

A woman with blonde hair and a red headband looks out a window. The window is decorated with Christmas ornaments, including a red and white striped stocking and a white ball. The scene is dimly lit, suggesting an evening setting.

**COMPANY'S
COMING**

Resurrection
LUTHERAN CHURCH



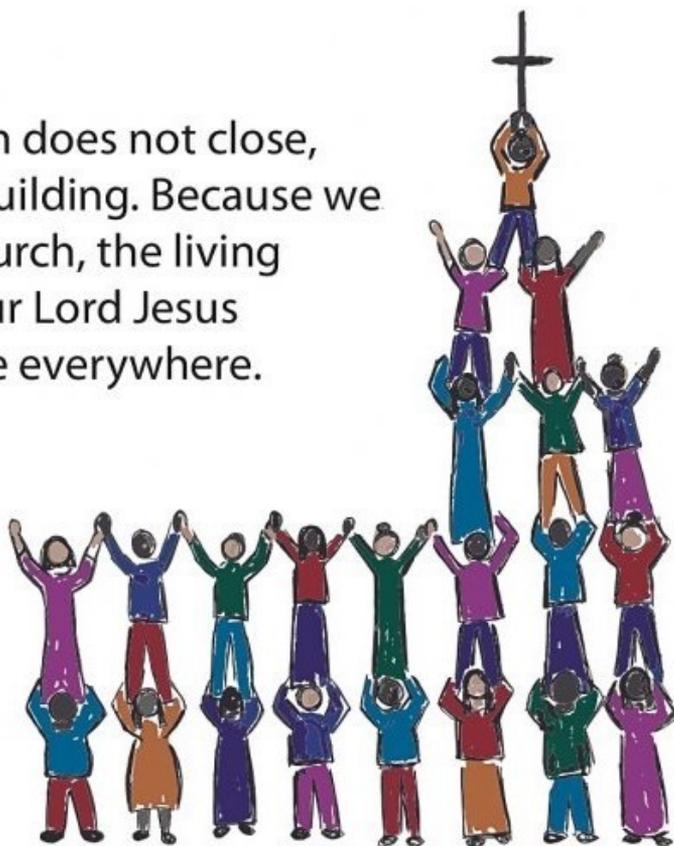
Deck the Halls

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

- December 13, 2020 -

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule
10:00 am– Streaming Worship Service

The church does not close,
only the building. Because we
are the church, the living
body of our Lord Jesus
and we are everywhere.



Office Hours: By Appointment Monday-Thursday 9am-2pm
Email: secretary@resurrection-lcms.org

December 13, 2020
10:00 am Service

PRELUDE

Sleepers Awake, BWV 645, J.S. Bach

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

P: We worship in the name of the Father, Son, + and Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“Joy to the World” LSB 387 verses 1-3

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King:
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found.

CANDLE LIGHTING

P: We want everything to look nice: the decorations of the season, our homes with their lights and tinsel, wreaths and ribbons. We want to lighten the darkness around us, bring beauty to the ugliness that wears us down. We decorate, because it is tradition. Because it lifts our hearts. Because it makes us feel like children again. We deck our halls because company is coming.

C: The prophet Isaiah smiled when he said, “God will give a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.” No matter how far we feel from the spirit of the season, God promises to decorate us with love and with joy.

P: We light this candle as a sign of our joy in the beautiful things of this season – not just the things that glitter and flash, but the deeper things, the beauty of the heart and the soul, the beauty of love shared in service and hospitality.

(Light the Candle of Joy)

P: We lit this candle of joy because company is coming.

C: Now, we go with joy to deck the halls of this world for Immanuel!

RESPONSIVE VERSE

“Joy to the World” *LSB 387 verse 4*

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love.

ORDER OF CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Holy God of Advent,

C: You come near to us, yet we continue to seal our hearts with indifference to a suffering world. Tear open our hearts, and make us more compassionate. You approach us with bundles of mercy to kindle our joy, but we continue to build our lives with the bricks of bitterness. Tear open our anger, so we might become more forgiving. You draw near, longing to embrace us, but we fold our arms, closing ourselves off from those all around us. Tear open our souls, so we might become children of Advent who would go forth to deck the halls of our community with Your joy!

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

P: Even now, God approaches us, mercy transcending anger, hope overcoming despair, life triumphing over death. This is good news, my friends; this is news of great joy for each of us that all our sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, Son + and Holy Spirit!

C: Amen!

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

INSTRUMENTAL HYMN

Fantasy on Greensleeves (excerpt), R. Vaughan Williams

GOSPEL READING

Gospel Reading: John 1:6-8, 19-28

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

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

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.

SERMON HYMN

“What Child Is This” LSB 370

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!

Continued on next page

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through,
The cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant king, to own Him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
The virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary!

SERMON

Deck the Halls

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Pastor Matthew Mantey

REFLECTIVE MUSIC

*You can mail an offering or donate via the
"Give to RLC" button at resurrection-icms.org*

PRAISE SONGS

"Come People of the Risen King"

Come, people of the risen King,
Who delight to bring Him praise.
Come, all and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth,
We will lift our eyes to Him.
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in,

Chorus

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Let ev'ry tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice
Oh, Church of Christ, rejoice.

Come, those whose joy is morning sun,
And those weeping through the night.
Come, those who tell of battles won,
And those struggling in the fight.
For His perfect love will never change,
And His mercies never cease,
But follow us through all our days
With the certain hope of peace.

Chorus

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Let ev'ry tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice
Oh, Church of Christ, rejoice.

Come, young and old from ev'ry land,
Men and women of the faith.
Come, those with full or empty hands,
Find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world His people sing,
Shore to shore we hear them call
The Truth that cries through ev'ry age:
Our God is all in all.

Chorus x2

“God With Us”

Oh You've come to bring peace to be Love
To be nearer to us
You've come to bring life to be Light
To shine brighter in us
Oh Emmanuel God with us

Chorus

Our Deliverer You are Savior
In Your presence we find our strength
Over ev'rything our Redemption
God with us
You are God with us

Oh You've come to be Hope to this world
For Your honor and name
And You've come to take sin to bear shame
And to conquer the grave
Oh Emmanuel God with us

Bridge

You are here
You are holy
We are standing in Your glory

Tag

Oh God with us
You are God with us

PRAYERS & LORD'S PRAYER

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

(After each portion of the prayers)

P: Lord, in Your mercy,
C: hear our 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.

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!

CLOSING SONG

“Trading My Sorrows”

Chorus

I'm trading my sorrows
I'm trading my shame
I'm laying them down
for the joy of the Lord
I'm trading my sickness
I'm trading my pain
I'm laying them down
for the joy of the Lord

Bridge

Yes Lord yes Lord yes yes Lord
Yes Lord yes Lord yes yes Lord
Yes Lord yes Lord yes yes Lord
Amen

I am pressed but not crushed
Persecuted not abandoned
Struck down but not destroyed
I am blessed beyond the curse
For His promise will endure
That His joy's gonna be my strength
Though the sorrow may last for the night
His joy comes with the morning

POSTLUDE

Lo, How A Rose Ere Blooming, *Opus 122, no. 8, J. Brahms*

BEAUTY OUT OF OUR ASHES

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor:	Matthew Mantey
A/V Techs:	Alex Lindeke, Melina Mantey
Elder:	Bob Rothwell
Organist:	Carl Kishline
Reader:	Melina Mantey
Worship Team:	Chris Linderman

- **We give thanks for the beauty and abundance of the earth.** Give us and all people grace to live in harmony with your creation, wisdom and generosity in our use of its bounty.

In Our Prayers:

- **We pray for all those who are struggling with despair and lack of joy this season.** May your joy touch their hearts, even in small quiet ways. Let all people who are wrestling in the darkness, see your light around them this Christmas season!
- **We pray for all churches as they make preparations for Christmas services.** Give all churches your wisdom and Gospel clarity as they proclaim the birth of Immanuel! We also pray that all churches would be safe and kept from all sickness and harm as they worship.
- **As the coronavirus continues to affect our world, we continue to pray.** We invite you into our hearts, Lord — hearts that have so much on them right now. Amidst our fear, disappointment, confusion uncertainty, grief, anger, frustration and more... We invite you in, Lord. We know you are bigger. May we be given a peace in the midst of changes of routine and restrictions. May we be alert to the ways we may help those around us, and give us the grace to step forward without hesitation to be men and women for and with others, for Your greater glory.
- **We pray for all those who are suffering from illness and need your healing power to restore them.** Bring full recovery by the power of your Holy Spirit and give doctors and care takers wisdom as they care for those we love. We also pray you keep all medical professionals safe in this difficult time. As we lift these prayers up now let us take a moment of silence to lift up all the other prayers on our hearts...

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS Deck the Halls

Have your Christmas decorations differed this year from previous years?

Read Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11. To those in exile, Isaiah's direction is to decorate – "garland instead of ashes . . . the mantle of praise instead of a faith spirit . . . build ancient ruins." In a period of darkness, Isaiah points to the light. The season of Advent also occurs during a period of literal darkness, as our daylight hours are getting shorter. More than mere positive thinking, we are trusting the faithfulness of God, which is the basis of our hope. How are you experiencing hope this Advent season?

Read John 1:6-8, 19-28. How does John the Baptist provide a model for discipleship?

What does it look like to choose to live by hope and not despair?

As we decorate, we wait. How is Advent a time of active waiting?

What are other ways we can actively wait and be a witness to the one who will come and restore righteousness? In other words, what are ways we can deck the halls of our community with the joy of the Lord this season?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Coming Up

With the halls decked, we now wait on the threshold for the company that is coming! What do we experience on that threshold? Join us on facebook @ <https://www.facebook.com/rlcdesmoinewa> at 10 am to find out.

Livestream Only Services Through Jan. 3rd

With the latest extension of the restrictions in the state of Washington and with COVID cases rising, the council felt the best option for RLC's services was to keep them in the livestream format through Jan. 3rd. We will reevaluate this after that date. Please keep us in prayer for continued wisdom and strength, just as we do all of you!

Voters' Meeting on Youtube after Service

Because of the restrictions still in place we will be having everyone use a private link on Youtube to take part in this years Voters' Meeting to approve the 2021 budget. This will take place after service today, so please use the link sent to you to partake!

Take the Survey for the Triannual Giving Partners

A few weeks ago a survey to determine our Triannual giving partners for 2021 was sent out. Please respond with your 3 choices for our giving partners by Thursday at 10am. Finally, if you are having any issues with the survey please email the office and we will work to get you a secondary ballot.

Christmas Carol Sing-Along This Thursday at 7PM

Curl up with a warm drink, an ugly Christmas sweater, with the Christmas tree lit and join us on our Facebook page to sing along with some all-time favorite Christmas carols on December 17th at 7PM. It will be a night filled with music, fun, joy, reflection and hope so we look forward to seeing you! Finally, please share it with a friend online, so you can spread Christmas cheer this year!

Christmas Eve Services

5:00 PM Multimedia Candlelight Service

Because of the restrictions on congregational singing we were brainstorming a way to still have a Christmas Eve Service in person. The idea that we came up with is having a service where instead of having live music, we will have performances of choirs and other groups on video in place of the singing. Everything else in the service will be the same. This service will follow social distancing and masking guidelines, so you will have to call the office to reserve your spot as we only will be able to hold 45 people in service. Even with the changes we are looking forward to being together with some of you for Christmas.

7:00 PM Livestream Candlelight Service

We will also be having a livestream only candlelight service with live music by Karen Tiffany Burgess and the Lindekes at 7:00 PM. To help this service be interactive we suggest you have a candle ready to use in the candlelight portion or if you need one we will have sanitized candles available for pick-up on a table by the front door during normal office hours.