

**Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**  
Christmas One - Pastor Mark S. Voss – December 27, 2009

**THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT JESUS**

*Today's service celebrates the good news of our salvation in Jesus Christ. It is based on Martin Luther's explanation of the second article of the Apostles' Creed in the Small Catechism. As we celebrate God's great gift to us, let us pray that he would grant us opportunities to speak to others of his love, that they too may call him "My Lord."*

**Opening Hymn**

*"Rejoice, Rejoice This Happy Morn"*

CW49 Text and Tune: public domain. Setting: c 1981 Richard W. Gieseke, 835 Kentridge Ct., Manchester MO 63021-7568. Used by permission.

**Rejoice, rejoice this happy morn! A Savior unto us is born,  
The Christ, the Lord of glory. His lowly birth in Bethlehem  
The angels from on high proclaim And sing redemption's story.  
My soul, Extol God's great favor; Bless him ever For salvation.  
Give him praise and adoration.**

**Opening Verses**

*P: O Lord, open my lips.*

*C: And my mouth will declare your praise.*

*P: Make haste, O God, to deliver me.*

*C: Make haste to help me, O Lord.*

*All: 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.*

**Psalm 117**

*P: Praise the Lord, all you nations; extol Him, all you peoples.*

*C: For great is His love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.*

*All: Praise the Lord.*

**Sing:**

**From all that dwell below the skies Let the Creator's praise arise.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Let the Redeemer's name be sung**

**Through ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Eternal are your mercies, Lord; Eternal is your glorious Word.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Your praise shall sound from shore to shore**

**Till suns shall rise and set no more.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## **CONFESSION OF SINS**

*P: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.*

*C: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.*

*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.*

## **I BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST**

*P: What is the second article of the Apostles' Creed?*

*C: I believe 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 there he will come to judge the living and the dead.*

*P: What does this mean?*

*C: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death. All this he did that I should be his own and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he is risen from death, and lives and rules eternally. This is most certainly true.*



## **TRUE GOD AND TRUE MAN**

**Reading: Matthew 1:18-23** <sup>18</sup>This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup>"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" --which means, "God with us."

*P: This is the Word of the Lord*

*C: Thanks be to God.*

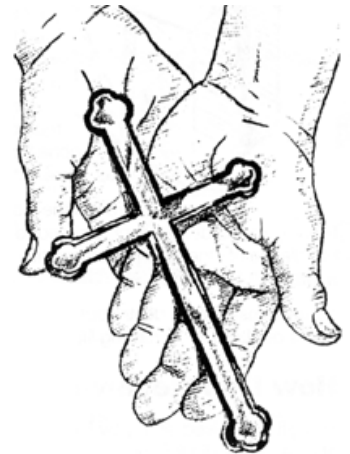
**All praise to you, eternal God! Now clothed in human flesh and blood,  
You took a manger for your throne  
While worlds on worlds are yours alone. Alleluia!**

**Once did the skies before you bow; A virgin’s arms contain you now  
While angels, who in you rejoice, Now listen for your infant voice. Alleluia!**

**O little Child, you were our guest That weary ones in you might rest;  
Forlorn and lowly was your birth That we might rise to heav’n from earth. Alleluia!**

***JESUS HAS REDEEMED ME***

**Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18** Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might destroy him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil—and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham’s descendants. For this reason he had to be made like his brothers in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.



*P: This is the Word of the Lord.*

*C: Thanks be to God.*

***Hymn***

*“Praise To You And Adoration”*

CW470 Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.

**Praise to you and adoration, Blessed Jesus, Son of God, Who, to serve your own creation,  
Came to share our flesh and blood. Guide me that I never may  
From your fold or pastures stray, But with zeal and joy exceeding  
Follow where your steps are leading.**

**Hold me ever in your keeping; Comfort me in pain and strife. In my laughter and my weeping  
Be with me throughout my life. Give me greater love for you, And my faith and hope renew  
In your birth, your life, and passion, In your death and resurrection.**

***Responsive Reading***

*P: Christ entered the Most Holy Place once for all*

*C: by his own blood, having obtained eternal redemption.*

*P: He is the mediator of a new covenant,*

*C: that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.*

*P: He provided redemption for his people;*

*C: He ordained his covenant forever.*

## WITH HIS HOLY, PRECIOUS BLOOD

**Reading: 1 Peter 1:18-21** For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect. He was chosen before the creation of the world, but was revealed in these last times for your sake. Through him you believe in God, who raised him from the dead and glorified him, and so your faith and hope are in God.

**P:** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

**C:** *Thanks be to God.*

### Hymn

*"I Lay My Sins On Jesus"*

CW372 Text, Tune, Setting: public domain.



**I lay my sins on Jesus, The spotless Lamb of God;  
He bears them all and frees us From the accursed load.  
I bring my guilt to Jesus To wash my crimson stains  
White in his blood most precious Till not a spot remains.**

**I lay my wants on Jesus; All fullness dwells in him.  
He heals all my diseases; My soul he does redeem.  
I lay my griefs on Jesus, My burdens and my cares;  
He from them all releases; He all my sorrows shares.**

**I rest my soul on Jesus, This weary soul of mine.  
His right hand me embraces; I in his arms recline.  
I love the name of Jesus, Immanuel, Christ, the Lord;  
Like fragrance on the breezes  
His name abroad is poured.**

**I long to be like Jesus: Meek, loving, lowly, mild;  
I long to be like Jesus, The Father's holy child.  
I long to be with Jesus Amid the heav'nly throng  
To sing with saints his praises, To learn the angels' song.**

### THAT I SHOULD BE HIS OWN

**Reading: Titus 2:11-14** For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope--the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

**P:** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

**C:** *Thanks be to God.*

### Hymn

*"Amazing Grace"*

CW379 Text and Tune: public domain. Setting: c 1964 Abingdon Press. Reprinted from The Book of Hymns by permission.

**Amazing grace -- how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found, Was blind but now I see.**

*Continued on next page*

**Page Four**

**The Lord has promised good to me; His Word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be As long as life endures.**

**Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.**

**When we've been there ten thousand years, Bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise Than when we'd first begun.**

***JESUS LIVES AND RULES ETERNALLY***

**Reading: Acts 4:8-13** Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. He is "the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone.' Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved." When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

**P:** *This is the Word of the Lord.*

**C:** *Thanks be to God.*

**Hymn**

*"Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love"*

CW76 vv 3 & 4 Text and Tune: public domain. \*Setting: c 1982 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission of CPH.

**Jesus! Only name that's giv'n Under all the mighty heav'n  
Whereby all, to sin enslaved, Burst their fetters and are saved.**

**Jesus! Name of wondrous love, Human name of God above;  
Pleading only this, we, too, Flee, O God, in faith to you.**

**Offering**

**Prayer and Lord's Prayer**

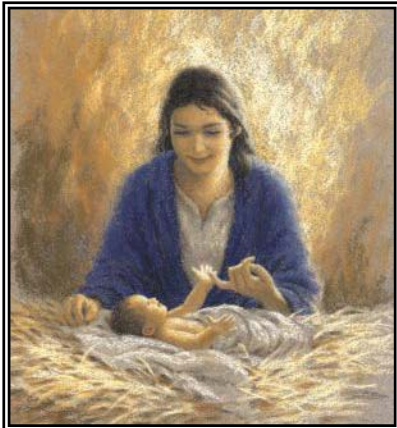
**Departing Hymn**

*"Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love"*

CW76 vv 4 & 5 Text and Tune: public domain.

\*Setting: c 1982 Concordia Publishing House.

Used by permission of CPH.



**Jesus! Only name that's giv'n  
Under all the mighty heav'n  
Whereby all, to sin enslaved,  
Burst their fetters and are saved.**

**Jesus! Name of wondrous love,  
Human name of God above;  
Pleading only this, we, too,  
Flee, O God, in faith to you.**

*New Year's Eve Communion Worship at 7p*

*Thank you to all who shared their time and talents  
in so many ways during this holy season. We appreciate it.*

*The staff and called workers thank you for all your cards, prayers,  
words of encouragements and gifts during this holy season.  
It is truly blessing to serve our Savior at Christ Our Redeemer*

*Pastor and Marie Voss, Emily and Heather  
Dean and Mimi Johnson, Paul  
Geron and Jen Brown, Josh, Caleb and Hannah  
Margaret Rutschow  
Mark & Kathy Maurer  
Doug and Kim Lowers, Jon  
David & Michele Paul, Jacob and Caleb  
Tim and Becky Feld*

