

Our Redeemer  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

First Sunday after Christmas  
December 27, 2020

# OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

18444 Old Glenn Highway - PO Box 670150

Chugiak, Alaska 99567

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Pastor James: pastorjames@orlc-ak.org | 907-310-0342 (cell)

Deaconess Brittany Baumgartner (Family Life Director): britt@orlc-ak.org

Office Hours: Tues-Fri 9am-2pm

## *Our Mission:*

*True to God's Word, We Walk with Christ:  
Welcoming, Loving, Serving, Sharing.*

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**Good Morning and Welcome!** What a great joy to have you here with us today praising God and receiving His gifts! Please join us for refreshments and a time of fellowship right after church. If you are a guest or visiting with us, please do sign our guest register located in the narthex—we'd love to connect. Should you need it, there is a "cry room" next to the church office on the main level. Feel free to ask an usher if you need assistance. Welcome!

### **A Word about Holy Communion**

We celebrate the Lord's Supper every Sunday at ORLC. In this meal, instituted by the Lord Himself, we receive the True Body and True Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. We believe that the Lord is truly present during this Holy Meal, and we approach the altar in humility and gratitude. Baptized believers in Christ who also share our confession at this altar are welcome to commune.

**COMMUNION CUPS** The cups directly behind the white markers are alcohol-free.

**GLUTEN FREE WAFERS** Available upon request; simply ask the pastor or an elder.

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## **ORDER OF WORSHIP**

*Divine Service, Setting 4 – page 203*

**AS WE GATHER** *The Song of Simeon in our Gospel reading for today paints a most beautiful picture of the Christian life. We see the Christ Child, and upon believing in the grace of God, our entire perspective shifts. Death is no longer the terrifying and dreaded darkness in our future. Christ has redeemed that! It's instead only one more step along this journey. The great darkness beyond death's door has already given way to the Light of the world.*

**Call to Worship – Welcome**

## Hymn of Invocation –

Joy to the World

LSB 387

Pastor: In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

### Confession and Absolution

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **who made heaven and earth.**

*Psalm 124:8*

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

*Psalm 130:3-4*

P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all yours sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

## Service of the Word

**Introit** ~ *Psalm 98:1-4; antiphon: Is. 52:10*

P: The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations,  
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

C: **Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things!  
His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.**

P: The Lord has made known his salvation;  
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.

C: **He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.  
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## Kyrie



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## Gloria in Excelsis



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C:** **And with your spirit.**

**P:** Let us pray. O God, our Maker and Redeemer, You wonderfully created us and in the incarnation of Your Son yet more wondrously restored our human nature. Grant that we may ever be alive in Him who made Himself to be like us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

**The First Reading.....Isaiah 61:10-62:3**  
(A New Name); p.632 of your pew bible)

*I delight greatly in the LORD; my soul rejoices in my God. For he has clothed me with garments of salvation and arrayed me in a robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom adorns his head like a priest, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. <sup>1</sup> For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations.*

*For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet, till her righteousness shines out like the dawn, her salvation like a blazing torch. <sup>2</sup> The nations will see your righteousness, and all kings your glory; you will be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will bestow. <sup>3</sup> You will be a crown of splendor in the LORD's hand, a royal diadem in the hand of your God.*

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

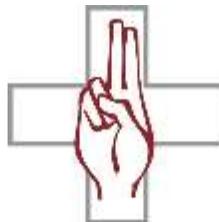
**People: Thanks be to God.**

**The Epistle Reading.....Galatians 4:4-7**  
(Sons of God; p.984 of your pew bible)

*But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, <sup>5</sup> to redeem those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons. <sup>6</sup> Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, "Abba, Father." <sup>7</sup> So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.*

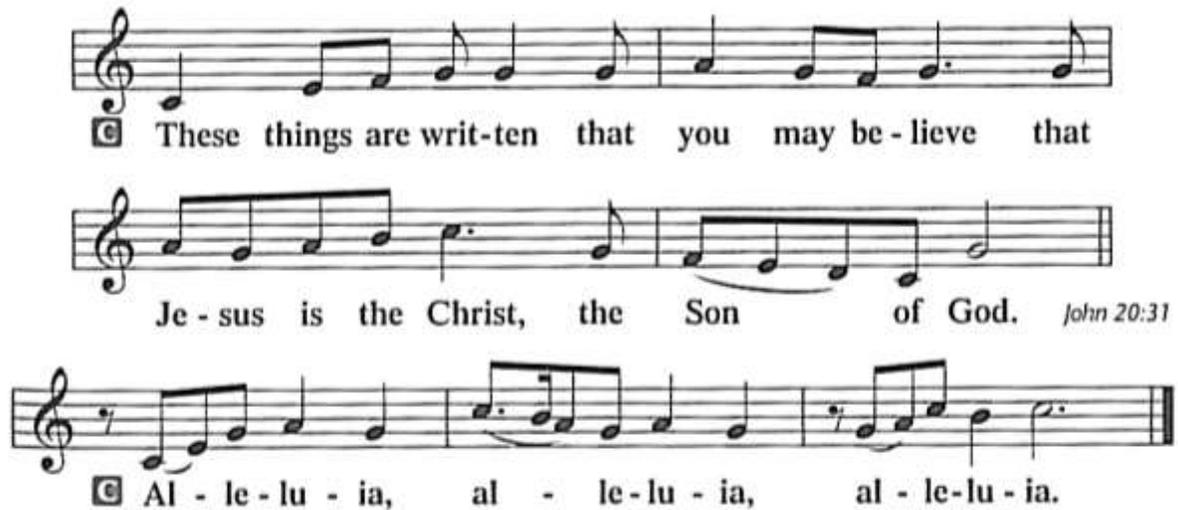
Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**



**Alleluia and Verse**





P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the second chapter.

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

**The Gospel Reading**..... Luke 2:22-40  
 (Jesus at the Temple; p.865 of your pew bible)

When the time of their purification according to the Law of Moses had been completed, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"), <sup>24</sup> and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons."

<sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup> It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. <sup>27</sup> Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, <sup>28</sup> Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: <sup>29</sup> "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. <sup>30</sup> For my eyes have seen your salvation, <sup>31</sup> which you have prepared in the sight of all people, <sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

<sup>33</sup> The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup> Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, <sup>35</sup> so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too." <sup>36</sup> There was also a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup> and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. <sup>38</sup> Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. <sup>39</sup> When

Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was upon him.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Hymn of the Day

Angels from the Realms of Glory

LSB 367

**Sermon** ..... *Ars Moriendi*

## Apostles' Creed

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

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.

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

## Prayer of the Church

# Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

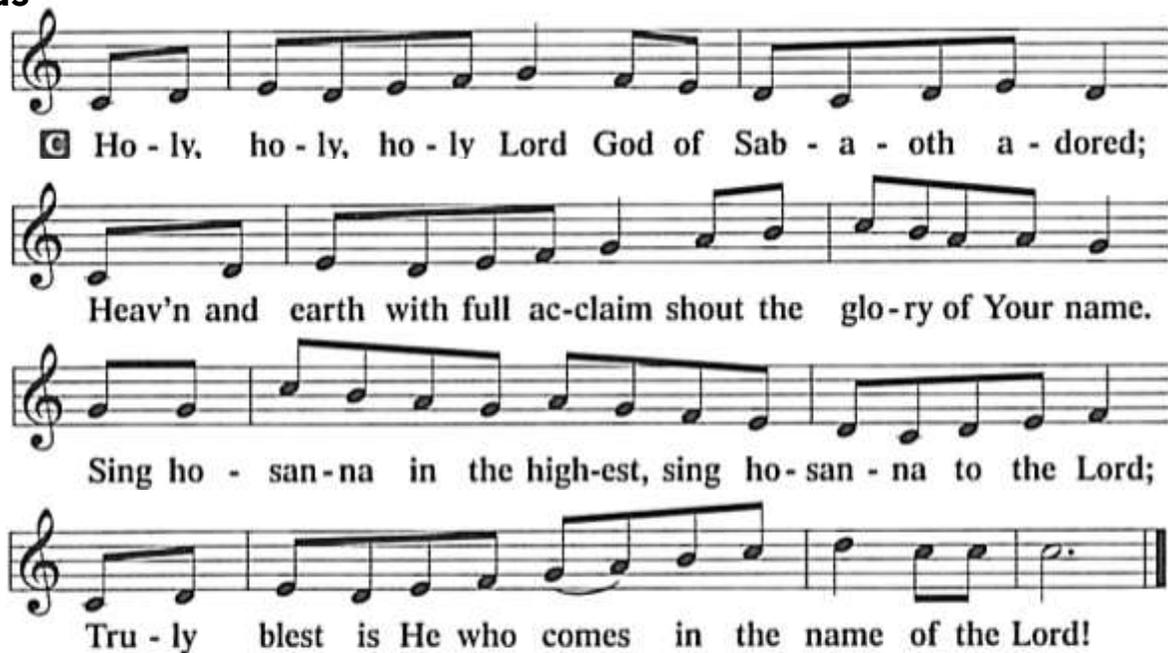
C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, for in the mystery of the Word made flesh you have given us a new revelation of your glory that, seeing you in the person of your Son, we may be drawn to the love of those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and saying:

## Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;  
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.  
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;  
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

P: Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

## Lord's Prayer

P: Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

C: **Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## The Words of Institution

### Pax Domini

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

### Agnus Dei

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

## Distribution Hymns ~ Offerings may be brought forward

O Lord, We Praise Thee

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

LSB 617

LSB 374

LSB 563



### Nunc Dimittis ~ Song of Simeon

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

P: Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

### **Benediction**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

### **Announcements**

#### **Departing Hymn –**

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

LSB 924

P: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

#### **For those worshiping online with us...**

<b>Joy to the World</b> Text and Tune: Public Domain	<b>Angels from the Realms of Glory</b> Text and Tune: Public Domain
<b>O Lord, We Praise Thee</b> Text and Tune: Public Domain	<b>Gentle Mary Laid Her Child</b> Text and Tune: Public Domain
<b>Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness</b> Text and Tune: Public Domain	<b>Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing</b> Text and Tune: Public Domain

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## From the Church Office

**Church Member Updates** - Help us keep our records up to date and keep you informed with what's happening at Our Redeemer. Please contact the office if your email, phone number, address or number of members in your family has changed.



**SMILE!!** -The congregation photo boards are ready for your photograph!! Photos should be 4x6 or 6x4. You are welcome to bring your own photo of that size (whether you are an individual, couple, or family), or find Terri Semmler who will be delighted to take your picture. Thank you for your participation!

**Offering Envelopes Update**- Council has voted not to order new envelopes for the upcoming year 2021. The decision was made to find generic, unnumbered envelopes, with a line for your name, for those wanting an envelope.

**Walkin' at the Mac**- "Walkin' at the Mac" is generally at 9AM Mon. and Thurs. (free for seniors or \$2per visit/ \$1.50 with punch card). If you are interested or have questions contact Ingrid Roelfs at 907-382-3662.

**Scholarship Fund** - We're forming an exploratory group to see what it would look like to offer educational scholarships for young members of our congregation. This wouldn't be limited to church work scholarships as we've done in the past, but would be open to any career direction. If you're interested, talk to Pastor James!

**Tour of Israel NEW DATES** -- ORLC is hosting a 10-day tour of the Holy Land, January 11-20, 2022. Look for more info at the Connection Corner.



**The Power of Prayer!** ORLC has an electronic prayer group who will pray for you and/or your loved ones. Email your electronic prayer request to [orlc.prayers@gmail.com](mailto:orlc.prayers@gmail.com). It is sent Bcc (blind) to a group of people who will pray for your concerns. Prayer requests are sent out Monday through Friday. Prayers are listed for one week unless the request is renewed. (If you do not have a computer, call the ORLC office and it will be added for you.)

**Sunday Bible Hour** - Join Pastor James in walking through the book of James, each Sunday morning at 9am. We've been talking a lot about the fruit of the Spirit, and James (the book) gives us the right perspective on living out our faith through those actions!

**Youth & Children's Ministry**- Sunday School lessons will be in an online format set up for at-home instruction. Ericka has set up a website that will be included in the weekly *What's Happening* email with an easy to follow format for at-home teaching. There will be a full supply list at the top of the website; if you are in need of any supplies or have any questions please reach out to Ericka, [office@orlc-ak.org](mailto:office@orlc-ak.org).

**Midweek Devotion**- Join us for a midweek devotion, posted each Wednesday morning. We'll work our way through the Psalms together, the hymnbook of the Bible which

captures every single human emotion possible! Posted on Facebook or on our website: <https://www.orlc-ak.org/devotions>

**Resources** - Are you feeling overwhelmed, lonely, stressed, or drained? Let me remind you that we, your church family, are here should you need counsel, prayer, or resources. Please reach out and let us know if you, your family, or your kids need anything. We are here to support you through all stages of life. Why? Because we love you, just as Jesus loves us! Contact Deac. Britt for help with resources ranging from stress, family issues, devotions, and more.



**Children's Lunch Box Pantry Pack** – THANK YOU!!! ORLC teamed up with River of Life and together we collected 88 Children's Lunchbox "Pantry Packs" (a box with a breakfast, lunch or dinner meal for 4 people) .. plus ... 8 grocery bags full of food for the Pantry Packs! That roughly translates into 352 people being fed one meal, plus the 8 grocery bags of food. What a blessing you all are to many!

**Cozy Tree**-Help decorate the Cozy Tree with knit caps, mittens, and/or socks. Items will be donated to our less fortunate brothers and sisters to help keep them warm.

**Pre-worship prayer team** - Volunteers needed to pray briefly with Pastor James before worship every Sunday.

**Altar Flowers** – Interested in providing flowers for the altar to mark a special occasion or simply your abundant joy in life? Contact [office@orlc-ak.org](mailto:office@orlc-ak.org) to reserve a Sunday.



In order to lift up to God the people of Our Redeemer, we will include a staff member, church leader, and three families from our church directory to pray for each week.

\*Ericka Stoltenberg- Administrative Assistant/Youth Leader

\*Trustees

\*Angie Nishimura, Al & Karen Nyback, John & Karen Pakan and their families.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

*If we missed your birthday or anniversary please let us know.*

**BIRTHDAYS**

- 27 Alex Reynolds
- 28 Kathy Sutton
- 30 Mary Ann Nelson
- 1 Johnny Jarnagin
- 3 David Shaw

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- 3 Dustin & Taffani Loughman

**OUR REDEEMER ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK**

**12/27/2020-1/03/2021**

**Today**                      Worship Service 4                                              10:00am

**Next Sunday**            Pastor's Bible Study                                              9:00am  
                                     Worship Service 3                                                      10:00am

**SERVING OUR LORD AND EACH OTHER**

HOW	THIS WEEK (12/27)	NEXT WEEK (01/03)
Altar Guild	Jane Walker Lauren Johnston	Marianne Dabbs Evelyn Sampson
Accompanist	Carol Shearer	Steve Eng
Lector	Carol Shearer	Chuck Semmler

