

A woman with blonde hair is looking out of 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 or indoor lighting.

COMPANY'S COMING

Resurrection
LUTHERAN CHURCH



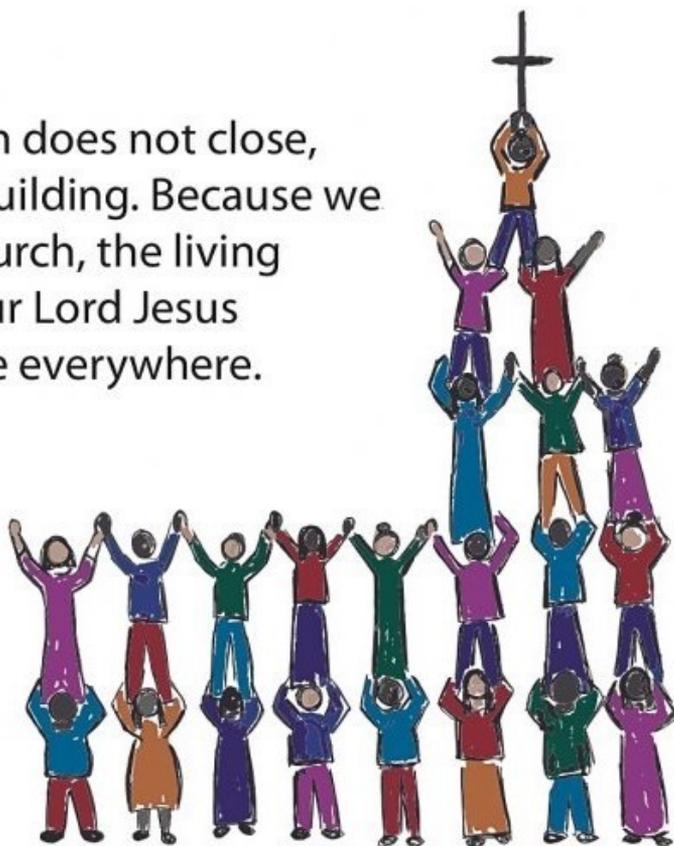
Enjoying the Company

Luke 2:22-40

- December 27, 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 27, 2020
10:00 am Service

PRELUDE

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain” – arr. Colin Curtis

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” LBW 55

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say:
 Jesus Christ is born today;
 Ox and ass before him bow,
And he is in the manger now.
 Christ is born today!
 Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door,
And we are blest forevermore.
 Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice
With heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave;
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all
 To gain his everlasting hall.
 Christ was born to save!
 Christ was born to save!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: God of mystery and love, help us move from the sweet experience of the birth of the Christ Child into the reality of the powerful witness of Jesus who will be Messiah for us all. Remind us again that this season is not about bows and boxes, feasts and family; it is about preparing us, Your people, for a mission and ministry of hope and peace for this aching and angry world. Empower us to be people of great faith, placing our trust in You, believing that peace is not only possible, it truly can happen if we will work with You and with one another. Give us courage and strength. Help us reach across areas that divide, offering compassionate assistance wherever it is needed. Bless each one of us in Your service, for we ask this in Jesus' Name.

C: Amen!

ORDER OF CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P: Merciful God,

C: You search us out and know us, and all that we are is open to You. We confess that we have sinned. When we make no room for Christ, and fail to enjoy the company He gives us in both good and bad times in Your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us. When we sing sweet sentiments over Christ's birth, and fail to rejoice over His everyday presence, in Your mercy, Lord, forgive us and heal us. We turn to You, O Christ, and ask for Your full forgiveness.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

P: Sisters and brothers in the family of God, though a sinner myself, I have a commission from the Living God to proclaim to you the forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, Son + and Holy Spirit. In the Company of Emmanuel, who is with us, receive the grace, mercy and peace which make renewal undeniable.

C: Amen!

SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah 61:10-62:3

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

INSTRUMENTAL HYMN

"Gesù, Bambino" – arr. Robert J. Hughes

GOSPEL READING

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:22-40

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

C: We believe. We believe joyfully in the God of love, with all our being we celebrate our Triune God. As soil after drought produces green shoots and as garden seeds spring into new life, so our God produces justice and praise to spring up among all nations.

We believe in God who dresses us in the garments of salvation; who by the grace of Christ covers us with the robe of righteousness, adopts us into the holy family and promises to make us a crown of beauty, a royal diadem in the hand of God.

This we believe through Christ Jesus. May the Holy Spirit strengthen our belief this New Year and beyond! Amen!

SERMON HYMN

“Gentle Mary Laid Her Child” *LSB 374*

Gentle Mary laid her child
Lowly in a manger;
There He lay, the Undefined,
To the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place,
Can He be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race
Who have found His favor.

Angels sang about His birth,
Wise Men sought and found Him;
Heaven's star shone brightly forth
Glory all around Him.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight,
Heard the angels singing;
All the plains were lit that night,
All the hills were ringing.

Gentle Mary laid her child
Lowly in a manger;
He is still the Undefined
But no more a stranger.
Son of God of humble birth,
Beautiful the story;
Praise His name in all the earth;
Hail the King of glory!

SERMON

Enjoying the Company

Luke 2:22-40

Pastor Matthew Mantey

REFLECTIVE MUSIC

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

PRAISE SONGS

“Joy To The World (Unspeakable Joy) “

Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and nature sing
And heaven and heaven and nature sing

Joy to the world the Savior reigns
Let all their songs employ
While fields and floods rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat repeat the sounding joy

Chorus

Joy unspeakable joy
An overflowing well
No tongue can tell
Joy unspeakable joy
It rises in my soul
Never lets me go

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 wonders of His love

“Hear How the Bells of Christmas Play”

Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN (All Creatures of Our God and King) LSB 670

Hear how the bells of Christmas play
Well may they ring for joy and say
O praise Him alleluia
God has fulfilled His promised word
Born is our Saviour and our Lord
O praise him! O praise him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Let all the waiting earth rejoice
Lift every heart and every voice
O praise Him alleluia
Sing now the song to angels given
Glory to God in highest heaven
O praise him! O praise him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

As through the silence of the skies
Shepherds in wonder heard arise
O praise Him alleluia
So may we hear again with them
Songs in the night at Bethlehem
O praise him! O praise him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

All nature sang at Jesus' birth
Hail the Creator come to earth
O praise Him alleluia
Sun moon and shining stars above
Tell out the story of His love
O praise him! O praise him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Hear how the bells of Christmas play
Well may they ring for joy and say
O praise Him alleluia
Come now to worship and adore
Christ is our peace for evermore
O praise him! O praise him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

Chorus

Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light.

Chorus

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth.

Chorus

Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

Chorus

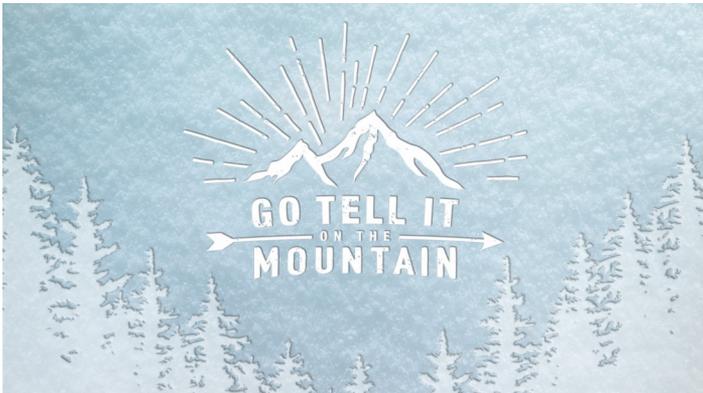
Go tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

Down in a lonely manger
The humble Christ was born;
And God set us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn.

Chorus

POSTLUDE

“Born Is He, the Divine Christ Child” – arr. Patricia Lou Harris



SERVING IN WORSHIP

Pastor:	Matthew Mantey
A/V Techs:	Dale & Suzy Lindeke
Elder:	Joe Thomas
Organist:	Karen Tiffany Burgess
Reader:	Dale Lindeke
Worship Team:	Chris Linderman

- **We also thank you for all those in the travel industry who are still working to get people wherever they need to be. Keep them all safe and healthy!**

In Our Prayers:

- **We pray for those who do not feel welcome at churches or welcome by Christians.** First may you soften our hearts to those who are different than us that we might listen to them and grow in compassion, even if we don't agree with them. Then please give them a heart of compassion back that we might be able to grow in relationships with all sorts of different people and welcome them into our lives, and most importantly to Your company.
- **We lift up Eleanor Griffith and her family as they mourn the loss of her husband, and our dear friend, Skip last Sunday.** With it being especially hard to lose a loved one so close to Christmas, we pray that Emmanuel, God with us, will be present and hold the Griffith family in His arms tenderly, yet closely, as they grieve. May we comfort them too with the compassion and care of our Savior!
- **We pray for those who are sick, hospitalized, suffering, or have been recently diagnosed with an illness.** We especially lift up Jan McGreevy as she has just been diagnosed with breast cancer. Bring her full healing, O Lord and when she has her appointments in January guide the doctors to the best treatment plan. And for all who are sick may they trust in you as their helper, the upholder of their lives, and their healer.
- **And now we take a moment of silence to lift up all the other prayers and people who are on our hearts.**

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS
Enjoying the Company

Share what was most memorable in 2020.

Read Luke 2:22-40. What does it tell us about Jesus that his parents brought him to Jerusalem for the ritual of purification and for what was customary under the law?

How is Simeon listening and having the Holy Spirit rest upon him such an important part of this narrative? How can we better listen and have the Holy Spirit rest upon us?

What does the Scripture mean that Simeon was looking for the “consolation” of Israel?

Why might have Simeon’s words in verse 32 have been surprising to some?

How is the story of Anna similar to the story of Simeon?

What do we learn about the ministry of Jesus from this narrative, especially looking at verse 32?

How can we better enjoy the company of Christ, thinking about this passage? How can we share and enjoy this company with others?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Office Closed Tomorrow and January 4th

With Christmas Day and New Year's Day falling on a day the office is closed, those Holidays will be observed tomorrow and January 4th respectively! God's Blessings and Happy New Year!

What's Coming Up

Next week we conclude our series "Company's Coming." Believe it or not, next week we will still be in the season of Christmas. This is because the 12 Days of Christmas officially begin after Christmas Day. What does it mean to live the celebration of Christmas in the New Year and all the way through? Join us on Facebook @ <https://www.facebook.com/rlcdesmoineswa> at 10 am on Dec. 27th to continue to live the celebration of Emmanuel, God with us, our Messianic, Forever Company! We look forward to seeing you!

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!

Our 2021 Tri-Annual Giving Partners Oder

As lift these ministries in our prayers that they would continue to be a blessing of the Lord to our community here is the order in which we will be giving to them in 2021.

January-April 2021: Des Moines Food Bank

May-August 2021: Des Moines Police Chaplains' Fund

Sept.-Dec. 2021: Lighthouse Family Ministries NW

Reminder: No Zoom Bible Study this Week

We will be taking a break from Zoom Bible Study this week to recharge the batteries, but will be back on January 6th, for an Epiphany Celebration! Still take some time to look over the Bible Study questions in the bulletin for your own devotion this week!

New Series Starting Jan. 10th—Follow Me!

The season of Epiphany has always been about seeing the light that is Jesus the Christ breaking forth into the world in which we live. While there is beauty in the presence of Christ, it is a beauty that calls forth a response. There are many ways to respond to the presence of Christ. In this series, we focus on the invitation to follow. It is the mission of the church to make disciples, even as we are being made disciples. It is an ongoing process to follow Jesus; a transformation that continues through every stage of our lives.