

Redeemer REVIEW



REDEEMER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

CHICO, CALIFORNIA NOV/DEC 2022

VOL. 36 No. 8

from the Pastor...

Rev. Donald Jordan

LIFE IS NOT FAIR

Play by the rules and make sure you treat everyone fairly is good advice for life and surely you were taught this and endeavor to abide by the maxim. We all want a fair shake as we live our days, ever seeking the good things in life that bring comfort, peace, and happiness.

The problem with this is that life is not fair because circumstances, events, and people are not fair. The widow who has just lost her husband, leaving her with little children, deems his untimely death unfair. The person who is not as talented as someone else deems his situation as unfair because he can't compete in the same way in the school, workplace, or athletics.

Why do some people live long lives and others live a short life? Why are some tall and some short? There really is no such thing as living a life that is fair, for that would imply we are all exactly the same, but we are not.

Let's be honest. We want life to be fair, but it is not. This can lead to a lot of depression, anxiety, anger, and frustration. Sometimes we find ourselves filled with envy and jealousy over someone else who seems to have received a better deal in life.

Yet, we are all in the same boat due to the fall into sin. All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. All need redemption and forgiveness. This universality is fair since it applies to all of us.

God, in his mercy, treats us all the same in Christ, though we are differently gifted with various talents and abilities. Even our life circumstances are very different with some rich and some poor, some with abilities and others with disabilities.



In Christ Jesus we receive what is fair and just, though for Jesus it was not fair. It was not right and fair that he was punished and suffered for our sins. Yet, this is God's justice as the great exchange took place in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. He took on all your sin, death, and hell, and, in return, you receive forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and salvation. Is this fair? No, but it is the amazing grace of God that is demonstrated

and given to you and me. You can contemplate and meditate upon this all your life. Even though it is not fair, it is just, and we give thanks that he does not treat us as we deserve.

You are baptized. You are saved by grace through faith. You are fed his body and blood in holy communion. You are his child. Your name is written in the Book of Life in Christ.

Life is not about being fair, because it is not. We realize that early on in our lives. We don't keep score in life with other people and even with God. Those who keep score always lose. There are tragedies and sad events that occur in life and you suffer through these, as you bear the cross that Jesus has given you.

Above all, we rejoice and give thanks that Christ is the final answer to those who question why life is not fair. God gives you and me great promises and delivers on them faithfully in his word and sacrament. Rejoice. Give thanks, and enjoy your life, now and forever.

Pastor Jordan

DIGITAL DAILY DEVOTIONS

Lutheran Hour Ministries:
<https://www.lhm.org/dailydevotions>

Higher Things:
<https://higherthings.org/content/reflections>

Portals of Prayer:
<https://www1.cph.org/portals/default.aspx>

PASTOR ON THE RADIO

Pastor Jordan is a regular guest on "Live Talk with Jerry Olenyn" every Friday on KKXX radio. 8:30 a.m. & 2:00 p.m. AM 930, FM 103.9 www.tunein.com



LUTHERAN PUBLIC RADIO

Listen to good Lutheran radio programs at Lutheran Public Radio, Issues Etc., KFUD, St. Louis. 94.3 The Bridge.

PASTOR JORDAN'S SERMONS

KKXX.net - Tunein.com KKXX 930 AM, 103.9 FM
 Saturday & Sunday 1:00 & 5:00 PM

THE LUTHERAN HOUR

KKXX.net - Tunein.com KKXX 930 AM, 103.9 FM
 Saturday & Sunday 1:30 PM

REDEEMER FINANCIAL SUMMARY

January 1, 2022 - September 30, 2022

INCOME/EXPENSE – ACTUAL:

ORDINARY INCOME:	\$ 122,041.74
EXPENSES:	\$ 149,147.38
NET ORDINARY INCOME	\$ -27,105.64
FACILITY RENT INCOME	\$ 500.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ -26,605.64
RETAINED EARNINGS	\$ 59,401.00
BALANCE (Total Equity)	\$ 32,795.36



Recycle Proceeds for September/October
 \$55



Mites Proceeds for September/October
 \$89

Proceeds benefit seminarian, Brennan DeForest



Submit prayer requests to Pastor Jordan by email, text, voice mail, or in writing, using the form in the pew rack.

(530) 513-1284

(530) 342-6085 Opt 1



January/February

Newsletter Submission

Deadline

December 20



Recycle



- Separate plastic bottles, with the lids removed, from aluminum cans and place in separate plastic bags.
- Opaque bottles should be separated from clear bottles.
- Place bags in the appropriate bins in the Parish Hall storage closet.
- **NO GLASS**, non-CRV, or paper waste.

CHURCH STAFF

REV. DONALD JORDAN, PASTOR
 JACKIE VIEIRA, OFFICE MANAGER
 REV. DAVID BUNTING, ORGANIST
 JAY ERWIN, ORGANIST SUB

OFFICERS

FRED SHERMAN, III, PRESIDENT
 JERRY BRANDT, VICE PRESIDENT
 VACANT, FINANCIAL MANAGER
 VACANT, SECRETARY

BOARD OF ELDERS

ROBERT ENGELKEN

* JAY ERWIN

ROBERT REAN

DARYL SMITH

MATTHEW THOMASON

TIMOTHY WENSLAFF

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

* BRUCE HOLDERBEIN

ROBERT REAN

KEITH SIEMENS

BOARD OF EVANGELISM

* DARYL SMITH

BOARD OF FELLOWSHIP

LINDA ALLEN

SHERRY GODSIL

DIANE SCOTT

CAROL VARLEY

SHIRLEY WILSON

BOARD OF YOUTH

*DIANE SCOTT

*BOARD CHAIR

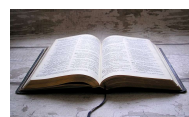
BIBLE STUDIES

SUNDAY School for children is each Sunday, 8:45 a.m.

SUNDAY Bible class is studying I, II Timothy, and Titus, 8:45 a.m.

THURSDAY Bible class, Book of Romans, 9:30 a.m.

CAMPUS Ministry/Young Adult Bible Study, first Sunday of the month, 5:00 p.m..



HOMEBOUND**SERVANTS****William Baving**

1200 Springfield #110
Chico, CA 95928

Patricia Bodi

650 Manzanita Ave #115
Chico, CA 95926

Sonya Brown

1351 E Lassen, #112
Chico, CA 95973

Ann Carney

1200 Springfield Dr #217
Chico, CA 95928

Sophie Collins

3548 Ebano Way
Chico, CA 95973

Paul DeGarmo

2770 Sierra Ladera
Chico, CA 95928

Jackie Eichelberger

1199 Diablo #117
Chico, CA 95973

La Vera Hansen

35481 Camino Capistrano
Capistrano Beach, CA 92624

Anita Hartwig

2801 Cohasset Rd. #234
Chico, CA 95973

Esther Henry

14 Discovery Way
Chico, CA 95926

Roy & Marge Holderbein

1901 Dayton Rd Spc 162
Chico, CA 95928

Janet Jokschi

7292 Cutler Ave
Orland, CA 95963

Larry Pohlad

1200 Park Ave, Apt 126
Chico, CA 95928

Elaine Rubke

1351 E Lassen Ave #217
Chico, CA 95973

Sharon Schaffert

627 Larch St
Chico, CA 95926

Emma Siemens

1770 Humboldt Rd #202
Chico, CA 95928

Catherine Skahan

375 Cohasset Rd
Chico, CA 95926

ACOLYTES:

AARON ASHWORTH
YUHUAN WENSLAFF

ALTAR GUILD:

CAROLYN FIORILLO
CLARA IVES
ANITA JOHNSON
LORI JORDAN
LINDA REAN
LOUISE URNESS

COUNTER:

PAT LILLIE

ELDERS OF THE MONTH

NOVEMBER
BOB ENGELKEN
DECEMBER
MATTHEW THOMASON

USHERS:

TIM WENSLAFF
YUHUAN WENSLAFF

DRIVERS:

JAY ERWIN
BRUCE HOLDERBEIN
KURT JORDAN
DARYL SMITH
KEITH SIEMENS

LANDSCAPE:

NOVEMBER:
04 PAUL EAGAN
11
18
25
DECEMBER
02
09
16
23
30

ELDER ASSIGNMENTS

TIM WENSLAFF:	ALLEN - FIORILLO
ROBERT ENGELKEN:	GODSIL - KEIL
JAY ERWIN:	LAMONT - RUSTAN
ROBERT REAN:	SAWYER - THOMASON
MATTHEW THOMASON:	THOMPSON - ZIEGLER
DARYL SMITH:	THORSON - ZIEGLER

**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS****NOVEMBER:**

04 SHARON SCHAFFERT
11 KARYN ALMAND
13 REV. ROBERT ROBERTS
13 LINDA SWEET
16 FINNELY WEINREICH
22 DON THURMAN
25 LAYLA HOFFMAN
25 LIAM HOFFMAN

DECEMBER:

09 CAROL VARLEY
12 FRED SHERMAN III
16 BRETT MIRAMONTES
17 DR. NORMAN MCCANN
20 JERRY BRANDT
26 ALICE DURFEE
28 BRANDON SIEMENS
28 ALLEN THOMPSON
28 MICHAEL THOMPSON
30 HAROLD URNESS

**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER BAPTISMS****NOVEMBER:**

13 KEITH SIEMENS
17 RANDY SIEMENS
18 BRIAN MARSHALL
23 MEGAN ALMAND
23 ZACHARY ALMAND
23 ASHLYN ALMAND
24 YUFEI WENSLAFF
27 CANDACE THURMAN
27 ALICIA SCOTT

DECEMBER:

01 JOHN DURFEE
03 LOUISE URNESS
04 ANITA JOHNSON
06 BRI LOFINK
08 MEGAN GODSIL
08 CYNDIE HOLDERBEIN
08 DARYL SMITH
11 KAYLEE SCHUKEI
11 KYLE SCHUKEI
17 TODD THOMPSON
24 YUHUAN WENSLAFF
28 ANDREW ESMAY

ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP

- ◇ Two identical arrangements are needed for the altar at each service. these may be placed the sacristy on Saturday. Please schedule drop-off time with Altar Guild member.
- ◇ You can sign up on the chart in the narthex or you can call the office to sign up. It is preferred that you provide the flowers, but if you would like Altar Guild to purchase for you, you can make arrangements with them to do so.
- ◇ The cost may be split with a friend. Sign up together on the flower chart.
- ◇ You may use any flowers you like, including flowering potted plants, floral arrangements, fresh flowers from store or garden.
- ◇ The flowers are placed in an area approximately 15" in height and 14" in width.
- ◇ In addition, you may like to dedicate your flowers. Please call the office to provide this information for the bulletin.
- ◇ Please check with the Altar Guild to see if there is a need to leave flowers during Advent, etc.
- ◇ Thank you for signing up to provide the flowers for the altar. It is to the glory of God.

Altar Guild is in need of a few more workers! The work is not difficult and can be scheduled at your convenience. Altar Guild sets up/takes down for communion each week, coordinates altar flowers, keeps oil candles filled and changes the paraments during the church year. If you would like to learn more about Altar Guild and how you may serve the Lord in this way, please see Lori Jordan.

SPONSOR ALTAR FLOWERS



Sign-up chart is posted in narthex.



SPONSOR ETERNAL CANDLE

\$20/MONTH

Sign-up chart is posted in narthex.

TRANSFER OUT

OCTOBER 1, 2022

IRENE BEVERS

TO

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
TWIN FALLS, IDAHO



OCTOBER 1, 2022

RHONDA WERNER

TO

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS
LUTHERAN CHURCH,
GEORGETOWN, INDIANA



TRANSFER IN

SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

DOTTIE TEFELSKI

FROM

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
WILLOWS, CALIFORNIA

ASLEEP IN JESUS

CAROLYN MARTIN

JANUARY 18, 1930 - SEPTEMBER
2, 2022



BELLA THORSON

MARCH 26, 1929 - SEPTEMBER 11,
2022



LEO JAMES
"JIM" CARNEY

MARCH 29, 1943 - SEPTEMBER 20,
2022



KATHLEEN WEAVER

NOVEMBER 2, 1918 - OCTOBER 7,
2022





And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. (Deut 6: 6-7 ESV)

Have you marked your calendar yet? Your family calendar probably has markings for everyone's birthday, special events, family gatherings and a whole gambit of other activities. However, do you mark your calendar with the events of the church year?

Advent is the beginning of the church year. Advent means coming and of course this is about the coming of Jesus, the Messiah. It is about his coming as a baby, born of Mary, and the long sought Messiah of the Hebrews.



Wise Men Seek the Savior: Family Advent Activity Kit is a great way for your family to celebrate Advent but to also prepare your hearts for this new church year. What does it include?

- ✦ A daily devotional book including a short introduction for parents, questions to help guide your time, the core of the devotion, and words to pray as a family.
- ✦ Advent Treasure Hunt Activities for every day of Advent and Christmas.
- ✦ Bible Story Stars that have an Advent activity and a Bible verse.
- ✦ An Arch book, *Wise Men Seek the Savior*, the story about the Magi.

This activity kit is available from Concordia Publishing House, cph.org. November 27 is the first Sunday in Advent so, order now and get ready to celebrate Advent!

Don't forget to mark November 27 on your family calendar and start talking about Advent as you gather as a family. Find out what your children might already know about Advent, and help heighten anticipation for this new season of the church.

If you don't already have a copy of the Church Year Calendar, here is the link to download it as a pdf file: <https://files.lcms.org/file/preview/494380EB-EB1A-4792-A6F0-BC308189D70E?>

TECHNOLOGY

Technology... deceiving?



Almost daily there is something that pops up in your email inbox or even as a text on your phone that "alerts" you to something going to happen. You are encouraged to "click on" or forward to others or call the listed number. Do you? Should you? How reliable is that email or text? Where did it come from?

Many have been caught in a scam such as "Your grandson, or somebody else close to you, has been arrested and needs \$xxxx for bail. Call this 1-800 number to transfer the funds to get him released." Another type is from a company identified as something you might know or even use saying that there have been subscription changes and once you call the 800 number and talk to somebody you can be convinced to give them remote access to your computer so "they" could fix it for you. The next thing you know your financial information has been compromised.

What should you do?

Tip 1: don't EVER call the number in a suspicious email - Manually look up the company billing department number to verify.

Tip 2: Don't EVER do a remote session on your computer on the advice of a "tech" about a billing issue. If your computer "is" compromised you'd rather deal with someone local that you know. **Accounting people are not IT people.**

Remember the game "Simon says" that you may still play with your grandchildren. After a few commands from Simon there is one with no "Simon says" and chances are you still do what was commanded. That is the concept behind "phishing." Just about every post on Facebook (and other social media platforms) except for your friend's original posts, are very likely ad based and somewhere along the line there can very well be a scammer trolling to get you to take the bait. At the very least your email gets added to some list and the next thing you know you are bombarded with ads from a dozen different companies.

What can you do?

Don't forward these posts to friends and don't repost on your Facebook account or other social media.

Check the post out with a fact checker, like snopes.com.

Don't be afraid to contact the friend who sent you the post and ask if they just forwarded it from somebody else or if they actually took the video of the cute puppies or at least know who took the video. You might help countless people out from being caught in a "phishing" net.

Technology is a wonderful tool and extremely helpful. However, during times of isolation like we have recently experienced, there have been many attempts to use it for nefarious means.

Use your technology in a godly manner and rejoice in the gift it truly is!

LIFE AT SEMINARY:

Classes began again on Tuesday, September 6. As Abby and I were not married until just before vicarage, I lived in the dorms my first two years at seminary. Now, this year it is an adjustment being married and living off campus, especially in regards to commuting to school and figuring out a good schedule and routine.

I am taking five classes this quarter, all in the afternoon. However, I arrive early enough to go to the morning office, head to the library, and study for a few hours until chapel. After chapel classes begin and they go all afternoon, after which I go home and unwind, enjoy dinner with Abby, and do some more studying.

Overall, I am excited for this school year, as well as this quarter. I have some great classes and it is awesome to see all my friends again and simply be in conversation with them. Being in chapel and having fellowship with my friends and professors were two things I missed while on vicarage, so I am glad to have one more year of them.

BIOGRAPHY:

I was born and raised in West Jordan, Utah, a suburb of Salt Lake City. I attended a private Lutheran school from Kindergarten through tenth grade, then a public school for eleventh and twelfth grades. Around tenth grade I began thinking about being a pastor. I am thankful for two pastors in the Salt Lake valley who talked with me openly and often about the pastoral office. I attended Concordia University in Seward, Nebraska, graduating in 2019 with a degree in mathematics and completion of their pre-seminary program. I matriculated to Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne in fall 2019 and I plan on graduating and receiving a call in spring 2023. My immediate family (parents and younger sister) still live in Utah and I have extended family in Utah, Michigan, New Mexico, and Southern California (in the Santa Barbara area).

Abby was raised on a farm in Pleasant Dale, Nebraska, just west of Lincoln. She was greatly influenced by her teachers growing up and so decided to pursue teaching for her career. She also attended Concordia University, Nebraska (which is only about 20 minutes from where she grew up), graduating in 2021 with a degree in middle level education and a Lutheran Teacher's Diploma. Her parents have recently moved to Seward, Nebraska. She is the youngest of 10 and has siblings living in Nebraska, Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, Minnesota, and even Puerto Rico. Between all the siblings, currently there are nineteen nieces and nephews.

Together, we were married in Seward on July 10, 2021. We enjoyed a nice little honeymoon, then packed up our cars and drove west to serve my vicarage at Messiah Lutheran Church in Danville, California. It was a fantastic experience and great first year of marriage. Now we are back in Fort Wayne, living in a house a little south of downtown and eagerly awaiting wherever the Lord of the harvest sends us.



Seminarian Brennan DeForest and wife, Abby, pictured as Vicar, Messiah Lutheran Church, Danville, California, Easter 2022.

QUARTERLY MISSION GRANTS

- 1Q Redeemer Charity Fund - \$4,286, Faith Lutheran Church, Ukiah, California - \$4,286.
- 2Q Missionary Dennis Meeker, Kenya - \$5,123 Missionary Daniel Conrad, Mexico - \$5,123
- 3Q Lutheran Heritage Foundation - \$5,030
Lutheran Deaf Ministry, Pastor Seeger - \$5,030
- 4Q Women's Resource Clinic,; KKXX Sermons; The Lutheran Hour; Issues, Etc.

Grants are funded by the Mission Trust Fund interest, 30% school rent income, and your mission gifts.

SURPRISE BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR AARON ASHWORTH

A surprise birthday party was put together by Dianne and David Wilkinson for Aaron Ashworth after a conversation in which Aaron shared he had never had a surprise birthday party. The party was held following Thursday Bible Study on September 20th.



VOTERS ASSEMBLY - NOVEMBER 13

At our Voters Assembly scheduled for November 13th, we will vote on several items important to the congregation. These include adopting two small changes to the Bylaws, passing a budget for next year (2023), choosing officers and board members for next year (2023), and choosing members for the call committee.

1. **Change to the Bylaws:** The council recommends two amendments to the Bylaws to clarify that the term of office for church officers and board members is to serve from January 1st to December 31st, for the calendar year they are voted in. Current Bylaws state: *4.03 Terms of Office. The terms for officers and board members shall be one year.* The second amendment will remove the requirement to form a Board of Stewardship.
2. **2023 Budget:** Copies of the proposed 2023 budget may be obtained from office manager, Jackie Vieira
3. **2023 Officers & Board Members:** Submit nominations for officers and board members to either Fred Sherman, Jerry Brandt, or Pastor Jordan for any position. Self nominations are encouraged. The officer positions are President, Vice President, Secretary, and Financial Manager. Boards include Elders, Trustees, Evangelism, Fellowship, Youth Activities. No experience is necessary. We will train. Please consider participating in one of these positions. Thank you to those completing service on their respective boards: Sherry Godsil, Board of Fellowship; Robert Rean, Board of Trustees; Daryl Smith, Board of Evangelism; Matthew Thomason, Board of Elders.
4. **Call Committee:** Submit nominations for the call committee to Fred Sherman, Jerry Brandt or Pastor Jordan. Per our Bylaws, the call committee will consist of three elders, three members at large, and one pastoral advisor.

PASTOR JORDAN'S RETIREMENT ANNOUNCED

If God permits, Pastor Jordan will retire June 2023.

Pray for the call committee and for the calling of a faithful pastor in the succession process.

And pray for the next pastor, already known to God.

LECTIONARY SUMMARIES

ALL SAINTS' DAY (OBSERVED) (6 November)

Revelation 7:(2-8) 9-17
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12

SAINTS ARE BLESSED IN THE ETERNAL PRESENCE OF CHRIST

"A great multitude ... from all tribes and peoples and languages" cry out, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne" (Rev. 7:9-10). Faith-filled saints from every place and time with unified voices eternally magnify the Lamb of God. As His beloved children, we, too, "shall see him as he is" (1 John 3:2). Joined with the throng of angels and countless saints, we shall "serve him day and night in his temple" (Rev. 7:15). In our earthly tension vacillating between saint and sinner, faith and doubt, sacred and profane, we earnestly seek Jesus to calm our fears, comfort our spirits and forgive our sins. The Holy Spirit, through faith in Christ, propels us forward, fortifying us in Word and Sacrament, to our eternal home. In the midst of our constant struggle as believers, we need to be blessed. And so we are. The poor in spirit, the meek, the hungry, the thirsty, the merciful, the pure and the persecuted are all blessed, and we will most certainly inherit the kingdom of heaven (Matt. 5:1-12).

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST (13 November)

Malachi 4:1-6
2 Thessalonians 3:(1-5) 6-13
Luke 21:5-28 (29-36)

GOD'S PLAN OF REDEMPTION TRUMPS EARTHLY DESTRUCTION AND VIOLENCE

There are signs of the Lord's coming all around: the cross that marks His Church, the violence and death of the sinful world, and the shaking of the natural order. "There will be great distress upon the earth" (Luke 21:23), but the faithful know that "the kingdom of God is near" (Luke 21:31). Therefore, "straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near" (Luke 21:28). Be awake and alert, and heed the words of Christ, which "will not pass away" (Luke 21:33). For you, "the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings" (Mal. 4:2). He sends His preachers of repentance in the spirit and power of Elijah "before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes" (Mal. 4:5), in order to "direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ" (2 Thess. 3:5). Although you are often faithless, "the Lord is faithful," and by the preaching of His Word "he will establish you and guard you against the evil one" (2 Thess. 3:3). Therefore, "do not grow weary in doing good" (2 Thess. 3:13). In the midst of calamity, believe upon the Lord, Jesus Christ.

LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR (20 November)

Malachi 3:13-18
Colossians 1:13-20
Luke 23:27-43

JESUS CHRIST REIGNS, ENDURING THE CROSS — ITS SCORN AND SHAME

The Lord Jesus reigns in love among those who are baptized in His name. "They shall be mine," He says, "and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him" (Mal. 3:17). Jesus' service through crucifixion for sinful men anchors us in new life. In the proclamation of His Son, God makes His justice clear, defining "the distinction between the righteous and the wicked" (Mal. 3:18). He truly is "the King of the Jews" (Luke 23:38), who governs His Church with all authority in heaven and on earth. He has come into His kingdom by His cross, and He graciously remembers us in paradise. Therefore, do not weep for Him, but with repentant faith "weep for yourselves and for your children" (Luke 23:28). Then the mountains and hills of Jerusalem, His holy Church, shall cover you with His righteousness and peace. For He "is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation" (Col. 1:15). "All things were created through him and for him" (Col. 1:16), and "all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell" bodily in Him, reconciling all things to Himself "by the blood of his cross" (Col. 1:19-20).

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT (27 November 2022)

Isaiah 2:1-5
Romans 13:(8-10) 11-14
Matthew 21:1-11 or Matthew 24:36-44

THE LORD COMES IN MEEKNESS AND HUMILITY TO SAVE US NOW

The Lord Jesus enters Jerusalem "humble, and mounted on a donkey," riding on "a beast of burden" (Matt. 21:5), as He Himself bears the sins of the world in His body. Now He comes by the ministry of the Gospel to save us from sin, death, the devil and hell. Therefore, we sing, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Matt. 21:9). For we are called "to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob," His Holy Church, "that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths" (Is. 2:3). By His Word, we "walk in the light of the LORD" (Is. 2:5). That is to live in love, which "does no wrong to a neighbor" (Rom. 13:10). We "cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light," for "salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed" (Rom. 13:11, 12). Hence, the entire Christian life is a time to wake and watch, "for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming" (Matt. 24:42).

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT (4 December 2022)

Isaiah 11:1–10
Romans 15:4–13
Matthew 3:1–12

BY THE PREACHING OF REPENTANCE, WE ARE PREPARED
FOR THE COMING OF THE LORD

“John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ‘Repent’” (Matt. 3:1–2). His preaching of repentance for the forgiveness of sins prepared people for the coming of Christ into the world. St. John’s work was historically complete with the incarnate advent of Jesus, but his vital ministry continues in preaching Law and Gospel. The Son of God has come in the flesh, “a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots” (Is. 11:1), and continues to bear the fruits of righteousness. His good tree of the cross is “a signal for the peoples” (Is. 11:10), by which He calls the nations to repentance. “With the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips” (Is. 11:4), He slays the wicked and brings the dead to life, making sons of Abraham out of lifeless stones. So also the “root of Jesse” comes to us, “even he who arises to rule the Gentiles” (Rom. 15:12), that “we might have hope” and be filled “with all joy and peace in believing” (Rom. 15:4, 13).

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT (11 December 2022)

Isaiah 35:1–10
James 5:7–11
Matthew 11:2–15

THE COMING OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST BRINGS TRUE
REJOICING, EVEN UNDER THE CROSS

Sometimes life requires the astonishing patience of Job. Like him, we are to rejoice in the midst of affliction, be grounded in repentance under the cross of Christ, and hope relentlessly in His resurrection, that we might see “the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful” (James 5:11). In the promise of the Gospel, therefore, “be patient” and “establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand” (James 5:7, 8). Like St. John the Baptist, whatever your own kind of prison or suffering may be, call upon Jesus and receive the strength of His Word from those He sends to you. For as “the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up,” so is the Good News of Jesus preached to you also (Matt. 11:5). He comes and restores the fortunes of Zion, His Holy Church, so that “sorrow and sighing shall flee away” (Is. 35:10)

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT (18 December 2022)

Isaiah 7:10–17
Romans 1:1–7
Matthew 1:18–25

GOD’S WORD IS FULFILLED FOR US IN THE FLESH AND
BLOOD OF CHRIST JESUS, THE SON OF MARY

The Fourth Sunday in Advent turns our attention toward the Nativity of Our Lord. With the blessed Virgin Mary, we await the coming of the Christ, her Son, conceived in her womb by the Word and Spirit of God. This fulfillment of the sign once given to the house of David, that “the virgin shall conceive and bear a son” (Is. 7:14), is now given to us in the Gospel. It declares that salvation is by His grace alone, entirely His work and a free gift. It also is the way and means by which the Lord our God is Immanuel, “God with us.” The almighty and eternal Son of God is conceived and born of Mary, and is thus “descended from David according to the flesh” (Rom. 1:3–4). He comes in this way to save us with His own flesh and blood; wherefore, He is called “Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins” (Matt. 1:21). As Joseph received this sign in faith and immediately “did as the angel of the Lord commanded him” (Matt. 1:24), we also live by faith in this Holy Gospel.

CHRISTMAS EVE (25 December 2022)

Isaiah 9:2–7
Titus 2:11–14
Luke 2:1–14 (15–20)

THE LIGHT OF CHRIST SHINES FORTH IN THE DARKNESS

Heaven and earth rejoice on this night because the glory of the Holy Trinity is manifested in the human birth of “our great God and Savior Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:13), through whom the Father’s grace and mercy permeate the world. Death’s silence is nullified by this “good news of great joy that will be for all the people” (Luke 2:10). And all we who have gone astray like lost and wandering sheep, who have “walked in darkness” of doubt, fear and sinful unbelief, behold “a great light” in the nativity of Jesus Christ (Is. 9:2). In Him, “the grace of God has appeared” (Titus 2:11). For this child of Mary who is born for us, this dear Son of God who is given to us, bears the burden of our sin and death in His own body on the cross. By initiating and fulfilling His earthly journey from nativity to crucifixion, Christ establishes a government of peace, “with justice and with righteousness,” which shall have no end. This is not by any work of man, but “the zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this” (Is. 9:7).

LECTIONARY SUMMARIES (CONTINUED)

CHRISTMAS DAY

(25 December 2022)

Isaiah 52:7–10

Hebrews 1:1–6 (7–12)

John 1:1–14 (15–18)

THE LIVING AND LIFE-GIVING WORD OF GOD DWELLS
AMONG US IN THE FLESH

The Lord sends out His ministers of the Gospel to make disciples “of all the nations,” so that “all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.” The Lord has “bared his holy arm” in the incarnate Christ (Is. 52:7, 10). The child in the manger, born of the Virgin Mary, is the very Word of God, the only begotten Son of the Father, “whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world” (Heb. 1:2). As “all things were made through him” (John 1:3), so are all things redeemed and made new in Him. In His body of flesh and blood, we behold “the radiance of the glory of God” (Heb. 1:3), “glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth” (John 1:14). He dwells among us in peace, that we might have life and light and salvation in Him. For by His Word of the Gospel, we are born again as the children of God, bearing His name and sharing His eternal life.

EVE OF THE CIRCUMCISION AND NAME OF JESUS (New Year’s Eve)(31 December 2022)

Isaiah 30:(8–14) 15–17

Romans 8:31b–39

Luke 12:35–40

OUR TIMES ARE IN HIS HANDS

The Church and the world are awake, but for very different reasons. The world counts down to midnight; the Church watches eagerly for her Master who is “coming at an hour” we “do not expect” (Luke 12:40). For many, the changing year brings regrets, fears and desperate wishes for improvement. The world delights in smooth talk and illusions of prosperity at any cost (Is. 30:9–10). It has already forgotten “the Holy One of Israel” born six days earlier (Is. 30:11). The Church ends the calendar year differently. “In returning and rest ... in quietness and in trust,” that is, in repentance and faith, for the Holy One saves us, and He is our strength (Is. 30:15). Our times are in His hands (Ps. 31:15), the hands of Mary’s Son — God not only with us, but for us (Matt. 1:23). So, who could be against us? If God has given His Son, “how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?” (Rom. 8:31–32). The Church dresses for action not in fear, but in hope; Christ is coming to serve her with His gifts (Luke 12:37). Who is there to condemn us for the passing year? Christ has died, is raised and intercedes for us! What distress will the new year bring? Nothing “can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom. 8:34–39)!

LUTHERAN REFORMATION ALTARPIECE

St. Mary Lutheran Church (Stadt Kirche) in Wittenberg, Germany has this art above the altar, painted by Lucas Cranach the Elder in 1547, the year after Luther’s death. It stands as vivid testimony that the Church of the Reformation bears the marks of the Church catholic, resting on Christ alone by grace alone through faith alone, which we receive by Word (the Scriptures) and Sacraments alone.

The paintings not only proclaim the marks of the Church by their depictions of Baptism, the Lord’s Supper, and Confession and Absolution, but prominently display the central figures of the Reformation participating in these gifts.

The left panel shows Philip Melanchthon (author of the Augsburg Confession) performing a Baptism.

In the right panel, Johannes Bugenhagen (Luther’s pastor at St. Mary’s) bears the Office of the Keys, binding the sins of the man on his left, loosing those of the man on his right.

In the large center panel, Luther is shown at the Lord’s Supper with the Apostles, offering the chalice to Cranach himself. (Judas, with moneybag by his side and his foot already outside the circle, is shown breaking away from the communion.)

The foundational panel depicts Christ crucified as the central figure upon which the Church of the Reformation rests. Luther is shown in the pulpit with one hand resting on the Scriptures, the other pointing to Jesus. Cranach, along with Luther’s wife and son, are among the congregation.

Above the entire work hangs a panel with the words of 1 Corinthians 3:11, “No other foundation can anyone lay that that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.” Indeed, Christ crucified and risen for the life of the world is the eternal Gospel which this masterpiece proclaims to every nation and tribe and language and people.

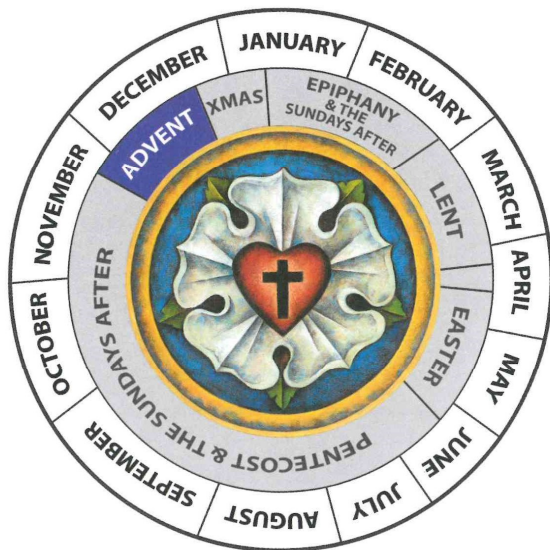
We receive this gift of sacred art for the glory of God and the spread of the Gospel, and ask God’s blessing upon it as people enter the narthex and come into the house of God.

Soli Deo Gloria October 2, 2022 A.D.



THE TIME OF CHRISTMAS ADVENT

*Begins on the fourth Sunday before December 25,
or the Sunday closest to the Festival of St. Andrew (November 30),
and ends with midday prayer on December 24.*



The Savior's birth is second in importance only to His resurrection on Easter Sunday. During the Time of Christmas, Christians reflect on God's great and gracious gift of Himself.

The Church Year begins with Advent (from Latin *adventus*, which means "coming into"), a four-week period of preparation before Christmas. The story of Jesus during Advent is the story of hope coming into the world. When the time was just right, God sent His Son, Jesus, into the world. The Advent season teaches us to prepare to receive Jesus, the hope of the world.

In Advent, we wait for our coming King.

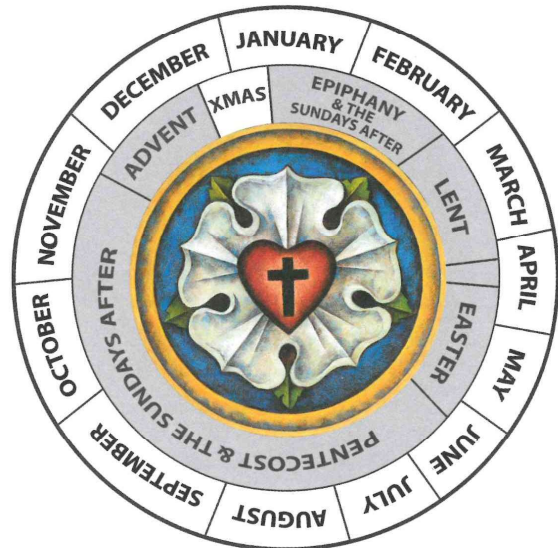
Isaiah 7:14; 9:6; 11:1–2
Luke 1:26–38, 46–55

Micah 5:2

Matthew 1:18–25

THE TIME OF CHRISTMAS CHRISTMAS AND ITS SEASON

*Begins with evening prayer on Christmas Eve
(December 24) and ends with midday prayer on January 5.*



Christmas tells the story of Jesus as the long-awaited King who has finally come to save us. Jesus, God's Son, the King of heaven and earth, is born in Bethlehem—the Son of God is a baby lying in a manger.

The evening services of Christmas Eve mark the beginning of the Church's celebration of the Nativity of Our Lord. The season continues after December 25 over a period traditionally known as the twelve days of Christmas. This season includes a number of lesser festivals: The Festival of St. Stephen, the first martyr, occurs on December 26. St. John, apostle and evangelist, is remembered on December 27. The death of the babies in Bethlehem (Matthew 2:16–18) is observed on December 28 as the Festival of the Holy Innocents. The circumcision and naming of Jesus on the eighth day after His birth (Luke 2:21) is celebrated on January 1.

At Christmas, we worship our God made flesh.

Luke 2:1–24

John 1:1–18

Galatians 4:4–5

ADVENT PRACTICES AND TRADITIONS

- ♦ The color for Advent is blue, which symbolizes anticipation and hope in our coming King. Violet can also be used during Advent as a symbol of our repentance in preparation for our coming King.
- ♦ We do not sing the Gloria in Excelsis in the Divine Service during Advent. This is the angels' song at Christmas, so during Advent we pass over this traditional Hymn of Praise in silent anticipation.
- ♦ It has become common to use an Advent wreath to mark the season. This wreath has four candles—one for each week in Advent. As these candles are lit each week, our anticipation mounts as we look forward to Jesus' coming.
- ♦ We gather for midweek services. These services heighten our awareness and anticipation for the celebration of Christ's coming in the flesh.

CHRISTMAS PRACTICES AND TRADITIONS

- ♦ We sing the Gloria in Excelsis and join the angels at Christmas in their Hymn of Praise: "Glory be to God on high: and on earth, peace, goodwill toward men."
- ♦ The color for Christmas and its season is white, symbolizing the divinity, eternity, purity, light, and joy of Jesus Christ.
- ♦ Many Christians celebrate with special services during the Christmas season. A special Divine Service late on Christmas Eve reminds us how the angels announced the birth of Jesus to shepherds who were "keeping watch over their flock by night." On Christmas Day, we celebrate the Word of God made flesh and receive Him in the Means of Grace. And on January 1, eight days after His birth, we gather in worship to begin the year in His name, Jesus, which means "the Lord saves," for He has come to save His people from their sins.

2022/2023 THANKSGIVING, ADVENT, CHRISTMAS, EPIPHANY SERVICES

Eve of National Thanksgiving	Wednesday	November 23	Matins, 12:00 p.m.
Advent Services	Wednesdays	November 30, December 7, 14, 21	Matins, 12:00 p.m.
The Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Eve	Saturday	December 24	Candlelight Service, 7:00 p.m.
The Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Day	Sunday	December 25	Divine Service, 10:00 a.m.
Eve of the Name of Jesus, New Year's Eve	Saturday	December 31	Matins, 12:00 p.m.
Epiphany of Our Lord	Friday	January 6	Matins 12:00 p.m.

November 2022

November 2022

December 2022

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Oct 30	31	Nov 1 All Saints' Day St. Andrew, Apostle	2	3 9:30am Bible Class (FR)	4 8:00am Office Closed 8:30am Live Talk KXXX 2:00pm Live Talk KXXX	5
6 All Saints' Day (Observed) Daylight Savings Ends 8:45am SS/ABS (PH) 10:00am Divine Service 11:00am Fellowship (PH) 5:00pm Campus Ministry Dinner/Bible Study	7 8:00am Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off	8 Johannes von Staupitz, Luther's Father Confessor	9 Martin Chemnitz (birth), Pastor and Confessor	10 9:30am Bible Class (FR)	11 Martin of Tours, Pastor 8:00am Office Closed 8:30am Live Talk KXXX 2:00pm Live Talk KXXX	12
13 Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost 8:45am SS/ABS (PH) 10:00am Divine Service 11:00am Fellowship (PH) 11:30am Voters' Assembly	14 Emperor Justinian, Christian Ruler and Confessor Christ 8:00am Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off	15	16	17 9:30am Bible Class (FR)	18 8:00am Office Closed 8:30am Live Talk KXXX 2:00pm Live Talk KXXX	19 Elizabeth of Hungary
20 Last Sunday of the Church Year Newsletter Deadline 8:45am SS/ABS (PH) 10:00am Divine Service 11:00am Fellowship (PH)	21 8:00am Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off	22	23 Clement of Rome, Pastor 12:00pm Thanksgiving Matins (Sanctuary)	24 Day of National Thanksgiving	25 8:00am Office Closed 8:30am Live Talk KXXX 2:00pm Live Talk KXXX	26
27 First Sunday in Advent 8:45am SS/ABS (PH) 10:00am Divine Service 11:00am Fellowship (PH)	28 8:00am Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off	29 Noah	30 St. Andrew, Apostle 12:00pm Advent Matins (Sanctuary)	Dec 1	2	3

December 2022

December 2022

January 2023

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 27	28	29	30	Dec 1	2	3
John of Damascus, Theologian and Second Sunday of Advent 8:45am SS/ABS (PH) 10:00am Divine Service 11:00am Fellowship (PH) 5:00pm Campus Ministry	8:00am Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off	Nicholas of Myra, Pastor	Ambrose of Milan, Pastor and Hymnwriter 12:00pm Advent Matins (Sanctuary)	9:30am Bible Class (FR)	8:00am Office Closed 8:30am Live Talk KXXX 2:00pm Live Talk KXXX	8:00am Office Closed 8:30am Live Talk KXXX 2:00pm Live Talk KXXX
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Third Sunday of Advent 8:45am SS/ABS (PH) 10:00am Divine Service 11:00am Fellowship (PH)	8:00am Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off	Lucia, Martyr	12:00pm Advent Matins (Sanctuary)	9:30am Bible Class (FR)	8:00am Office Closed 8:30am Live Talk KXXX 2:00pm Live Talk KXXX	Daniel the Prophet and the Three Young Men
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Fourth Sunday of Advent 8:45am SS/ABS (PH) 10:00am Divine Service 11:00am Fellowship (PH)	Adam and Eve 8:00am Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off	Katharina von Bora Luther Newsletter Deadline	St. Thomas, Apostle 12:00pm Advent Matins (Sanctuary)	9:30am Bible Class (FR)	8:00am Office Closed 8:30am Live Talk KXXX 2:00pm Live Talk KXXX	7:00pm The Nativity of Our Lord - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service (Sanctuary)
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
The Nativity of Our Lord - Christmas Day 10:00am Christmas Day Divine Service (Sanctuary) 11:00am Fellowship (PH)	St. Stephen, Martyr 8:00am Office Closed - Pastor's Day Off	St. John, Apostle and Evangelist	The Holy Innocents, Martyrs	David 9:30am Bible Class (FR)	8:00am Office Closed 8:30am Live Talk KXXX 2:00pm Live Talk KXXX	Eve of the Circumcision and Name of Jesus - New Year's Eve 12:00pm Eve of the Name of Jesus - New Year's Eve Matins (Sanctuary)
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

PHONE:	530-342-6085
Pastor's Cell:	530-513-1284
Office Manager's Cell:	530-228-4240
EMAIL:	redeemerchicooffice@gmail.com
PASTOR'S EMAIL:	pastordonaldjordan@gmail.com
WEB ADDRESS:	www.redeemerchico.org
Facebook:	facebook.com/RedeemerLutheranChico

Our Mission Statement

Welcome to Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church, a community of believers saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

As a people enabled by the Spirit, we are committed to regular worship and the use of the sacraments, studying and teaching the Bible, praying, using our gifts and talents in God's service, for the caring and nurturing of others and sharing the message of God's salvation so that God is glorified and all people may know Jesus as their Savior and Lord.

November/December 2022



November/December 2022

Redeemer Evangelical Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod
750 Moss Avenue
Chico, CA 95926