

Redeemer Lutheran Church & Child Care

6465 Mayport Road
Englewood, FL 34224

Church Office Phone: 475-2410 Child Care Phone: 475-2631

Pastor: Rev. James T. Kress, Sr.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

December 24, 2009

Prelude

Call to Worship

Please stand

The Processional Hymn: *“Of the Father's Love Begotten”*

(Pastor only)

1 *Of the Father's love begotten
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.*

4 *Now let young and old uniting
Chant to Him harmonious praise
Maid and matron hymn Thy glory,
Infant lips their anthem raise,
Boys and girls together singing
With pure heart their song of praise
Evermore and evermore.*

(Pastor with Choir only)

2 *This is He whom seers in old time
Chanted of with one accord,
Whom the voices of the prophets
Promised in their faithful word.
Now He shines, the long-expected;
Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.*

5 *O ye heights of Heaven, adore Him;
Angel hosts, His praises sing.
Powers, dominions, bow before Him
And extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Every voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore.*

(All sing)

3 *O how blest that wondrous birthday
When the maid the curse retrieved
Brought to birth mankind's salvation
By the Holy Ghost conceived
And the Babe the world's Redeemer
In her loving arms received
Evermore and evermore.*

6 *Christ, to Thee, with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
And unending praises be,
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory
Evermore and evermore. Amen.*

The Invocation

The sign of the cross T may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

C **Amen.**

The Opening Versicles

P O Lord, open my lips,

C **and my mouth will declare Your praise.** *Psalm 51:15*

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C **make haste to help me, O Lord.** *Psalm 70:1*

**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.
Praise to You, O Christ, King who comes to save us.**

The Collect of the Day

P O Lord, hear my prayer.

C **And let my cry come to You.** *Psalm 102:1*

P O God, You make us glad with the yearly remembrance of the birth of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Grant that as we joyfully receive Him as our Redeemer, we may with sure confidence behold Him when He comes to be our Judge; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Please sit

The First Lesson

Isaiah 7:10–17

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, ¹¹“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

P The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The Christmas Carol:

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

1 *O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.*

*Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

2 *O come, Thou Wisdom from on high,
Who ord’rest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.
(Refrain)*

3 *O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,
Who to Thy tribes on Sinai’s height
In ancient times didst give the Law
In cloud and majesty and awe.
(Refrain)*

4 *O come, Thou Branch of Jesse’s tree,
Free them from Satan’s tyranny
That trust Thy mighty pow’r to save,
And give them vict’ry o’er the grave.
(Refrain)*

5 *O come, Thou Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav’nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
(Refrain)*

6 *O come, Thou Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death’s dark shadows put to flight.
(Refrain)*

7 *O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of all mankind;
Bid Thou our sad divisions cease,
And be Thyself our King of Peace.
(Refrain)*

The Second Lesson

Isaiah 9:2–7

² The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined. ³ You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. ⁴ For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. ⁵ For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. ⁶ For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

P The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

and a Blessed and Happy New Year!

Thursday, December 31st – 7:00 PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY – No Service



*The Angel Announces the Good News of Great Joy
For Unto You the Savior is Born.*

A Merry Christmas to All

The Christmas Carol:

“The People That in Darkness Sat”

- 1 *The people that in darkness sat
A glorious light have seen;
The light has shined on them who long
In shades of death have been,
In shades of death have been.*
 - 2 *To hail Thee, Sun of Righteousness,
The gath’ring nations come;
They joy as when the reapers bear
Their harvest treasures home,
Their harvest treasures home.*
 - 3 *To us a Child of hope is born,
To us a Son is giv’n,
And on His shoulder ever rests
All pow’r in earth and heav’n,
All pow’r in earth and heav’n.*
 - 4 *His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
The Everlasting Lord,
The Wonderful, the Counselor,
The God by all adored,
The God by all adored.*
 - 5 *His righteous government and pow’r
Shall over all extend;
On judgment and on justice based,
His reign shall have no end,
His reign shall have no end.*
- (Please stand)*
- 6 *Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray,
And make us Thine alone,
Who with the Father ever art
And Holy Spirit, one,
And Holy Spirit, one.*

Please sit

The Third Lesson

Micah 5:2–5a

²But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. ³Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. ⁴And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. ⁵And he shall be their peace.

P The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The Christmas Carol:

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

- 1 *O little town of Bethlehem,
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years*
- 2 *Are met in thee tonight.
For Christ is born of Mary,
And, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wond’ring love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,*

*And praises sing to God the king
And peace to all the earth!*

3 *How silently, how silently
The wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him, still*

The dear Christ enters in.

4 *O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel!*

Luke 1:26–38

The Fourth Lesson

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 The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The Christmas Carol: *"The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came"* Pastor & Lisa Kress

The Fifth Lesson *Matthew 1:18–25*

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you

*Ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth. (Refrain)*

SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOUSE TODAY:

Elder on Duty: 4:30 PM – Ron Beaber, 7:00 PM – Roger Luedtke
Acolyte: 4:30 AM – Haley Scott, 7:00 PM – Matthew Geist
Organist: 4:30 PM - Bill Bowers, 7:00 PM – Doris Dykhuizen
Altar Guild: Linda Rogers & Jonti Lute
Ushers: 4:30 PM – Lisa Vassallo, Harold Hale, Ray Janssen, Olga Nagel
7:00 PM –Ed & Loretta Grobe, Cecil & Sybil Grahl
Choir Director: Doris Dykhuizen

Special thanks to all who supplied the poinsettia for the beautification of the sanctuary:

Ron & Mary Beaber
Georgette Callahan
Barbara Duff
Ed & Ginny Doenges
Cecil & Sybil Grahl
Ed & Loretta Grobe
Jane Hardy
Carol Haupt
Bernice Heppner
Carolyn Jordan
Tom & Karen Kirkland
Pastor & Lisa Kress
Gary & Jonti Lute
Charles & Elaine Malecki



June & Sheridan Markert
Lee & Steve Procuk
Dennis & Pamela
Replinger
Earl & Lanette Schmidt

Jane Schurr
Ed & Carol Sheahan
John & Karen Sleichert
Carol Spooner
Jennifer Steele
Ray & Leta Stender
Earl & Avis Stuck
Marion & Marie Talley
Mary & Jim Turner
Rick & Lisa Vassallo
Martha Winters
Warren & Lori Winters

2009 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE WITH COMMUNION:

Friday, December 25th – 9:15 AM

NEW YEAR'S EVE:

**but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

The candles are carefully extinguished

The Concluding Collect

P The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*
C **And also with you.**

P Almighty and everlasting God, King of Glory, and Lord of heaven and earth, by whose Spirit all things are governed, by whose providence all things are ordered, the God of peace and the author of all concord, grant us, we implore You, Your heavenly peace and concord that we may serve You in true fear, to the praise and glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen.**

The Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1

P Let us bless the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

The Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

P The grace of our Lord T Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C **Amen.**

The Closing Christmas Carol: “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

<p>1 <i>Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King; Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!” Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies; With the_angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”</i></p>	<p>2 <i>Christ, by highest heav’n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin’s womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the_incarnate Deity! Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel! (Refrain)</i></p>
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*Refrain Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”*

3 *Hail, the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,*

shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”²²All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³“Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us).²⁴When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife,²⁵but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

P The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

The Christmas Carol: “Away in a Manger”

1 *Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.
The stars in the [bright] sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

2 *The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.*

3 *Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.*

Please stand

The Sixth Lesson

Luke 2:1–14

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this

day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

The Christmas Carol: *“Angels We Have Heard on High”*

1 *Angels we have heard on high,
Sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
Echoing their joyous strains.*

*Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

2 *Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heav’nly song?
(Refrain)*

3 *Come to Bethlehem and see
Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
(Refrain)*

Please sit

The Sermon: *“The Story of the Savior Born”*

Gathering of Tithes and Offerings:
(Choir – 7:00 PM – “While by Our Sleeping Flock We Lay”)

The Lighting of the Candles

The white candle in the wreath symbolizes Christ, the Light of the world. The ushers will light their candles from this candle, and then they will light the candle of each worshipper nearest the outside aisles, while Pastor will light the candle of each worshipper nearest the center aisle. The lighted candle should never be tilted, but should

always be held upright when giving light to another candle. After candles have been lit, the lights are dimmed and all sing ...

Please stand

The Seventh Lesson *Luke 2:15–20*

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P The Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

The Christmas Carol: *“Silent Night, Holy Night”*

1 <i>Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy Infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.</i>	2 <i>Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight; Glories stream from heaven afar, Heav’nly hosts sing, Alleluia! Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!</i>
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3 *Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love’s pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.*

The Lord’s Prayer *Matthew 6:9-13*

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold 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,**