

The Lutheran Church
of the
Resurrection

Our Mission is “To Open Hearts”
Through the message of Christ Crucified

December 20, 2020

36 Cool St., Waterville, ME 04901
207-872-5208 lcrwaterville@gmail.com www.lcrwtvl.org
Rev. Benjamin Akers - Pastor

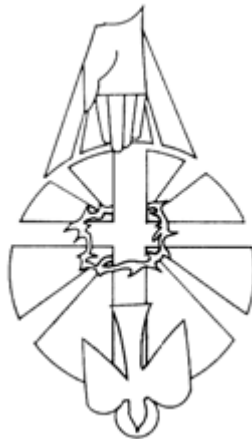
Welcome!

A warm welcome to our guests and visitors! We pray that your spirit would be uplifted and your faith strengthened as we gather together to receive God's Divine Service.

We recognize that little children may not be able to sit patiently through the entire worship service. **There is a 'Cry Room'** just outside the sanctuary where parents may tend to infants during the service. A window and speaker allow parents to continue to follow and participate in the service.

Our Communion practice: This morning, we joyfully celebrate the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. We believe that we receive Christ's body and blood in, with and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins. As we celebrate this sacrament, we also give public confession to our unity in the Christian faith. We therefore invite all communicant members of any congregation of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod to commune. Guests are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. If you would like to receive this sacrament here but are not a member, please speak with the pastor.

Cell Phones: As Lutherans, we believe that God speaks to us through Word and Sacraments. Therefore, please be sure to turn all cell phones off before entering the sanctuary.



+ THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT +

PRELUDE *E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come* Paul Manz
(Stand)

HYMN OF INVOCATION:

#336 LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING sts. 1–2

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

EXHORTATION

LSB 184

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

CONFESSION OF SINS

LSB 184

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

ABSOLUTION

LSB 185

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

(Sit)

+ THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH +

HYMN:

#357 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

sts. 7, 1

(As the Advent Wreath is lit, stanzas from "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" are sung by a soloist. The congregation will join in on the refrain. As the candles are lit (one new candle each week), we count down toward our celebration of Jesus' first coming on Christmas, but we also wait in anticipation of his second coming. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!)

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

(Stand)

KYRIE

LSB 186



☐ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

☐ The Lord be with you.

☑ And with thy spirit.

☐ Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come and help us by Your might, that the sins which weigh us down may be quickly lifted by Your grace and mercy; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☑ Amen.

(Sit)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

2 Samuel 7:1–11, 16

¹Now when the king lived in his house and the LORD had given him rest from all his surrounding enemies, ²the king said to Nathan the prophet, “See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells in a tent.” ³And Nathan said to the king, “Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.”

⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan, ⁵“Go and tell my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD: Would you build me a house to dwell in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent for my dwelling. ⁷In all places where I have moved with all the people of Israel, did I speak a word with any of the judges of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”’ ⁸Now, therefore, thus you shall say to my servant David, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep, that you should be prince over my people Israel. ⁹And I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you. And I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may dwell in their own place and be disturbed no more. And violent men shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel. And I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover, the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. . . .

¹⁶And your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me. Your throne shall be established forever.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 89:1-5



¹I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, for- | ever;*
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all gener- |
ations.

²For I said, “Steadfast love will be built up for- | ever;*
in the heavens you will establish your | faithfulness.”

³You have said, “I have made a covenant with my | chosen one;*
I have sworn to David my | servant:

⁴I will establish your offspring for- | ever,*
and build your throne for all gener- | ations.”

⁵Let the heavens praise your wonders, | O LORD,*
your faithfulness in the assembly of the | holy ones!
¹I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, for- | ever;*
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all gener- |
ations.

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

EPISTLE

Romans 16:25–27

²⁵Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages ²⁶but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith— ²⁷to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:26–38

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

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" ²⁹But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. ³²He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, ³³and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

³⁴And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

³⁵And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. ³⁶And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the

sixth month with her who was called barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

(Sit)

HYMN OF THE DAY:

#356 THE ANGEL GABRIEL FROM HEAVEN CAME

SERMON

(Stand)

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from
heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living
and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and
glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(Each petition is concluded with, "Lord, in your mercy." Our response is, "Hear our prayer.")

- (If you would like to submit a prayer request, please use the form provided on the table in the Narthex.)

(Conclusion)

P ...through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

C **Amen.**

(Sit)

ORGAN OFFERTORY

Veni, Veni Emmanuel

Gerald Near

(Stand)

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

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

C **It is meet and right so to do.**

PROPER PREFACE

LSB 194

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He. bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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 OUR LORD

LSB 197

PAX DOMINI


LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

(Sit)

THE DISTRIBUTION

[Please see the Communion Statement on the first page.]

[Communion Wine: The lighter colored wine among the individual cups is de-alcoholized wine in which all the alcohol has been removed.]

DISTRIBUTION HYMN:

#353 JESUS CAME, THE HEAVENS ADORING

(Stand)

THANKSGIVING

LSB 200

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C and His mercy endureth forever.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

SALUTATION

LSB 201

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

BENEDICAMUS

LSB 202

A Bless we the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

HYMN TO DEPART:

#336 LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING *sts. 3–4*

POSTLUDE

Wake, Awake, For Night Is Flying *Paul Manz*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2018 Concordia Publishing House.

Announcements!

The Prayers: In your prayers this week, please remember:

Those in need of the Lord's help with physical struggles:

Angie Carlson —multiple sclerosis; Matthew Gaug (Son of Peter and Evelyn Gaug— Lou Gehrig's Disease); David Klipp (Brother-in-law of Sharon Klipp (recovery from Myasthenia Gravis disease); Jonathan Milhous (Nephew of Sharon Conover—autism with seizures); Megan Huesers (diabetes); Robert Sieber (heart/hip issues); Eleanor Keefe—problem with her eyes; Al Monray (friend of Krys Paules—leukemia); Alen Rowe (friend of Krys Paules—prostate cancer); Dave Willman (friend of Krys Paules—rare heart disease); Lucille (Former co-worker of Krys Paules—alzheimers); Corry Klipp (Sharon's sister-in-law—Alzheimer's); Debbie Knight (Cousin of Laverne Pelletier—healing from transverse myelitis); Virgil Tilton (Friend of Moe and Becky Cote—cancer); Natalie Crowley (recovery from broken hip); Melba Larsen (Mark Larsen's mother—recovery from stroke); Don Pryor (recovery from stroke); Brett Lambert (friend of Maira Goldsmith—heart defect); Robert Drageland (Brother of Rick Drageland—dementia); Beck Keefe (blood disorder); Andrea (friend of Keefe's—cancer); Allen Treadwell (Michelle Hein's father—cancer); Donna Treadwell (Michelle Hein's step-mother—dementia); Russ Morris (David Morris' father—recovery from illness); Peter Doran (recovery from heart problems); Lois Doran (recovery from cancer); Joan Drageland (recovery from illness); Vary Fischer (recovery from leg infection); Angela Gibbs (friend of Tom and Katie Huesers—recovery from stroke); Abigail Quinlivan (Daughter of co-worker of Chris Batson—Leukemia); Melinda Penner (friend of Charlie MacPherson—recovery from head injury); Vicky Lesmerises (friend of Krys Paules—cancer); Cathy York (friend of Jenifer MacPherson—cancer); Nathanael Batson (successful treatments for tumors); Warren Waltz (friend of Jenifer MacPherson—colon cancer); Paula Collins (friend of Gail Carrano – shoulder surgery); Becky Cote (successful treatment for heart disease); Mo Cote (cancer treatment); Cecilia Foss (niece of James Breslin – recovery from back surgery); Aubri Brooks (friend of Maira Goldsmith – eye disease); Gail Carrano (recovery from surgery); Geraldine Abinader (Sister of Joan Drageland – dementia); Kemp Anderson (recovery from back surgery); Donna Baker (Cousin of James Breslin – recovery); Becky Sue Collins (friend of Gail Carrano – tumor).

Those in need of the Lord's help with aging / life struggles:

Joan Nielsen (Mother of pastor Nielsen); Ruth Kennedy (Grandmother of Christine Thomas); James Wright (Father of Becky Cote); Elfie Wright (Stepmother of Becky Cote); Glenna Wright (Mother of Becky Cote).

The Flowers are given to the Glory of God by Sharon Klipp.

Sunday Morning Bible Class and Sunday School

For all ages from 10-10:30am every Sunday. The kids will meet in the Fellowship Hall and the adults will meet in the Sanctuary.

Thursday Bible Study

10:30am in the Fellowship Hall

6:00pm via Zoom.

If you would like to be added to the weekly email list for this class, please contact Pastor Akers.

How Do I Consider Membership In This Congregation?

Twice a year, pastor Akers teaches a 9 week "Inquirer's Class" for everyone who would like to know what we believe, teach and confess. This class is the entryway into the congregation for everyone who would like to become a member or simply find out more. Please see pastor Akers to sign up now.

Prayers for Worship

For a selection of prayers for worship, please see the inside front cover of the Lutheran Service Book and/or pages 305-318 in your hymnal.

Devotion During the Distribution

The greatest treasure and the highest comfort we Christians have is the fact that the Word, the true, natural Son of God, has become a man who in every respect has flesh and blood as any other man for our sake that we may be raised to the great glory of having our flesh and blood, our entire body, with all its parts and members, sit in heaven above, like God; that we may boldly defy the devil and whatever assails us. For now we are certain that our bodies belong in heaven and are heirs of the kingdom of heaven. (Martin Luther. Sermon on John 1:14.)

Christmas Worship Schedule

Christmas Eve - Lessons and Carols

Thursday- 12/24 - 2:00 pm, 4:00pm, and 6:00pm

Christmas Day - Divine Service of the Nativity

Friday - 12/25 - 10:00am.

1st Sunday After Christmas

Sunday - 12/27 - 8:30am and 10:45am

Sunday School / Bible Study In Recess

In The Service Of God's House Today:

Acolyte: 10:45 Evan Farr
Comm. Assist: 8:30 Glenn Carlson
10:45 Mark Larsen
Ushers: 8:30 Tyler Wilson
10:45 Wayne Pelletier
Cantor: 8:30 Jared Goldsmith
10:45 Allison Farr
Greeters: 8:30 Sharon Conover
10:45 The Farr Family
Flowers: Sharon Klipp
Altar Guild: Amy Ouellette

In The Service Of God's House Christmas Eve: 12/24/20

Acolyte: 2:00 Open
4:00 Mia Fitzpatrick
6:00 Emily Carlson
Ushers: 2:00 Open
4:00 Glenn Carlson Sr & Brad Fitzpatrick
6:00 Glenn Carlson Jr & Chris Batson
Greeters: 2:00 Open
4:00 Sharon Klipp
6:00 The Batsons
Flowers: Sharon Klipp

In The Service Of God's House Christmas Day: 12/25/20

Comm. Assist: Chris Batson
Ushers: John Ayotte
Cantor: Sharon Conover
Flowers: Sharon Klipp
Altar Guild: Sasha Fitzpatrick

In The Service Of God's House Next Sunday: 12/27/20

Acolyte: 10:45 Andrew Farr
Ushers: 8:30 Rick Drageland
10:45 John Ayotte
Cantor: 8:30 Jared Goldsmith
10:45 Steve Farr
Greeters: 8:30 The Dragelands
10:45 The Cotes
Flowers: Sharon Klipp
Altar Guild: Krista Carlson

Daily Lectionary Readings for this Week: *Read the bible every day.*

12/20 Isaiah 40:18-41:10 / Revelation 8:1-13
12/21 Isaiah 42:1-25 / Revelation 9:1-12
12/22 Isaiah 43:1-24 / Revelation 9:13-10:11
12/23 Isaiah 43:25-44:20 / Revelation 11:1-19
12/24 Isaiah 44:21-45:13, 20-25 / Revelation 12:1-17
12/25 Isaiah 49:1-18 / Matthew 1:1-17
12/26 Isaiah 49:22-26; 50:4-51:8, 12-16 / Matthew 1:18-25
(Daily lectionary readings taken from LSB #299-304)

Some helpful habits for home devotions:

- *Keep a journal or make a mental note of one thought that you would like to remember from this reading.*
- *Read and discuss the daily reading with a family member or friend.*
- *Choose one verse to commit to memory, reciting it through the day.*
- *Speak to God in prayer about something from the reading that impressed or confused you.*