



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
1st Midweek Worship in Advent
December 4, 2024 7pm

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



Tonight - The Song of Zechariah

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 Grape Juice 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. Brochures can be found at each door. 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 – The first week of the Advent season starts the time that is referred to as the festival half of the Church Year. Between now and the final week of the Easter season, we will follow the life of our Lord Jesus Christ, from now, when we await His coming as a baby in Bethlehem, to the time when He physically leaves the earth at His ascension and then His disciples begin the new era of life in the church as it takes form in Jerusalem and beyond. It is a time for praise!

ADVENT MIDWEEK EVENTS AND SERVICE @ 7pm on Wednesdays

LADIES EPIPHANY TEA – Saturday, January 11th (Stay tuned! More details on the way.)

CAROLING & SING-A-LONG IN KELLOGG PARK Sunday, December 22nd 5:30pm-6:30pm

Led by Miss Esther Kaufmann and Pr. Rennie in Downtown Plymouth!!! It starts at 5:30pm!

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES WITH COMMUNION – December 24th @ 4:30pm and 7pm

REGULAR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP IS @ 9:30am

Welcome

Invocation

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

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 124:8

- P** Our help is in the name of the LORD,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P In this season of penitence and reflection, let us think of our unworthiness; confess before God that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed; and ask for His merciful forgiveness.

C **Almighty God, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to life everlasting. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our 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. May the God of peace Himself sanctify you wholly; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

Opening Sentences

Psalm 146:1–2, 5–6, 7b–8, 10

- P** Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!
C **I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

P Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,
C **who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever.**

P The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

C **The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!**

Here I Am to Worship

Light of the World,
You stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see.
Beauty that made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.

***Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God.
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.***

2. King of all days, oh so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above,
Humbly You came to the earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor.

***CHORUS: Here I am to worship, here I am to bow down,
Here I am to say that You're my God.
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.***

BRIDGE: And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross.
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross. ***CHORUS***

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Salutation

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

Prayer of the Day

- P** Let us pray.
Almighty Father, by the advent of Your Son into the world, the kingdom of heaven now is open to all who believe in Him. Give us grace to receive the Lord Jesus as our Emmanuel, God with us. By the working of Your Holy Spirit, inspire our praises in this season of blessed expectation. Lead us joyfully to serve Jesus, our Advent King, in our daily lives, so that when He comes again on the Last Day in power and majesty we may, by Your mercy, be gathered into Your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord and our King.
- C** **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 15:1–3

- ¹Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying,
“I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously;
the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.
²The LORD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation;
this is my God, and I will praise him,
my father’s God, and I will exalt him.
³The LORD is a man of war;
the LORD is his name.

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

Psalm 24

- P** The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,
C **for He has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.**
- I** *Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? And who shall stand in His holy place?*
II *He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.*
- C** **He will receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of his salvation. Such is the generation of those who seek Him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**
- P** Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
C **Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!**
- P** Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.
C **Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, He is the King of glory!
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.**

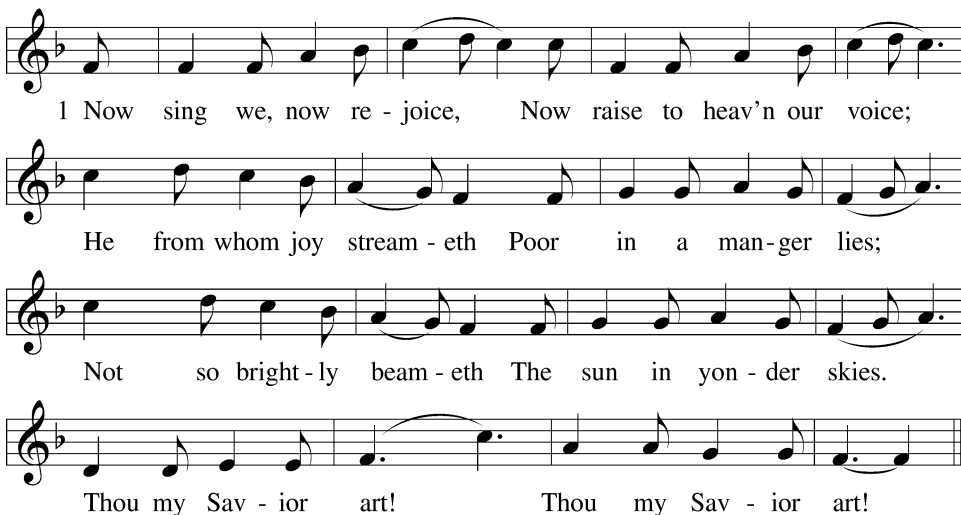
Epistle

Ephesians 5:15–21

¹⁵Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, ²⁰giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

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

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice



1 Now sing we, now re - joice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;
He from whom joy stream - eth Poor in a man - ger lies;
Not so bright - ly beam - eth The sun in yon - der skies.
Thou my Sav - ior art! Thou my Sav - ior art!

Holy Gospel

Luke 1:67–80

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

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

⁶⁷And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying,

⁶⁸"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
for he has visited and redeemed his people

⁶⁹and has raised up a horn of salvation for us
in the house of his servant David,

⁷⁰as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

⁷¹that we should be saved from our enemies
and from the hand of all who hate us;

⁷²to show the mercy promised to our fathers
and to remember his holy covenant,

⁷³the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us

⁷⁴that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies,
might serve him without fear,

⁷⁵in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

⁷⁶And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

⁷⁷to give knowledge of salvation to his people
in the forgiveness of their sins,

⁷⁸because of the tender mercy of our God,
whereby the sunrise shall visit us from on high

⁷⁹to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace."

⁸⁰And the child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day of his public appearance to Israel.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon – The Song of Zechariah

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.

Prayers

- P** Let us pray.
O Shepherd of Israel, hear us as we pray for ourselves and all the Church: Strengthen our hope and increase faith and love among us and toward the world. Use us as fits Your gracious plans for them.
- C** **Hear our prayer, O Lord. Restore us, stir up Your might, and come to save us.**
- P** Lord over all the angels, hear us as we pray for all who have been forgotten by the world's commerce: Surround with faith-filled people all who are hungry and homeless, people dealing with sudden ills and long-term disabilities, and all who are in mourning. Use us as fits Your gracious plans for them.
- C** **Hear our prayer, O Lord. Restore us, stir up Your might, and come to save us.**
- P** Regard us, the fruitful vine You have planted, as we struggle in this dark world: Renew in us true faith and peace, faithfulness in worship, spiritual vitality, and confidence in Your promise of eternal life. Grant that many join us in fruitful worship. Use us as fits Your gracious plans for them.
- C** **Hear our prayer, O Lord. Restore us, stir up Your might, and come to save us.**
- P** By the blessed coming of Your Son, whose death purchased us as Your own people, grant these our prayers, for we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Closing Collect

- P** Let us pray.
Accept, O almighty Lord, our praise for Your blessed Son, Jesus Christ, who came in the flesh to seek and to save us in our lost condition. Grant that at His second and glorious appearing He may find in us the fruits of the redemption that He has graciously accomplished for us; through the same, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Collect from Sunday

- P** Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come,
C **that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance;**
- P** for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Luther's Evening Prayer

- C** **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. 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.

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

1. Come Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free
From our fears and sins release us
Let us find our rest in Thee
Israel's strength and consolation
Hope of all the earth Thou art
Dear desire of every nation
Joy of every longing heart

2. Born Thy people to deliver
Born a Child and yet a King
Born to reign in us forever
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne

By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone
By Thine all sufficient merit
Raise us to Thy glorious throne
Raise us to Thy glorious throne

Benediction

- P** The almighty and merciful Lord—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless and preserve you.
C Amen.

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