

**CHRIST OUR REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA**

37 Warner Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07305

***The Reverend Kimberly Vaughn, Pastor***

Church: 201-433-1836 Fax: 201-433-1865

email: [pastor@christourredeemer.net](mailto:pastor@christourredeemer.net)

Website: **RedeemerLutheranJC.com**

Facebook: **RedeemerLutheranChurchJerseyCity**

Worship Service – 9:30 AM

Zoom Meeting ID: 881 4746 6449; Password: 348873

Phone: 1-646-558-8656

**December 24, 2023**

4th Sunday in Advent

**WELCOME VISITORS!**

We are delighted that you are worshipping today at Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church. May your experience with God here be a blessing!

ACCESS FOR ALL: While we stand often during the service, please assume a posture of reverence which you are able or comfortable. A wheelchair accessible restroom is located in the Parish Hall through the kitchen. If you'd like Communion brought to your seat, our Pastor will gladly assist you. Activity bulletins are available for young worshippers (see ushers or Pastor).

***How do I find worship music?***

ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (the red book in your pew)

LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship (the green book in your pew)

Find us online at:

**Website:** **RedeemerLutheranJC.com**

**Facebook:** **[www.facebook.com/RedeemerLutheranJerseyCity](https://www.facebook.com/RedeemerLutheranJerseyCity)**

Have questions? Interested in baptism or membership?

Please speak with our ***Pastor Kimberly Vaughn*** after service

Or, call 201.433.1836

Prelude

Welcome

**GATHERING**

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*Please stand as you are comfortable.*

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who opens the heavens  
and draws near to us with salvation.

**C: Amen.**

P: God is patient and merciful, desiring all to come to repentance.  
Trusting this promise of grace, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P: Everlasting God,

**C: you love justice and you hate wrongdoing. We confess the fear, greed, and self-centeredness that make us reluctant to work against oppression. We are complicit in systems of exploitation. We choose comfort over courage. We are careless with creation's bounty. Look upon us with mercy. Turn our hearts again to you. Make us glad to do your will and to walk in your ways for the sake of our waiting world.**

P: Hear these words of assurance: God clothes you with garments of salvation and covers you with robes of righteousness. In the tender compassion of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. God's covenant is eternal, and God's blessing rests upon us all.

**C: Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn:**

My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness (ELW 251)

**Apostolic Greeting**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

## **Kyrie**

A: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord have mercy.**

A: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord have mercy.**

A: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord have mercy.**

A: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord have mercy.**

A: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen**

## **Hymn of Praise**

A: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

**C: Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father: We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## **Salutation**

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

## **Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray...

Front page of the *Celebrate* Insert

### ***The Lighting of the Advent Wreath***

*Praise to you, O God, who holds our joy and sorrow. You bring water to parched ground and life out of death. Bless us as this light grows, and send sorrow and sighing to flee away. Give us strength and patience, trusting that you are true to your promises. Transform the lives of all who suffer with your wonders near at hand. Amen.*

## WORD

### Lessons in *Celebrate* Insert

|                |                     |
|----------------|---------------------|
| First Reading  | 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 |
| Psalmody       | Luke 1:46b-55       |
| Second Reading | Romans 16:25-27     |
| Gospel         | Luke 1:26-38        |

*(In honor of God's Good News to us in Jesus, we stand or assume a posture of reverence to receive the reading of the Gospel.)*

**C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

*Please be seated.*

### Children's Time

The Reverend Kimberly Vaughn

*(Children are welcome to come forward for a special message.)*

### Sermon

The Reverend Kimberly Vaughn

*Please stand as you are comfortable.*

### Hymn of the Day:

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (ELW 257)

### The Nicene Creed

P: Let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.

**C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,**

Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### Prayers of Intercession

Back page of the *Celebrate* Insert

## MEAL

### Greeting of Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

*(We share a sign of Christ's peace—a wave, handshake, smile, hug—however you are comfortable!)*

*Please be seated.*

### Offering & Offertory Music

*(In response to hearing God's Word, we respond with joy in our offering.)*

*Please stand as able.*

**C: Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all, unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

### Offertory Prayer

P: Blessed are you, Holy One, for all good things come from you. In bread and cup you open heaven to us. Meet us at this table, that we receive what we seek and follow your Son, Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

## The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, Lord God of pow' r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

## Words of Institution

P: In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks, broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it for all to drink saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

**C. Amen**

## The Lord's Prayer

P: Let us pray as Jesus taught...

**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**

P: At Jesus' table, heaven and earth are joined as one. Come and see.

*Please be seated.*

**C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

**Communion Hymn:**

Now Behold the Lamb (ELW 341)

**Distribution of Communion**

*(Please bring the communion back to your seat to eat and drink. Someone will collect the cups afterwards.)*

*Please stand as able.*

**Post-Communion Canticle:**

God is So Good

*GOD IS SO GOOD, GOD IS SO GOOD, GOD IS SO GOOD, HE'S SO GOOD TO ME.*

*HE CARES FOR ME, HE CARES FOR ME, HE CARES FOR ME, HE'S SO GOOD TO ME.*

*HE'S ALL I NEED, HE'S ALL I NEED, HE'S ALL I NEED, HE'S SO GOOD TO ME.*

P: Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

*Please be seated.*

-  
**Announcements**

*(Please see the last page.)*

**SENDING**

*Please stand as you are comfortable.*

**Benediction**

P: The God of peace bless you, the love of Christ sustain you in hope, and the anointing of the Spirit ✠ remain upon you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn

Joy to the World (ELW 267)

Closing Anthem

Jesus Remember Me

**Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Keep awake.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**Please Remember Our Sick and Shut-Ins:**

|                     |                      |              |
|---------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Deborah Frazier     | Jersey City, NJ      | 201-333-0707 |
| James Gumbs         | Jersey City, NJ      | 646-940-3464 |
| Joe Heard, Sr.      | Linden, NJ           | 201-725-5231 |
| Jonathan Strong Sr. | Jersey City, NJ      | 551-580-5759 |
| Juanita Larkins     | North Plainfield, NJ | 201-798-3460 |
| Kate Fauder         | Jersey City, NJ      | 201-333-5752 |
| Kathy Connally      | Jersey City, NJ      | 201-451-9057 |
| Louise Givens       | Jersey City, NJ      | 201-432-1486 |
| Maggie Graves       | Jersey City, NJ      | 201-434-2251 |
| Rabone Goolserran   | Jersey City, NJ      | 201-432-8215 |
| Sylvia Bishran      | Jersey City, NJ      | 201-492-8108 |
| Vernon Goolserran   | Jersey City, NJ      | 201-432-8215 |
| Yvonne Grant        | Jersey City, NJ      | 973-444-2266 |

**Worship Participants**

|           |                                   |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| Ministers | The People of Christ Our Redeemer |
| Pastor    | Reverend Kimberly Vaughn          |
| Pianist   | Kim Norton                        |
| Lector    | Timekia Carter                    |
| Counters  | Timekia Carter and Ed Price       |
| Usher     | Jakiya Carter                     |

Thank you to those who assisted in today's worship.



## OUR PARISH CALENDAR

### December Birthdays:

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Rylee Jefferson   | 5 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Selena Carter     | 5 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Christine English | 8 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Kyra Pugh         | 18 <sup>th</sup> |
| Wanda Fluellen    | 26 <sup>th</sup> |

### December Baptismal Anniversaries:

|                        |                  |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Corey Brooks           | 4 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Pastor Kimberly Vaughn | 9 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Jameka Carter          | 27 <sup>th</sup> |

### Worship Assistants for 12/31/2023

|           |                              |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| Lector:   | Carla Parker                 |
| Counters: | Carla Parker and Joan Narain |
| Usher:    | Jakiya Carter                |

### Worship Assistants for 1/7/2024

|           |                             |
|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Lector:   | Bai-Eyse Pugh               |
| Counters: | TBD                         |
| Usher:    | Wanda Fluellen and Ed Price |

### Worship Assistants for 1/14/2024

|           |                             |
|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Lector:   | Joan Narain                 |
| Counters: | Wanda Fluellen and TBD      |
| Usher:    | Wanda Fluellen and Ed Price |

### Worship Assistants for 1/21/2024

|           |                             |
|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Lector:   | Joy Griggs                  |
| Counters: | Joy Griggs and TBD          |
| Usher:    | Wanda Fluellen and Ed Price |

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

### Congregational:

- On Friday, January 19 @6:00 pm, the British Swim School will be here to present on the importance of swimming for adults and children. Refreshments will be provided.
- *GOOD NEWS!* The installation service for Pastor Kimberly Vaughn will be Saturday, January 27, 2024 at 11 am here at Christ Our Redeemer. All are welcome. Refreshments will follow the service.
- For those participating in the Sight & Sound bus trip on March 16, 2024, please remember that final payment is due no later than January 15, 2024. Please see Timekia to make a payment.
- *BIBLE STUDY:* Beginning Thursday, January 11, join us weekly at 6:30 p.m. for study and conversation on “Daily Discipleship”. See Pastor Kimberly for details.
- *HOLY BAPTISM:* If you or your child are interested in being baptized, the first “Festival of Baptism” will be Sunday, January 14th, the week we celebrate the baptism of Our Lord. We will meet after church January 7 for preparation. The next dates will be Feb. 11 (Transfiguration Sunday) and March 31 (Easter). Please see Pastor Kimberly!
- *FIRST COMMUNION:* Do you have a child ready to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion? Please see Pastor Kimberly about upcoming classes.
- Happy Birthday to Wanda Fluellen!
- Please see page 9 for the list of upcoming worship assistants.

### NJ Synod and Community:

- The 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering will take place July 16-20, 2024 in New Orleans. Registration fee is \$425 through February 14th. Late fee (Feb. 15—April 15) is \$475. MYLE and tAble registration fee is \$190 (Waived restriction apply). A \$150 nonrefundable and registration fee are due at sign-up.

***125<sup>th</sup> YEAR OF WITNESS AND SERVICE TO CHRIST  
THROUGH GOD’S WORD,  
THE LIGHT AND THE TRUTH,  
WE INVITE ALL TO GROW IN CHRIST***

*† Connected to Christ † Connected to Each Other † Connected to Community*