

S E C O N D S U N D A Y O F C H R I S T M A S
January 4, 2009

The Order of Worship at 8:15 and 11:00 AM

We extend a warm welcome to all who have chosen to worship at Redeemer today. Please enter the Sanctuary quietly for the sake of those who are in prayer. A Nursery that welcomes children ages 6 weeks- 4 years is available during Worship today. Following the service, please join us for coffee in the Sims Atrium. May this time of worship encourage, inspire, and strengthen you for the days ahead. Additional information about worship at Redeemer is included on the back of the service folder.

Words to be spoken or sung by the congregation are indicated in bold type or marked with a **☒**; text marked with **☐** or **☑** is spoken or sung by a pastor or an assisting minister. Please stand or kneel as you are able for the indicated portions of the service. Please lower your kneelers quietly during prayer.

If you are in need of an Assistive Hearing Device please ask an usher for help.

PRELUDE

Variations on "Lobt Gott, ihn Christen"
(ELW 287)

Johann Walther
(1684-1748)

G A T H E R I N G

*The Holy Spirit gathers us in unity on the first day of the week,
the day of Christ's resurrection.*

INVITATION TO WORSHIP AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Standing

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☐ In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

☑ Amen

☐ 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 our Lord.

☑ Amen

☐ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneeling or seated

☐ Most merciful God,

☑ we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

☐ In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us and, for his sake, God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of

Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

Standing

SHARING THE PEACE

HYMN 300

The First Noel

THE FIRST NOWELL

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

P Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

HYMN OF PRAISE

SALUTATION

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

The Pastor will collect your prayer request cards as the children are invited to come forward for the children's sermon.

Please let us know you worshiped with us today by completing the blue sheet enclosed in your bulletin. You may also indicate your time and talent interest on this enclosure as well.

W O R D

God speaks to us in scriptures read, sung and preached.

Seated

11:00 - HYMN 781

Children of the Heavenly Father TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA
(Stanza 1)

11:00 - HOLY BAPTISM

Please join us in the liturgy of Holy Baptism, found on page 227 of the hymnal.

THE FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷For thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O LORD, your people, the remnant of Israel." ⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. ¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." ¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. ¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the LORD.

After the reading

The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:3-14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

After the reading

The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

*Standing***GOSPEL VERSE****GOSPEL**

John 1:[1-9] 10-18

☑ The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. ⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

After the reading

The gospel of the Lord.

Seated

SERMON

What's in the Box?

Pastor John Weber

Standing

HYMN 295

Of the Father's Love Begotten

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Standing

8:15 - APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

P R A Y E R S

Your prayer card petitions are offered today in worship and included on The Weekly Prayer List found at the Member Care table. Through the week you may submit prayer

requests to kmedford@redeemer.org Individuals with special on-going prayer needs are continuously included on The Weekly Prayer List unless otherwise advised. Please pick up your Weekly Prayer List and offer your prayers of joy, thanksgiving and concern for one another.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Kneeling or seated

Each portion of the prayers concludes:

P Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

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**

T H A N K S G I V I N G

God's grace and mercy summon us to give thanks.

Seated

GATHERING OF GIFTS

ANTHEM

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day
The Redeemer Choir

John Gardiner

Standing

OFFERTORY

P Let us pray. Blessed are you,

C **O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...

P In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

**☩ 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**

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

All who seek to meet the Risen Christ in the bread and wine
are invited to receive Holy Communion.

Communion will be offered by intinction. There are four stations: two at the altar rail, kneeling, on the first Sunday of the month, and two by the chancel steps. The ushers will invite you to come forward by the center aisle and return to your seat by the side aisles.

To receive the wafer extend your hand, palm up, and then lightly touch the wafer to the burgundy wine, or the white colored grape juice held by the assistant. If you would like the pastor to place the elements on your tongue, fold your hands and keep them folded in front of you.

Children who have not received communion instruction are invited to come forward with their parents for a blessing, folding their arms across their chests as a signal to the pastor.

Communion will be served in the pews to those who cannot come forward; please inform an usher. Gluten free wafers are available.

HYMN 291 *Let Our Gladness Have No End* NARODIL SE KRISTUS PAN

HYMN 490 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* PICARDY

Standing

☩ The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

☩ Amen

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

☩ Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

☩ Amen

S E N D I N G

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

☞ Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

HYMN 287

Let All Together Praise Our God

LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN

SENDING

☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Vom Himmel hoch (ELW 268)

Johann Pachelbel
(1653-1706)