

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Christmas Is...

Sunday School Christmas Program



Kids and Adults
share Christmas stories and memories.

December 22, 2024

Followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all...
an adventure for life!

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

In Preparation for Worship

- Within the sanctuary please remember that some people use this time of silence to prepare for worship.
- Whenever the cross is carried in procession through the congregation, we turn to face the cross to signify our way of life as followers of Jesus.
- Large-print bulletins are available; ask an usher for assistance.
- Please silence your cell phone.

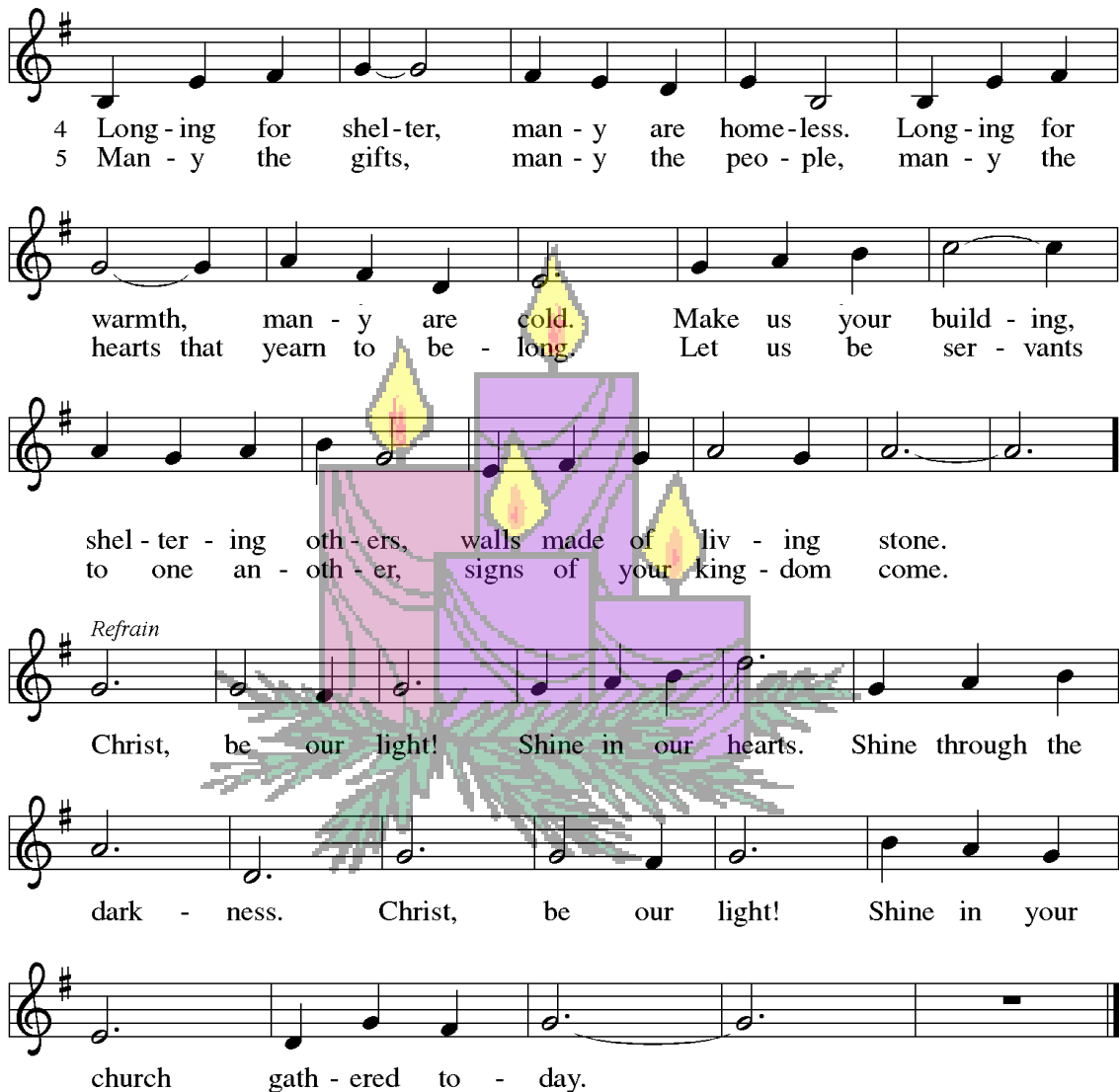
WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Please be respectful of people who use this time to prepare for worship.

Prelude *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came* arr. Larry Shackley

Advent Candle Lighting

Christ, Be Our Light



4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the

warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long Let us be ser - vants

shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

Refrain
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the

dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your

church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957
Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell
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Welcome

Please stand in body or spirit

Hymn

All Earth Is Hopeful



To - da la tie - rra es - pe - ra al Sal - va - dor
1 All earth is hope - ful, the Sav - ior comes at last!
2 Peo - ple of Is - rael, you heard the proph - et tell:
3 Moun - tains and val - leys will have to be pre - pared;
4 We first saw Je - sus a ba - by in a crib.



y el sur - co a - bier - to, la ob - ra del Se - ñor; es el
Fur - rows lie o - pen for God's cre - a - tive task: this, the
"A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el"; she con -
new high - ways o - pened, new pro - to - cols de - clared. Al - most
This same Lord Je - sus to - day has come to live in our



mun - do que lu - cha por la li - ber - tad, re -
la - bor of peo - ple who strug - gle to see how
ceived him, "God with us," our broth - er, whose birth re -
here! God is near - ing, in beau - ty and grace! All
world; he is pres - ent, in neigh - bors we see our



cla - ma jus - ti - cia y bus - ca la ver - dad. dar - nos li - ber - tad.
God's truth and jus - tice set ev - 'ry - bod - y free.
stores hope and cour - age to chil - dren of this earth.
clear ev - 'ry gate - way, in haste, come out in haste!
Je - sus is with us, and ev - er sets us free.

Text: Alberto Taulé, b. 1932; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946
Music: TODA LA TIERRA, Alberto Taulé
Spanish text and tune © 1993 and English text © 1995 Centro de Pastoral Litúrgica, admin. OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.

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Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the friendship of
the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise

Refrain

Congregation:

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion,
all of cre - a - tion sings for joy
to the God of life and love and
free - dom: praise and glo - ry for ev -
er - more!

Verse 1:

Congregation or Congregation 1:

1. Now is the feast of the Lamb once
slain, whose blood has freed and u -
nit - ed us to be one great
peo - ple of God. *To refrain*

Verse 2

Congregation or Congregation 2:

Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and
might, all hon - or and glo - ry to Christ
for ev - er. *To refrain*

Verse 3

Congregation:

3. For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us peo - ple of God; to make
all things new. *To refrain*

Prayer of the Day

Come, Lord Jesus! With your abundant grace and mercy, open us to receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with your Abba God and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

WE PROCLAIM THE WORD

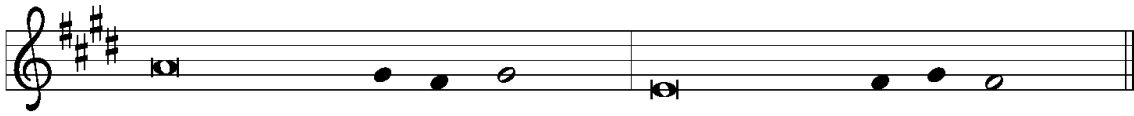
Reading **Micah 5:2-5** (Contemporary English Version, inclusivized)

A reading from the prophet Micah

Bethlehem Ephrath,
you are one of the smallest towns in the nation of Judah.
But the Lord will choose
one of your people to rule the nation—
someone whose family goes back to ancient times.
The Lord will abandon Israel only until this ruler is born,
and the rest of their family returns to Israel.
Like a shepherd taking care of the sheep,
this ruler will lead and care for the people
by the power and glorious name of the Lord God.
The people will live securely,
and the whole earth will know this ruler's true greatness,
because this ruler will bring peace.

May we open ourselves to what the Spirit is saying to the church. **Amen.**

Psalm 80:1-7



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock;
shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.

**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, | and Manasseh,
stir up your strength and | come to help us.**

Restore | us, O God;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

**O LORD | God of hosts,
how long will your anger fume when your | people pray?**

You have fed them with the | bread of tears;
you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.

**You have made us the derision | of our neighbors,
and our enemies laugh | us to scorn.**

Restore us, O | God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

Please stand in body or spirit

Gospel Acclamation

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Repeat optional

Gospel

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke

Luke 1:39-55

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Annunciation

Luke 1: 26-28, 30-32, 38

Leader: An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary. The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High." And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will."
(Immediately to "The Magnificat")

The Magnificat

Luke 1: 46-55

All:

1.3. My soul pro - claims your
2. You have cast the might - y
great-ness, O God, and my spir - it re-joic - es in
down from their thrones, and up lift - ed the hum - ble of
you, heart, You have looked with love on your
You have filled the hun - gry with
fine last time
ser - vant here, and blessed me all my life through.
won - drous things, and left the wealth - y no part.
Great and might - y are you, O Ho - ly One,
Great and might - y are you, O Faith - ful One,
strong is your kind - ness ev - er - more.
strong is your jus - tice strong your love,
How you fa - vor the weak and low - ly one,
As you prom - ised to Sar - ah and A - bra - ham,
hum - bling the proud of heart.
kind - ness for - ev - er - more.

The Gospel of the Lord

Please be seated

Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Christmas Program

CHRISTMAS IS...

based on the book "**Christmas Is....**" by Gail Gibbons
with Ruby Jacobs, Elinn Neal, Caroline Ott, and Kathryn Ott



Musical Reflection

Come, Come, Emmanuel

arr. Joel Raney
Senior Choir

Come, come Emmanuel.
O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel.
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice, Emmanuel, rejoice, Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

Come, come Emmanuel.
Come, Desire of nations, come.
Bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease,
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice, Emmanuel, rejoice, Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!
Come, Emmanuel, come!

Apostles' Creed

Let us confess our faith in the Triune God as expressed in these historic words:

**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,
he 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.**

Community Prayers

Let us pray....

After each petition: "Receive our prayer,"

**Your mercy is great.
Amen.**

Included in our daily prayers are those with special needs or concerns:

Bebe McCoy, Robin Stokes, Bonnie Hegreness, Mary Kennedy, Kevin Bailey's sister Kleta Childs, Bebe McCoy's brother-in-law Walt and her sister Jan, Brittany Parsons, Mary Bowling's sister Val, John Kennedy's niece Michele Wolfe, Becky Trover's sister Maddie Sutphin, son-in-law Brandon James, and her niece Olivia Theissen, Skye Andree, Kris Kauffman, Ruth Murray's daughter Ellen Rose, Kathie Ehrich, John Huber, Dottie and Larry Bird, Karen Kent, Ruth Boys, Al Debelak, Barbara Hairston and family, Jon Disbro
For the people of Fellowship Lutheran Church in Columbus
For Redeemer community members Kathy Denhard and Tony Naess

Time with the Young People

Sharing the peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Members are encouraged to move around the sanctuary to greet each with a hearty handshake or a hug. For those who have special concerns or who do not wish close contact, please offer a sign of blessing to let others know you are more comfortable greeting them from a distance.

We will continue to take a moment to greet those who are worshiping via livestream before greeting those in the sanctuary.

WE SHARE HOLY COMMUNION

Jesus invited all who were hungry for food, healing, justice, and joy to share this communion meal.

Since this is his meal, and he is present to us in it, all are welcome.

In body or spirit, please stand

Offertory

You Are Holy

1*



You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.

2



You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

* *May be sung in canon.*

Text: Per Harling, b. 1945

Music: DU ÅR HELIG, Per Harling

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Great Thanksgiving

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five systems of music. The first system is for the Presider, with lyrics: "The Lord be with you. And al - so with". The second system is for the Congregation, with lyrics: "you. Lift up your hearts. We". The third system is for the Presider, with lyrics: "lift them to the Lord. Let us give". The fourth system is for the Congregation, with lyrics: "thanks to the Lord our God. It is". The fifth system is for the Congregation, with lyrics: "right to give God thanks and praise." The score uses a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

It is indeed right for us to come to this table of Emmanuel -- God-with-us.

This is the place where bread and wine remind us how to live and love as those who inhabit God's time, and work to build God's Beloved Community. This is the place where we recognize that the one for whom we wait is also the one who is already, and always, here with us.

So come! Whether you are watching for the dawn, or dreading first light, whether you are waiting with hope, or hiding your face, come with quiet confidence. Here Emmanuel watches for our coming, and waits with love and joy to welcome us in.

The story of Emmanuel is the story of God – waiting to inhabit time, who took on flesh and form, and lived among us, so that we might re-imagine life. It is the story of Jesus – waiting to be betrayed, who shared supper with his friends, where he took bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take this and eat. This is my body, broken for you. Do this to remember me." And after supper he took the cup and gave it to them, saying, "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood. It is shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this to remember me."

And so, taking this bread and wine, we remember and celebrate the waiting which began to change the world; and we join our voices with all who still wait and work for that change to come to completion:

Congregation:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and
 might; Heav - en and earth are filled with your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est! Bless - ed is the
 One who comes in your name. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est!

God of grace, as we follow the example of Jesus, send your Holy Spirit upon us, and on these gifts of bread and wine. May we find the imagination, the courage, and the strength to use our waiting times to build your Beloved Community of joy, justice, and peace, for which we now pray:

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.
 Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
 now and forever. Amen.**

Sharing the Meal

The gifts of God, for the people of God. Jesus welcomed all to this meal.
So do we.

Please be seated

You may come forward to receive the elements, remain seated and use the pre-filled communion cups available at the door, or let an usher know you'd like to be served in your seat. Wine is in the outer rings of the tray, grape-apple juice in the inner ring. Gluten-free wafers are available on request, ask Pastor.

Hymn The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came



1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from heav - en came,
2 "For know a bless - ed moth - er thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Mar - y meek - ly bowed her head;
4 Of her, Em-man - u - el, the Christ, was born



with wings as drift - ed snow, with eyes as flame:
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee;
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said.
in Beth - le - hem all on a Christ - mas morn,



"All hail to thee, O low - ly maid - en Mar - y,
thy son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"My soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy God's ho - ly name."
and Chris-tian folk through-out the world will ev - er say:



most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."
most high - ly fa - vored la - dy." Glo - ri - a!
Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy,
"Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy."

Text: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924
Music: GABRIEL'S MESSAGE, Basque carol

Hymn

Comfort, Comfort, Now My People

1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
 2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.

Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.
 call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
 Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God's ho - ly reign.

To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!
 Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,

Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for - ev - er.
 Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum - ble fa - vor.
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
 Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre pseauxes de David*, Geneva, 1551

Please stand in body or spirit

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy Mystery, the earth still waits for its healing. May we who are part of that waiting take and use the waiting times to re-imagine how we can be healers of creation. Open our hands and hearts to embrace and use these uncertain times to be courageous in our acts of love. So may our watching and waiting join with that of Emmanuel to make real your beloved community here on earth. **Amen.**

WE ARE SENT

Hymn

Canticle of the Turning



1 My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2 Though I am small, my . . . God, my all, you . . .
3 From the halls of pow'r to the for - tress tow'r, not a
4 Though the na - tions rage from . . age to age, we re -



God of my heart is great, and my spir - it sings of the
work great . . things in me, and your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant . . . from his throne.
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp.



You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
The hun - gry poor shall . . weep no more, for the
This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my
those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the
food they can nev - er earn; there are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be



name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn.



Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn.

Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat
 Music: STAR OF COUNTY DOWN, Irish traditional
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Blessing

Amen.

Announcements

Postlude

Comfort, Comfort, Now My People

arr. Larry Shackley

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 The communion liturgy is adapted from "Enter with Joy," by Pat Bennett, published by Wild Goose Publications.
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Christmas Eve Worship

7:00 pm

In-Person and Livestream

Christmas Day Worship

10:00 am

In-Person and Livestream

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UC7sGE88YtJrLWuGWO0sS-yw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC7sGE88YtJrLWuGWO0sS-yw)

Adult Ed

Sundays - 11:15 a.m.

Getting to Know You

As a way to deepen our relationships with each other by getting to know each other better, Pastor Dave will interview a variety of folks about their lives. And you'll have a chance to ask questions as well.

December 22 - Donna Voelkel

In-Person and Zoom:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83475541581?pwd=PEyYLFqECnu
QBzf9bSbagxGY44GXcU.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83475541581?pwd=PEyYLFqECnuQBzf9bSbagxGY44GXcU.1)

Meeting ID: 834 7554 1581 = Passcode: 752230

Phone only: 1-312-626-6799

OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding Minister	David Shull, Pastor
Assisting Minister	Jon Disbro
Reader	Kelley Frank
Cantor	Scott Steiner
ASL Interpreter	Bryan Neal
Organist & Senior Choir Director	Kathy Rapp
Pianist & Chime Choir Director	Karen Kent
Usher	Zak Hinkle-Moore
Vergers	Michelle Clemence / Wendy Stoica
Communion Prep	Misato In, Diane Brobeck, Karen Rider
Producers	Judith Bird, Scott Steiner
Hospitality	Sunday School Kids

*Flowers are given by **Michele and Jon Disbro** in honor of their **40th Anniversary**.
Noisy Offering will go to B.R.E.A.D.*

THIS WEEK AT REDEEMER DECEMBER 22 – 29

Today	8:45 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion and Sunday School Christmas Program
	Following worship	Decorate sanctuary
	11:15 am	IN-PERSON and ZOOM Adult Education
Tuesday	7:00 pm	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Christmas Eve Worship
Wednesday	10:00 am	IN-PERSON Christmas Day Worship
Next Sunday	8:45 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	IN-PERSON and LIVESTREAM Worship with Holy Communion



Redeemer's mission: To be followers of Jesus, sharing God's love with all
Redeemer's vision: To foster understanding and healing in community

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A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America