



Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
*Transforming Lives and Building Community by
Loving God and Serving Others*



Worship YouTube
Click [HERE](#)

Sunday Connection
Time 11:00 AM
Click [HERE](#)

Online Offerings
Click [HERE](#)

Keeping Us Tied Together!

November 12, 2020

Sunday's Worship Service, November 15 - No In-Person Services (Instead, view on [YouTube](#).)

Worship Changes Ahead and Other Events for November and December

With continual news reports about Minnesota COVID cases rising, many schools closing in-person classes, restrictions being narrowed on group gatherings, anticipated new measures coming from the state, and mostly our desire to ensure strong care for our faith community, we have made the decision to return to **only having online worship during the remaining Sundays in November**. This means that the services on **November 15, 22 and 29**, we invite you to use *YouTube* (search for Our Redeemer in St. Paul, MN) to view and participate in worship at 10:00 a.m. or any time after that when it's convenient for you. At the end of November, we will have further conversations about plans for **December worship** – for now, the plan is to return to in-person worship in the sanctuary, but for many reasons that may need to change, so we ask you to check the newsletters, website, and Facebook for updates.

Christmas Eve Worship, Connection Time, Small Groups & Other Churches

For now, we are leaning towards having our regular two **Christmas Eve** services with wide spacing and safe practices to be able to worship together at this special time—but stay tuned for updates. We are going to continue to allow the **other churches** and some of **our smaller groups** to meet inside as long as they continue to practice all safety measures we have in place. This is also a reminder that we still provide the nice “coffee hour” conversation, called “**Connection Time**” via *Zoom* every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. that you can join with this link: <https://zoom.us/j/94734592014?pwd=RGk0YVJRT01aL1ROeE1xODVaRXBZUT09>.

Special Notes About Upcoming Services in November

This week, beginning **November 15**, we will lean into our four-year partnership with Kidewa Parish in Tanzania. Usually there is an in-person festival for all St. Paul Area Synod partners (about 60 ELCA Lutheran churches in this area) but, with everything needing to be remote, one special element is a shared worship that has been put together, which we will use for many parts of our worship. Come enjoy and celebrate God's good ministry in Tanzania, including our partnership! *More information can be found at <https://spas-elca.org>.*

On **November 22**, we will enjoy a fuller service with a “contemporary” format, appealing to those who enjoy that style of worship. Then on **November 29**, our service will take on the more “traditional” format to honor those who find that style most appealing. We appreciated the way people have been accepting our recent blended approach to most services and will return to that format in December.

Thanksgiving Eve, there will be no services held, but there may be a short virtual message provided by all the pastors of the three east side churches we usually gather with for a shared Thanksgiving Worship.

Advent, Christmas Quiet Time, View Worship Services, Order Christmas Plants

We are going to add special opportunities during **Advent** for people to be able to both—enjoy a worship service and/or quiet time for their own prayers and devotion. Every Wednesday (**December 2, 9, 16, 23**), we will offer three different opportunities for people to do so. At **11:00 a.m.** and **5:00 p.m.**, we will open the sanctuary for an hour of **Christmas Quiet Time**—come rest with God, enjoy the sanctuary space for quiet reflection and prayer, use it to soak in the deep joy of the season. At **12:00 p.m.**, we will provide a recorded **presentation of the previous week's worship** on the sanctuary's large screen for any who might like to come and use this as a means of Advent worship inside of this space. If these times do not work for you but would like to have this kind of experience at another time, you are welcome to contact the office to possibly make other arrangements. We will also be giving you the opportunity to order Christmas plants in honor or in memory of loved ones. These plants creating our Christmas garden will be a beautiful addition to the sanctuary for those choosing to enjoy our Christmas Quiet Time. Look for the order form in the weeks ahead.

Even when we are apart, we are together in Christ. May our lives always find roots and wings from our engagement in worship.

Pastor Karsten

SUNDAY, November 15 @ 7 PM on ZOOM: God at the Movies 101: SAVED (2004)

Hey all you movie buffs, watch the movie "Saved" (2004) and then hop on Zoom for a lively discussion this Sunday, November 15 at 7:00 p.m. by clicking this link: bitly.com/ORLCmovies

Gingerbread, Peanut Butter Blossoms, Fudge, Rosettes...

Yummy! Now that we have your attention: the *Children, Youth, and Family Team* is looking for bakers for the annual **Christmas Cookie Sale** to be held on **Saturday, December 12 from 9:00-11am**. We will be modifying our sale by offering a pre-order option, drive-thru pick up, and having cookies prepackaged for shoppers to purchase. We are working diligently to maintain appropriate health and safety measures for volunteers and shoppers. Please let Cherie Kilbride know what you plan to bake.

Loaves & Fishes Fundraiser/Grant

If COVID has taught us one thing, it is God is still at work in and through our hands and hearts...and take-out boxes of tasty food. Many in our community are still struggling to make ends meet, get the support their families need, and feel a human connection. And THAT is where ORLC's weekly *Loaves & Fishes* meal has continued to bless those outside (and inside) our doors.

"Really sweet and helpful folks. Every Wednesday. We brought home the chicken meal and goulash for another day plus fresh produce and a wide selection of baked goods. Truly a blessing!" – Chris

"I'm doing cancer treatments and my mom is disabled and you've all been a blessing in our lives. Thank you and God Bless"; - JS

As part of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's (ELCA) response to the COVID-19 pandemic, our congregation is partnering with ELCA World Hunger to raise funds for our feeding ministry through a *Daily Bread Matching Grant*. Funds will help defray the cost of meals and packaging for the 200+ meals we serve each week.

We need your help to make sure we generate the maximum amount of support for our neighbors during this difficult time. ELCA World Hunger is kickstarting our fundraiser with a \$500 grant. With your help, we can raise \$500 or more to match the grant from ELCA World Hunger. We have until Sunday, November 22 to meet our goal. Every gift truly makes a difference -- thank you for your support! To donate, click link below: <https://www.facebook.com/donate/1355904084747847/>

Communion from Home – If you would like to celebrate Communion from home during our first and third Sundays, you are welcome to pick up some consecrated elements (wafer and grape juice in a Celebration Cup) during the week for you to take home for those Sunday Communion services.

Newsletter Update – The weekly newsletter *Keeping Us Tied Together* will now be prepared twice a month – at the beginning and at the middle of the month.

November 2020 Happenings	
Worship Services	Sundays, November 15, 22, 29 – Online Only!
Scriptures & Lectors	November 15: Isaiah 6:1-8 <i>Carol Rodriguez</i> November 22: Jeremiah 36:1-8, 21-23, 27-28; 31:31-34 <i>Dianne Derks</i> November 29: Daniel 6:6-27 <i>Scott Torvi</i>
God at the Movies	November 15 @ 7 p.m. Prior to this time, watch "Saved" (2004) and then join Zoom. By clicking this link: bitly.com/ORLCmovies
Young Adult Collab	November 15 Bonfire at 12 Noon in the church courtyard! (Normally on the 4th Thursdays at 6 p.m. for dinner and conversation but changed due to Thanksgiving.)
Congregational Growth	November 17 Committee to meet on Zoom at 6 p.m.
Knitting & Crocheting	November 19 On the 3rd Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall
Quilting	November 23 On the 2nd and 4th Mondays at 9 a.m.—12 noon in Fellowship Hall.
Happy Thanksgiving	November 26 No services on Thanksgiving Eve or Thanksgiving. (Office closed Thanksgiving Day)

CONNECTING ON ZOOM!

SUNDAYS—ORLC Connection Time

11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

Meeting ID: 947 3459 2014 Passcode: orlc

Or join by phone: 312-626-6799 (long distance charges may apply)



CONTACT US – We are still here for you!

Office is now open Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.,
and Wednesdays 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

651-772-2445 office@orlcmn.org



HOME CHURCH – for Sunday, November 15, 2020

*This is a simple format that allows you—whether by yourself or with others—to take some dedicated time and enjoy the gift of worship in your home setting. If others are with you, the words in **blue** and **green** could be spoken by alternating individuals. Find a quiet place, light a candle, and lift your heart and voice to God.*

Gathering

Jesus Christ is our hope and consolation, our joy and strength, the generous gift of God. – **Now and Always**

We gather in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

(you can make the sign of the cross on your forehead or over your body)

Opening Prayer

King of heaven and earth, as you cleansed Isaiah with a coal of fire to prepare him for proclaiming your word to the world, prepare us, so that we may know your bidding and carry out our callings with eagerness and urgency. Show the world greatness that cannot be contained any more than smoke or fire can be caught, in the name of the one who sacrificed everything to carry out your commands, Jesus Christ our sanctifier. **Amen**

Song – “Here I am Lord” by John Michael Talbot

I, the Lord of sea and sky
I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save
I who made the stars of night
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain

Here I am, Lord
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night
I will go, Lord If You lead me
I will hold Your people in my heart

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them,
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
And give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?

Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame
I will set a feast for them
My hand will save
Finest bread I will provide
'Til their hearts be satisfied
I will give my life to them
Whom shall I send?

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 6:1-8

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." ⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!" ⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

Scripture Reflections and Questions

Isaiah comes to terms that are not easy to accept or admit. He is a sinner. He is unclean. And in the midst of that realization it is interesting that he doesn't ask for forgiveness – maybe he feels too far away from God? Have you ever felt that same way? But then the image in this dream is that a coal touches his lips and marks him as clean/forgiven/renewed. Our life is always lived in response to God's reclaiming and renewing us.

In our days of faith, we frequently fall back on the idea and understanding and experience of God as close and personal. We know this to be true especially with the gift of Jesus to come live amongst us and the giving of the Holy Spirit. But there is another aspect of God that is important to hold and that is the otherness of God. Today Isaiah is struck by the wide chasm that rests between God and us – and holding that truth is important for faith.

Prayers

Pray silently or out loud (one option is: “Thank you Jesus for....” and “Help me Jesus with....”)

Here is a set of prayers you may use from freedfromfreedfor.org

God of life, we praise you for your abiding presence from generation to generation, blessing your people, strengthening us to lives of service, empowering us to witness. Hear the prayers we offer:

Lord, send your church out into the world to proclaim your glory and practice your self-sacrificial love. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, send us out into your creation with hearts of care and a deep desire to protect what you have so wonderfully made. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, use leaders who will protect the widow, the orphan, and the resident alien. Bless those just elected to positions of leadership and service for the state & country. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, send your spirit of hope into the lives of those who are despairing and help them to know your presence. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, send your healing spirit upon all who are suffering or in any pain, bring them your wholeness and peace. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, blot out our sin and send us forth into the world to bear witness to your activity in our lives and in the world around us. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant that as we serve you now on earth, so we may one day rejoice with all the saints in your kingdom of light and peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Other prayers may be included for yourself, our church and the world, for our partner congregation in Tanzania – Kidewa (and their six other churches), those elected into service for our communities and country, the stewardship drive, and generosity of members to sustain and carry out strong and vital ministry in 2021.

Into your capable hands we commend all of these prayers, and place our trust in your faithfulness to answer them in whatever way you choose, for the sake of your son Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. **Amen.**

Benediction

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord's face shine down upon you with grace and mercy. May the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. **Thanks be to God!**

