

# CHRIST OUR REDEEMER CHURCH

Advent Four – December 20, 2009

Pastor Mark Voss



## CALL TO WORSHIP

P: Strengthen the feeble hands, steady the knees that give way;

**C: Come, thou precious Ransom come, only hope for sinful mortals!**

P: Say to those with fearful hearts, “Be strong, do not fear; your God will come.

**C: Come, O Savior of the world! Open are to you all portals.**

P: He will come with vengeance; with divine retribution he will come to save you.

**C: Come, your beauty let us view; anxiously we wait for you.**

## OPENING HYMN – CW 8

*“Come, O Precious Ransom Come”*

## CONFESSION OF SINS

P: Be patient brothers and sisters, until the Lord’s coming. Be patient and stand firm, because the Lord’s coming is near. Don’t grumble against each other, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door.

**C: Forgive us, Lord, for preparing for your coming in the wrong ways and help us to realize that you are the real reason for celebrating the season. By your Law we see our sin, our shortcomings, and our failures. By your Gospel we see our Savior and his love in our lives. Forgive us, Lord, in the name of Jesus, whom you sent to save us.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C: Amen.**

## MUSICAL SELECTION

(10:30a) – Sr. and Tone Chime Choirs

*“Long Ago, Prophets Knew”*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: (sing) And also with you.**

P: Let us pray

**C: (sing) Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – Micah 5:2-5a** <sup>2</sup>"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times. " <sup>3</sup>Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor gives birth and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites. <sup>4</sup>He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. <sup>5a</sup>And he will be their peace.

**Response:**

CW 26 v 1 Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

**Jesus came, the heav'ns adoring, Came with peace from realms on high;  
Jesus came to win redemption, Lowly came on earth to die;  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Came in deep humility.**

**GOSPEL LESSON – Luke 1:39-55** <sup>39</sup>At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, <sup>40</sup>where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. <sup>42</sup>In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! <sup>43</sup>But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup>As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>Blessed is she who has believed that what the Lord has said to her will be accomplished!" <sup>46</sup>And Mary said: "My soul glorifies the Lord <sup>47</sup>and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, <sup>48</sup>for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, <sup>49</sup>for the Mighty One has done great things for me-- holy is his name. <sup>50</sup>His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. <sup>51</sup>He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts. <sup>52</sup>He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble. <sup>53</sup>He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty. <sup>54</sup>He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful <sup>55</sup>to Abraham and his descendants forever, even as he said to our fathers."



**SERMON CAROL – “O Jesus Christ Your Manger Is”**

**CW 40**

## THE SAVIOR IS COMING TO TOWN – To Give True Wealth

Revelation 3:14-22

<sup>14</sup>To the angel of the church in Laodicea write:

These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation.

<sup>15</sup>I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other!

<sup>16</sup>So, because you are lukewarm--neither hot nor cold--I am about to spit you out of my mouth. <sup>17</sup>You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.' But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked. <sup>18</sup>I counsel you to buy from me gold refined in the fire, so you can become rich; and white clothes to wear, so you can cover your shameful nakedness; and salve to put on your eyes, so you can see.

<sup>19</sup>Those whom I love I rebuke and discipline. So be earnest, and repent. <sup>20</sup>Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.

<sup>21</sup>To him who overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I overcame and sat down with my Father on his throne. <sup>22</sup>He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches."

### CONFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in God our Lord and Father in heaven, who made us the crown of his creation, and preserves us with every good thing, that we may live before him in peace and joy.

I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, God's only Son from eternity, who became a man for us sinners, Who redeemed us from Satan's power with his holy precious blood, rose from death, and made us his own to live with him now and forever.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who draws us to our Savior by the Gospel, who keeps us united in the true faith, forgives our sin, and at the end of the world will raise us from death to eternal life. I believe in the Triune God. Amen.

### OFFERING AND PRAYERS

#### ORDER OF LORD'S SUPPER

*God's word requires proper preparation and understanding for receiving the Lord's Supper. We practice membership communion, and ask that those who partake first become members or belong to a congregation of our church body, the Wisconsin Synod. Please ask for an informational sheet from one of the ushers for a fuller explanation from the scriptures. Thank you!*

#### PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts unto the Lord.

#### Sing:

CW26 v 3 Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

**Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing, Bringing news of sins forgiv'n;  
Jesus comes with words of gladness, Leading souls redeemed to heav'n.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Hope to all the world is giv'n.**

## LORD'S PRAYER AND CONSECRATION

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

## DISTRIBUTION AND CAROL – CW 18

*“O Lord How Shall I Meet You”*

### ADVENT VERSES

P: As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup,

**C: you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.**

P: He that testifies says, “I am coming soon.”

**C: Come, Lord Jesus. Come!**

P: The Spirit and the Church cry out:

**C: Come, Lord Jesus. Come!**

P: The whole creation pleads:

**C: Come, Lord Jesus. Come!**

### THANKSGIVING

Melody CW38

**Oh, thank the Lord, whose goodness sure,  
And steadfast love fore'er endure!**

**Our eyes have seen, our ears have heard, And we have tasted of His Word.**

**As His own servants we depart With His salvation in our heart.  
His saving power He has made known  
His love through all the earth is shown.**

### BLESSING

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: (sing) Amen, amen, amen.**

### CLOSING VERSES - *“Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing”*

CW329 Text, CW80 Tune, Setting: public domain.

**Lord, dismiss us with your blessing; Fill our hearts with joy and peace.  
Let us each, your love possessing, Triumph in redeeming grace.  
Oh, refresh us, oh, refresh us, Trav'ling through this wilderness.**

**Thanks we give and adoration For the gospel's joyful sound;  
May the fruits of your salvation In our hearts and lives abound!  
Ever faithful, ever faithful To your truth may we be found.**

**So whene'er the signal's given Us from earth to call away,  
Borne on angels' wings to heaven, Glad the summons to obey,  
May we ever, may we ever Reign with Christ in endless day.**