



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
Mid-week Advent Worship
December 10, 2025 7pm

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



GUEST PASTOR TONIGHT – WELCOME PR. SAM WATTERS

(Psssst... Come each Wednesday through Christmas Eve!)

***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 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 – It seems that no December goes by without hearing the song “Mary, Did You Know?” With that seasonal serenade, there is rightful theological reflection that could be had, especially considering what we heard last week with the announcing of the virgin birth from the angel Gabriel. There is no song asking, “Jesus, Did You Know?” Today we ask that question and gain theological insight and answers. We do so by going beyond the Bethlehem birth and learning from Jesus as a twelve-year-old boy in the Jerusalem temple. We ask the question, “When Jesus was a boy, did He know He was God?”

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation

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

C Amen.

Opening Sentences

LSB 334:1

P O Lord, how shall I meet You, How welcome You aright?

G **Your people long to greet You, My hope, my heart's delight!**

P In this Advent season, reflecting on and anticipating the joy to come when heaven met earth through the promised and long-awaited Savior, we seek answers to our questions as we remain on this earth.

Hark the Glad Sound



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a
bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.
grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.
ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

Collect

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

G **Amen.**

Readings

Isaiah 65:24; Psalm 10:17; Zechariah 13:9b

P God's Word speaks answers to our questions. As people of the past awaited the promised Savior to come, the Lord assured His presence through His inspired prophets and psalmists.

"Before they call I will answer;

C **while they are yet speaking I will hear."**

P O LORD, You hear the desire of the afflicted;

C **You will strengthen their heart; You will incline Your ear.**

P "They will call upon My name, and I will answer them. I will say, 'They are My people';

C **and they will say, 'The LORD is my God.'"**

Psalm

Psalm 85:1-7

P 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.**

P 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!**

P Will You be angry with us forever?

C **Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?**

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

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

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

ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Prayer

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Reading

Isaiah 7:13–17

¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. ¹⁷The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father’s house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Reading

Luke 2:41–52

⁴¹Now [Jesus’] parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴²And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴but supposing him to be in the group they went a day’s journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress.” ⁴⁹And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?” ⁵⁰And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

⁵²And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C **Thanks be to God.**

L In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C **But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ref 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

Sermon by guest Pr. Sam Watters from St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Westland

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

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

Creedal Response

The Second Article

P The season of Advent is a time of expectant waiting and preparation for both the nativity of Christ at Christmas and the return of Christ at His second coming. It is a time of reflection on redemption. Luther's Small Catechism, useful for individual and household learning through questions and answers based on God's unchanging Word, reminds us of Jesus' incarnation into this world, the totality of Christ's complete work, and the redemption He achieved for us. We confess together:

C **And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P What does this mean?

C **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. 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.

Heavenly Father, in this season of Advent, we prepare to celebrate again the coming of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, and await His promised return. As questions enter our minds, such as “Did Jesus know He was God?,” we thank You for Your Word of truth, which gives the answers we need to know as we live in this world to which Christ came. By Your Spirit’s work through Your Word, enliven our hearts and minds, nourish our faith, and be with us as we wait and watch this season and each day. Let us, like Jesus, be about the things of You, our Father, as we gather in Your house to receive the gifts You freely give through Your Spirit, where heaven has met earth through Your Son. We pray to You, Lord:

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

4 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

P Heavenly Father, as Your Son took on our human flesh, He remained divine and knew all things. As all things are known to You, only You know all our hurts and struggles, our trials and temptations. Only You can bring comfort and peace to troubled hearts, minds, bodies, and souls in this season and always. Give Your comfort to those who seek our prayers, [*including . . .*]. Grant healing according to Your will, along with peaceful minds and hopeful hearts. We pray to You, Lord.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

5 O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav’nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery. Refrain

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

C Amen.

Advent Collect

P Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which Your Son, Jesus Christ, came to visit us in great humility; that on the Last Day, when He shall come again in glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to life immortal; through Him who lives and reigns with You 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.

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.

Closing Sentences

Isaiah 65:24; Psalm 10:17; Zechariah 13:9b

- P** "Before they call I will answer;
C while they are yet speaking I will hear."
- P** O LORD, You hear the desire of the afflicted;
C You will strengthen their heart; You will incline Your ear.
- P** "They will call upon My name, and I will answer them. I will say, 'They are My people';
C and they will say, 'The LORD is my God.'"

Benediction

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

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

- ref Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!
- 6 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. Refrain
- 7 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. Refrain

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