



## **Second Sunday in Advent**

December 5, 2021

### **Our Redeemer Lutheran Church**

Prospect Heights, IL

Office: 847-537-4430

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

*Rev. Jim Kirschenmann, Vacancy Pastor*

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*Because Online Communion is not something we practice in the LCMS,  
please contact the Church Office to receive Individual Communion from your pastor.*

## AS WE GATHER

“Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding” (LSB 345) is a cherished Advent hymn. That thrilling voice is that of John the Baptist crying out in the wilderness, “The Savior is near! The kingdom of God is near! Repent, and live out your new life in Christ! Produce fruits worthy of repentance!” In many ways, we still live in the wilderness. Our nation continues to polarize, causing us to lose friends and feel as though we are alone in the world. Many of us walk through the wilderness of serious disease, job loss, or watching our children or grandchildren walk away from faith. There is also the self-created wilderness of our own sin—the damage we have done in relationships with others. But John’s thrilling words bring us hope. While we are powerless to make it through the wilderness ourselves, God is powerful and sees us through. By the gift of repentance in turning to Him in our desperation and pain, God restores a right relationship to us and then sets us free to bear fruit worthy of repentance. We are not stuck. God can change and restore us! A thrilling voice indeed!

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

### OPENING HYMN “HARK! A THRILLING VOICE IS SOUNDING”

#345



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! “Christ is  
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the  
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - spect - ed, Comes with  
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the  
△ 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near,” we hear it say. “Cast a - way the  
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all  
par - don down from heav’n. Let us haste, with  
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us  
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!”  
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.  
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv’n;  
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.  
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text and tune: Public domain

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

## INVOCATION

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## EXHORTATION

LSB 203

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

LSB 203

**C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

## ABSOLUTION

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### INTROIT

*Psalm 81:8, 10–11, 13; antiphon: Luke 3:4b*

The voice of one crying in the wilderness:  
“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”  
Hear, O my people, while I admonish you!  
O Israel, if you would but listen to me!  
I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.  
Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.  
But my people did not listen to my voice;  
Israel would not submit to me.  
Oh, that my people would listen to me,  
that Israel would walk in my ways!  
**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.**

The voice of one crying in the wilderness:  
“Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”

## KYRIE

LSB 204

- C** Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.

- P** Let us pray.  
Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

*Sit*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Malachi 3:1–7b*

<sup>1</sup>“Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. <sup>3</sup>He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

<sup>5</sup>“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

<sup>6</sup>“For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. <sup>7</sup>From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them.”

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE

*Philippians 1:2–11*

<sup>2</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup>always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, <sup>5</sup>because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to feel

this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, <sup>10</sup>so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup>filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE

*LSB 205*

**C** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 3:1–14*

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

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>4</sup>As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.

<sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled,  
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,  
and the crooked shall become straight,  
and the rough places shall become level ways,  
<sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

<sup>7</sup>He said therefore to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. <sup>9</sup>Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

<sup>10</sup>And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” <sup>11</sup>And he answered them, “Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise.”

<sup>12</sup>Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, “Teacher, what shall we do?” <sup>13</sup>And he said to them, “Collect no more than you are authorized to do.”

<sup>14</sup>Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what shall we do?” And he said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## HYMN OF THE DAY “ON JORDAN’S BANK THE BAPTIST’S CRY”

#344



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es  
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the  
3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge  
4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the  
△ 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,  
way for God with - in, And let us all our  
and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we  
fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry  
sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.  
waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.  
we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

### 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 ✝ of the world to come. Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**P** Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend *Hedy, Jean, Kathleen, Ray, Sallyann, Wally, Dana, Kaylee, Jean, Jen, John, Leah, Rod, Pastor Jim* and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

### PREFACE

LSB 208

- 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 truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### SANCTUS

LSB 208



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

Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san - na in the high - est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;  
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your boundless mercy You sent Your servant, John the Baptist, to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of heaven draws near.

With thankful hearts we pray, “Come, Lord Jesus,” confident that in His body and blood, given us to eat and drink, we receive the forgiveness of sins and so proclaim His death until He comes again in glory.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## LORD’S PRAYER

**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

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✝}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new

testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

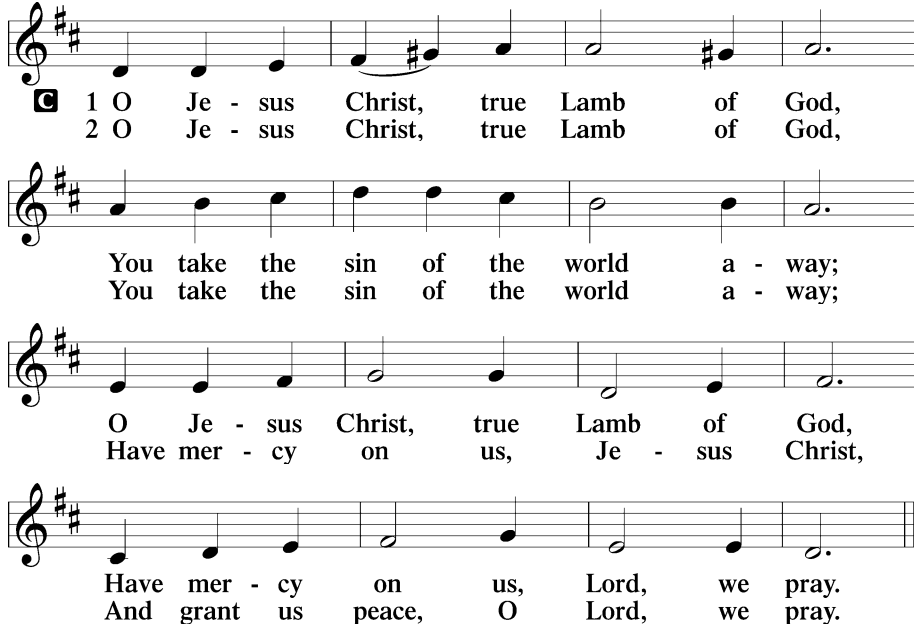
## PAX DOMINI

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

**C** Amen.

## AGNUS DEI

LSB 210



**C** 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

## DISTRIBUTION

## NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 211



**C** 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All  
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the  
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;  
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is  
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

**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.

**BENEDICAMUS**

LSB 212

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

**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 HYMN “FROM ALL THAT DWELL BELOW THE SKIES”**

#816

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies Let the Cre - a - tor's  
 2 E - ter - nal are Thy mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal truth at -  
 Δ 3 All praise to God the Fa - ther be, All praise, e - ter - nal

praise a - rise; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 tends Thy Word. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 Son, to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung Through ev - 'ry land by  
 Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and  
 Whom with the Spir - it we a - dore For - ev - er and for -

ev - 'ry tongue. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 set no more. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
 ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## Weekly Announcements

### Wednesday @ NOON Pastor-Led Bible Studies

Pastor-led Bible Study has resumed on Wednesdays at 12:00 pm online.

**ACTS: A study of Growth in the Church.** This means growth in Christian attitudes, insights, and skills for Christian living. The focus of this course will be the church and the world of our day. The guiding question will be this: *What does the Lord teach us for life today through the book of Acts?* Join us online on Wednesday evenings, 12 pm at <https://Koinonia.ClickMeeting.com/Acts> (or visit there for the recorded sessions).

### Prayer Request Information:

If you have a prayer request, please notify Jim Burmeister via text at (847) 343-3798, Phone: (847)934-5963 or via email: [elder@ourredeemerprospectheights.org](mailto:elder@ourredeemerprospectheights.org).

### Email address for Pastor Jim:

If you would like to send an email to Pastor Jim, please use the following address:

[Pastor@ourredeemerprospectheights.org](mailto:Pastor@ourredeemerprospectheights.org)

### Website

Our website: [ourredeemerprospectheights.org](http://ourredeemerprospectheights.org) contains links for in person worship registration, Livestream online worship, Bible Studies, Bulletins and Monthly News, and Online Giving. Check it often.

### Lessons and Carols: A Concert

Faith Lutheran Church, Arlington Heights is proud to present...

***Lessons and Carols: A Concert.*** Traditional, Contemporary and Spiritual carols will be presented by the Choir, Handbells and Praise Team. This event will take place Sunday December 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm at Faith Lutheran Church, 431 S. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights, IL. Free will offering at the door. Faith is Handicap accessible.

### Poinsettia Orders

If you would like to help beautify the Sanctuary for Christmas Eve, Poinsettia orders are now being accepted. We are offering two size options this year. The medium size is 6.5 for \$10 and the large size is 8.0 for \$15. If interested, please fill out an order envelope found at the Welcome Center. Cash and checks will be accepted (checks can be made payable to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church). Please return orders and payments to Laurie in the Church Office by 12:00 noon on Tuesday December 16<sup>th</sup>.

### Wheeling Food Pantry Wish List

The Wheeling Township food pantry is in need of the following items: Beans (White Northern or Cannellini), Carrots, Cream Soups (Cream of Mushroom, Celery and Chicken), Juices (quart size bottles) and Paper Towels. Items need to be dropped off at the Wheeling Township office located at 1616 N Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights. Questions can be directed to Julie Villarreal at 847-259-7730.

### THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who took the time last Friday to help prepare our Church and Preschool for the Advent Season. The decorating job looks absolutely beautiful and we really appreciate all of your extra effort during this busy time of year.

### Sonshine Preschool News

We would like to thank those who purchased wreathes, etc. during our recent Christmas Wreath fundraiser. All proceeds from this fundraiser go directly towards purchasing supplies for the Sonshine students. We hope you enjoy decorating your homes with these beautiful wreathes.

■ The Sonshine Staff

### THANK YOU!

For those of you who contributed towards the Wheeling Township Gift Card Program for families in need, we say, THANK YOU! We will be purchasing gift cards for the Township to deliver to those in need in our community. We hope and pray that this helps some families during the Holidays.

### **Coffee-And...**

We will continue holding "Coffee-And..." on a weekly basis.  
Feel free to bring treats. Coffee will be provided for you.

## **December Happenings**

December 1 – 12:00 pm Adult Bible Study – Online  
7:00 pm Midweek Worship - Online

December 5 – 9:00 am Second Sunday in Advent with Communion

December 8 – 12:00 pm Adult Bible Study - Online  
7:00 pm Midweek Worship - Online

December 12 – 9:00 am Third Sunday in Advent No Communion  
10:15 am Voter's Meeting

December 15 – 12:00 pm Adult Bible Study - Online  
7:00 pm Midweek Worship - Online

December 19 – 9:00 am Fourth Sunday in Advent with Communion  
3:00 pm Aspired Worship

December 22 – 12:00 pm Adult Bible Study - Online  
7:00 pm Midweek Worship - Online

December 24 – 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Worship with Communion

December 26 – 9:00 am First Sunday After Christmas No Communion

December 29 - 12:00 pm Adult Bible Study - Online