You brought a vine out of Egypt;
- C** **it took deep root and filled the land.**
- P** Restore us, O God of hosts;
- C** **let Your face shine, that we may be saved!**
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** Restore us, O God;
- C** **let Your face shine, that we may be saved!**

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray.
Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son,
- C** **that by His coming we may be found in Him, fully redeemed and at peace;**
- P** through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:1–11

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins.

³A voice cries:

"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.

⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry!" And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on 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 news;
lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

¹⁰Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him;
behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms;
he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

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

Psalm

Psalm 85; antiphon: v. 9

L Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him,

C **that glory may dwell in our land.**

L LORD, You were favorable to Your land; You restored the fortunes of Jacob.

C **You forgave the iniquity of Your people; You covered all their sin.**

L You withdrew all Your wrath; You turned from Your hot anger.

C **Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away Your indignation toward us!**

L Will You be angry with us forever? Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?

C **Will You not revive us again, that Your people may rejoice in You?**

L Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us Your salvation.

C **Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints;
but let them not turn back to folly.**

L Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him,

C **that glory may dwell in our land.**

L Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

C **Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.**

L Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

C **Righteousness will go before Him and make His footsteps a way.
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.**

L Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him,

C **that glory may dwell in our land.**

Epistle

2 Peter 3:8–14

⁸But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed.

¹¹Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! ¹³But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

¹⁴Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse

Luke 3:4b, 6

P Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight;

C **all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:1–8

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way,

³the voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,’”

⁴John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel’s hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷And he preached, saying, “After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge
 4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the
 △ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,
 way for God with - in, And let us all our
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Sermon – "'Tis the Season of Advent"

Nicene Creed

**☩ I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth
 and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
 begotten of His Father before all worlds,**

**God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made,
 being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;
 who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven**

**and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man;
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.**

**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of the Father.**

**And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
 whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**

**who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
 who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,**

and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

Offering – ONLINE GIVING available at www.RisenChrist.info

Whether you are a visitor or a member, please turn in a Worship Card so we may know whom the Lord has served with His Word.

Prayer of the Church

- P** As we wait in love for the coming of our Lord, let us together, as His advent people, bring our prayers before Him.

Father in heaven, You prepare a heavenly home for all who trust in You and come into Your presence through faith in Your Son. By His coming into this world to save us from the devastation of our sins, dying and rising again to make us eternally Yours, we have been reconciled to You. We praise You, Father, for this amazing gift of love and ask that Your Holy Spirit keep Your steadfast love secure in our hearts throughout our days of waiting. Come, Lord Jesus, our gracious King!

C To You alone our prayers we bring!

- P** Knowing that You have come once into this world, Lord Jesus, we are confident that You will come again. On that glorious Day when we are all gathered before You, when every knee will bow to You and every tongue confess Your holy name, we will receive the restoration of all things in heaven and on earth that Your Word has promised. Until Your final coming, O Lord, keep us secure in our salvation. Remind us that our waiting is because of Your patience, and that You call us to use this time we have been given to share Your precious Gospel with the world You died and rose again to save. Stir up the hearts of all who hear Your Word this day, that many will come to saving faith and experience the comfort of Your presence in their lives. Come, Lord Jesus, our gracious King!

C To You alone our prayers we bring!

- P** As wanderers in this land, O Lord, we experience various types of brokenness and pain, suffering and grief. We lift before You in prayer those we love, who are also loved by You. For those longing for food and shelter, grant Your mercy. For those needing protection and peace, grant Your Spirit. We pray for those in our families and connected to our family of faith who have special concerns of body and spirit, [*especially . . .*]. Grant that all who wander find their home in You alone, O Lord. Come, Lord Jesus, our gracious King!

C To You alone our prayers we bring!

- P** Comforting Spirit, fill our land, our homes, our workplaces, our schools, and all our interactions with others with Your blessings. Allow this season of waiting and preparation to refocus our hearts and minds upon Your mission for our congregation and for us as individual members of this household of faith. Stir up our hearts to make known to all the wonders You have done, so that more souls may be brought to saving faith and many would join with us in saying, "Come, Lord Jesus, our gracious King!"

C To You alone our prayers we bring!

- P** Confident in our coming King and Savior, we entrust our prayers into the good and gracious hands of our sovereign God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—who lives and reigns, both now and forever.

C Amen.

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

C **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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

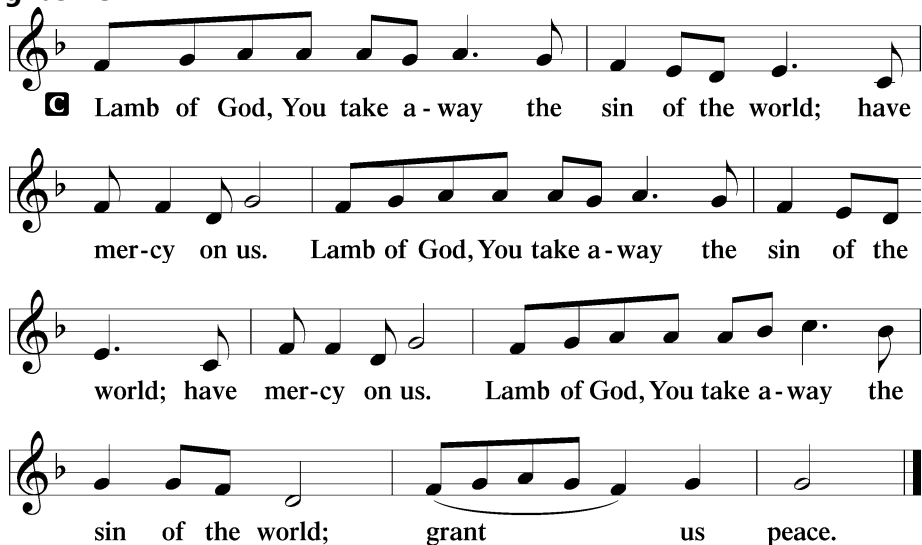
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My † blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei



□ Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel;
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.

CHORUS: Rejoice! Rejoice!

Emmanuel

Shall come to thee,

O Israel.

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who orders all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go. ***CHORUS***

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times did give the Law
In cloud and majesty and awe. ***CHORUS***

O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty power to save,
And give them victory o'er the grave. **CHORUS**

O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. **CHORUS**

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. **CHORUS**

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. **CHORUS**

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

2 Peter 3:14

- P** Let us pray.
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in steadfast love sent Your only-begotten Son into this world of sin, we thank You that for His sake You look upon us "without spot or blemish, and at peace."
- G** **We praise You for Your patience and rejoice in Your redemption!**
- P** We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- G** **Amen.**

Mighty to Save

1. Ev'ryone needs compassion
Love that's never failing
Let mercy fall on me
Ev'ryone needs forgiveness
The kindness of a Saviour
The hope of nations

CHORUS: Saviour
He can move the mountains
My God is mighty to save
He is mighty to save
Forever Author of salvation
He rose and conquered the grave
Jesus conquered the grave

2. So take me as You find me
All my fears and failures
Fill my life again
I give my life to follow
Ev'rything I believe in
Now I surrender **CHORUS**

BRIDGE Shine your light and
let the whole world see
We're singing
For the glory
of the risen King
Jesus
Shine your light and let the whole world see
We're singing
For the glory of the risen King

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Benediction

Psalm 130:5; Numbers 6:24–26

P I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,

C and in His word I hope.

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.

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 1.
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