



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
First Sunday in Advent Worship
November 30, 2025 9:30am

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



*Risen Christ Lutheran Church
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ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION – (2nd & 4th Sundays) We believe that the Lord’s Supper is not symbolic. We believe what Jesus Himself said: that His body and blood are truly present in this, His meal that He instituted 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 and you are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and you have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to the 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 through your here! You can also take advantage of Online Giving by visiting www.RisenChrist.info

A WORD TO OUR MEMBERS AND GUESTS – Welcome and thank you for coming. Everyone please complete a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate. For Guests, Pastor will send you a welcome card and 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 – “In God We Trust” is a familiar statement. It has been the official motto of the United States of America since 1956 and has appeared on American coins dating back to 1864. As God’s people, we trust that God will keep His promises. Centuries ago, the psalmist confidently stated, “In God I trust; I shall not be afraid” (Psalm 56:11). Today we begin a new Church Year—another year of God’s grace. We can celebrate that God has brought us to this time and place and together can look trustingly to blessings and surprises yet to come.

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation and Opening Sentences

Psalm 25:1–2a, 4–5, 21; Proverbs 3:5–6

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

G Amen.

P To You, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in You I trust; let me not be put to shame.

G Make me to know Your ways, O LORD; teach me Your paths.

P Lead me in Your truth and teach me, for You are the God of my salvation; for You I wait all the day long.

G May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for You.

P Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

G In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths.

Come Thou Fount, Come Thou King

Come Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise;
Teach me some melodious sonnet sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love.

I was lost in utter darkness 'til You came and rescued me;
I was bound by all my sin when Your love came and set me free;
Now my soul can sing a new song, now my heart has found a home;
Now Your grace is always with me and I'll never be alone.

***CHORUS: Come Thou Fount, come Thou King,
Come Thou precious Prince of Peace;
Hear Your bride, to You we sing;
Come Thou Fount of our blessing***

O to grace, how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee;
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above. ***CHORUS***

I was lost in utter darkness 'til You came and rescued me;
I was bound by all my sin when Your love came and set me free;
Now my soul can sing a new song, now my heart has found a home;
Now Your grace is always with me and I'll never be alone.

CCLI Song # 4775010
John Wyeth | Robert Robinson | Thomas Miller
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Confession and Absolution

- P** Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** Confident of receiving God's great mercy, let us confess together that we by nature are sinful and that through our thoughts, words, and deeds we have sinned against our God and deserve His punishment now and eternally.
- C** **Almighty God, we repent of our sins and ask for Your forgiving grace in our lives. Be merciful to us and for the sake of Jesus grant us remission of our sins so that, as Your redeemed people, we may greet you in Advent hope and with trusting hearts serve You in time and in eternity.**
- P** In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, 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 118:25–28; antiphon: Zechariah 9:9b, alt.

- P** Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.

WOMEN – Save us, we pray, O LORD! O LORD, we pray, give us success!

C Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD! We bless You from the house of the Lord.

MEN – *The LORD is God, and He has made His light to shine upon us. Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!*

C You are my God, and I will give thanks to You; You are my God; I will extol You.

**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.**

Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

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

C Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

P On the four Sundays in Advent, we light a new candle each week. We mark the four candles with these four words: hope, peace, joy, and love.

Jesus Christ is the hope of the nations.

C We wait for the Lord, and in His Word do we hope.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

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

***REFRAIN: Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel
Shall come to thee,
O Israel!***

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

3. O come, Thou Branch of Jesse's tree,
Free them from Satan's tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow'r to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave. ***REFRAIN***

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 2:1–5

¹The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

²It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it,

³and many peoples shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples;

and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.
⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

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

Psalm 122

L I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD!"

I *Our feet have been standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!*

II *Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together, to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD.*

I *There thrones for judgment were set, the thrones of the house of David.*

II *Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! "May they be secure who love you!"*

I *Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!"*

II *For my brothers and companions' sake I will say, "Peace be within you!"*

C **For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek your good.**

Epistle

Romans 13:8–14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.

⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹²The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual and Verse

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 24:7; 118:26, alt.

C **Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion. Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.**

I *Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation.*

II *Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. From the house of the Lord we bless You.*

C **Alleluia. Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 21:1–11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

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

¹Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." ⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

⁵"Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'"

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. ⁸Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" ¹⁰And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" ¹¹And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."

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

Hosanna

1. I see the King of glory
Coming on the clouds with fire
The whole earth shakes, The whole earth shakes
I see His love and mercy
Washing over all our sin
The people sing, The people sing

***CHORUS: Hosanna, Hosanna,
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna, Hosanna,
Hosanna in the highest***

2. I see a generation
Rising up to take their place
With selfless faith, With selfless faith
I see a near revival
Stirring as we pray and seek
We're on our knees, We're on our knees

CHORUS

BRIDGE: Heal my heart and make it clean
Open up my eyes to the things unseen
Show me how to love like You have loved me
Break my heart for what breaks Yours
Everything I am for Your kingdom's cause
As I walk from earth into eternity ***CHORUS***

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Sermon – "A Mountain View"

The First Article of the Apostles' Creed

P As we begin a new Church Year and reflect on how Jesus' coming fulfilled the Father's plan for our salvation, we speak the First Article of the Apostles' Creed and its meaning. It relates the loving work of God the Father for us. He has created and still preserves us, and in His grace, He has brought us to the beginning of a new Church Year.

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

P What does this mean?

C I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

Regular 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 Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. We pray for the Church, the community of God's forgiven people, asking that God's messengers continue to speak with power among us and that the Word may come to us today with its message of forgiveness and peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant our petition.**

MEN – We pray this day for the fellowship of faith and love that we enjoy as God's holy people, asking that we be enabled to gather for worship throughout the new Church Year with great joy and full anticipation of the blessings of God that come to us in this place. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant our petition.**

WOMEN – We pray for those who serve in leadership positions in our national Synod, our district, and our local congregation, that God work among us through their example and witness, that we be of support and encouragement to them, and that together we grow in devotion and dedication in Jesus' name. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant our petition.**

P As a household of faith, we make our petitions for the sick, the shut-in, and all who this day need our prayers, [*especially . . .*], that their prayers be answered and that they be supported by God's people as they experience His good and gracious will for their lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant our petition.**

MEN – We pray for those for whom the season of Advent and Christmas is sad or challenging in some way. Help us to reach out to them with compassion, keeping our focus always on the wonderful action of God on our behalf through the coming of Jesus, the promised Messiah. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant our petition.**

WOMEN – We remember before You those many faithful Christians who have been part of our lives and our fellowship in times past, especially those who have departed this life and now are rejoicing in the glory of Your promised heavenly kingdom. Direct our ways on earth as we complete this life in faith, that we may rejoice with them eternally together with all the saints and angels. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer and grant our petition.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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 Advent of Our King



1 The ad - vent of our King Our prayers must now em - ploy,
2 The ev - er - last - ing Son In - car - nate deigns to be,
3 O Zi - on's daugh - ter, rise To meet your low - ly King,
4 As judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come a - gain



And we must hymns of wel - come sing In strains of ho - ly joy.
Him - self a ser - vant's form puts on To set His ser - vants free.
Nor let your faith - less heart de - spise The peace He comes to bring.
And His true mem - bers all u - nite With Him in heav'n to reign.

5 Before the dawning day
Let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The sinful self be put away,
The new self now put on.

△ 6 All glory to the Son,
Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever one
Through all eternity.

Benediction

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.**

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