



# ROYAL REDEEMER

AN LCMS CONGREGATION

December 21, 2025  
9:00am Worship



## What's in a Name: Immanuel

(Brian Schneck - Seminary Student)

*How do we Abound in Hope in dark and stormy times?*

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent - December 21, 2025

9:00am Order of Worship

What's in a Name: Emmanuel

Prelude / Welcome

357 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel sts. 1, ref. 6-7

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som  
6 O come, Thou Day - spring from on high, And cheer us  
7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In one the

cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly  
by Thy draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y  
hearts of all man - kind; Bid Thou our sad di -

ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.  
vi - sions cease, And be Thy - self our King of Peace.

*Refrain*

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el

Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

**Invocation & Confession**

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

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your**

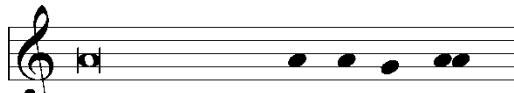
**will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**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.

**Passing of the Peace**

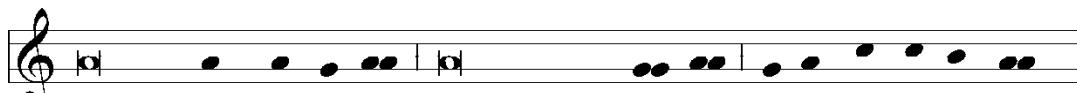
**Kyrie LSB 168**



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



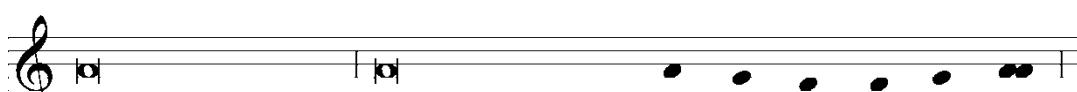
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



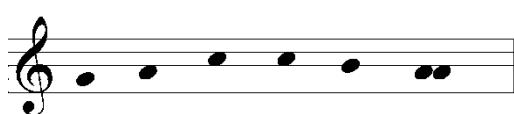
and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



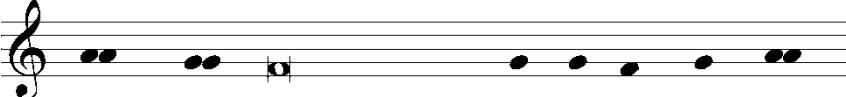
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

**C** 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.

*(Please Sit)*

## First Lesson

Isaiah 7:10–17

<sup>10</sup> Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup> “Ask the LORD your God for a sign, whether in the deepest depths or in the highest heights.”

<sup>12</sup> But Ahaz said, “I will not ask; I will not put the LORD to the test.”

<sup>13</sup> Then Isaiah said, “Hear now, you house of David! Is it not enough to try the patience of humans? Will you try the patience of my God also? <sup>14</sup> Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. <sup>15</sup> He will be eating curds and honey when he knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, <sup>16</sup> for before the boy knows enough to reject the wrong and choose the right, the land of the two kings you dread will be laid waste. <sup>17</sup> The LORD will bring on you and on your people and on the house of your father a time unlike any since Ephraim broke away from Judah—he will bring the king of Assyria.”

## Second Lesson

Romans 1:1–7

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle and set apart for the gospel of God—<sup>2</sup> the gospel he promised beforehand through his prophets in the Holy Scriptures <sup>3</sup> regarding his Son, who as to his earthly life was a descendant of David, <sup>4</sup> and who through the Spirit of holiness was appointed the Son of God in power by his resurrection from the dead: Jesus Christ our Lord. <sup>5</sup> Through him we received grace and apostleship to call all the Gentiles to the obedience that comes from faith for his name’s sake. <sup>6</sup> And you also are among those Gentiles who are called to belong to Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup> To all in Rome who are loved by God and called to be his holy people:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

(Please Stand)

**Alleluia and Verse** *LSB 173*

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

**Holy Gospel**

**P** The Holy Gospel, according to St Matthew the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

Matthew 1:18–25

<sup>18</sup> This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

<sup>20</sup> But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”

<sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup> “The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).

<sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. <sup>25</sup> But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

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

Praise to You, O Christ.

**Nicene Creed**

**C** We 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 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 we 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 we believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

We acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and we look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Please Sit)

### 350 Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come



1 Come, Thou pre - cious Ran - som, come, On - ly hope for  
2 En - - ter now my wait - ing heart, Glo - rious King and  
3 My ho - san - nas and my palms Gra - cious - ly re -  
4 Hail! Ho - san - na, Da - vid's Son! Je - sus, hear our



sin - ful mor - - tals! Come, O Sav - ior of the world!  
Lord most ho - - ly. Dwell in me and ne'er de - part,  
ceive, I pray Thee; Ev - er - more, as best I can,  
sup - pli - ca - - tion! Let Thy king - dom, scep - ter, crown,

O - pen are to Thee all por - tals. Come, Thy beau - ty  
 Though I am but poor and low - ly. Ah, what rich - es  
 Sav - ior, I will hom - age pay Thee, And in faith I  
 Bring us bless - ing and sal - va - tion, That for - ev - er

let us see; Anx - ious - ly we wait for Thee.  
 will be mine When Thou art my guest di - vine!  
 will em - brace, Lord, Thy mer - it through Thy grace.  
 we may sing: Hail! Ho - san - na to our King.

## Message What's in a Name: Immanuel

### Offering

Thank you for your faithful support of ministry at Royal Redeemer. As a reminder, you may submit your offerings 1) in the collection plate, 2) by mail to the church, 7127 Dutchland Pkwy., Liberty Township, Ohio, 3) by arranging an automatic deposit through your bank account (see the Give page under the Serve section of our website), or 4) via the Church Center. You can find a link on the Worship Live page of our website.

### Announcements

*(Please Stand)*

### Prayer of the Church

Pastor: O God, You have kept Your Word and delivered to us Your own Son by the Holy Spirit and the Virgin. Guide us so that we may rejoice in the Word made flesh and in the redemption He has won by His holy life, life-giving death and resurrection. Bless all pastors, that they may faithfully preach and teach this Gospel. Open the hearts of young men to hear and heed Your call to the ministry. Bless all church workers in their various vocations, that they may serve us well in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

### People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Holy Lord, You promised the virgin-born Son to reluctant King Ahaz, and in the fullness of time the Word became flesh. Open our hearts and strengthen our faith gladly to receive Your Son in the signs where He is present: not in signs of our own choosing, but in the Holy Word and Sacraments. Lord, in Your mercy,

### People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, You raised up Joseph, a man honorable and just, to be the guardian and earthly father to Your Son. Give all earthly fathers wisdom, patience, pride of duty and, above all, faith and loyalty to Your Word, that knowing Your true Guardianship, they may head their households with godly forbearance. Lord, in Your mercy,

### People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty God, You do not put up with the flattery and unbelief of kings and rulers forever. Have mercy on us, Lord, and spare our nation. Clear away all empty shows of piety and renew genuine faith in the Virgin's Son, that His coming at the last may not be a sign against us. Lord, in Your mercy,

### People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, You are the giver of every good gift and You care for us in all our needs of body, mind and spirit. Give healing to the sick, relief to the suffering, peace to the dying and comfort to those who mourn, especially those who we now name silently in our hearts.... According to Your gracious will, sustain them all by Your grace, and give them patience and courage as they await the unfolding of Your healing grace. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Holy Father, Grant that all who eat today of this feast of joy may find in the Savior's body and blood a blessed foretaste of the feast to come, for the strengthening of their faith and the growth of their love. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord God, heavenly Father, we give You thanks for Your Son, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. By His coming in the flesh and by His blessed Word, enlighten our hearts with the Gospel, enlighten the hearts of those who sit in the darkness of unbelief with the light of saving faith, and enlighten those who dwell in the shadow of death with the certain hope of the resurrection through Him. Grant that, as we remember with thanksgiving His advent in the flesh, we may always confess Him and remain watchful for His advent in glory at the Last Day; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

### **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 Communion Liturgy ~ Preface**

**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.

### **Proper Preface & Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ,

our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory.

Gathered in the name and remembrance of Jesus, we pray with repentant joy that You would forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood, in/with/under the wafer and wine, as He bids us do, and gather us from the ends of the earth to celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. To You along, O Father, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, be all glory, honor, and worship, now and forever.

Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your holy name evermore praising You and saying:

**Sanctus**

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name  
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**Words of Institution**

**Pax Domini**

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

**C** Amen.

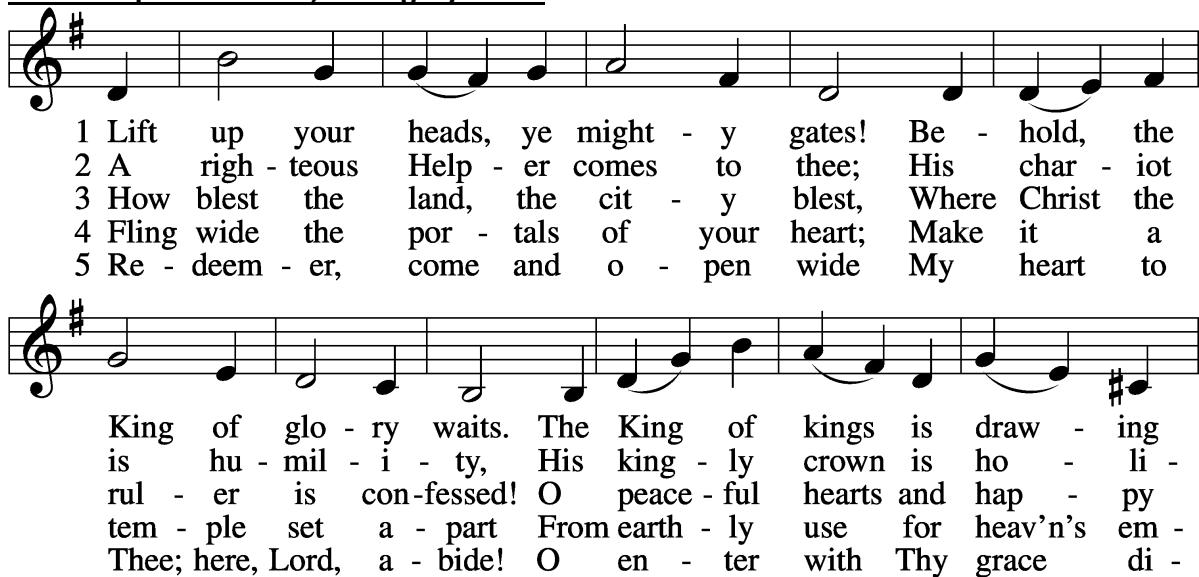
**Agnus Dei**    LSB 180



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world;  
have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of  
God, You take a-way the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.

**Distribution**

**341 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates**



1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Be hold, the  
2 A righ-teous Help-er comes to thee; His char-iot  
3 How blest the land, the cit-y blest, Where Christ the  
4 Fling wide the por-tals of your heart; Make it a  
5 Re-deem-er, come and o-pen wide My heart to  
  
King of glo-ry waits. The King of kings is draw-ing  
is hu-mil-i-ty, His king-ly crown is ho-li-  
rul-er is con-fessed! O peace-ful hearts and hap-py  
tem-ple set a-part From earth-ly use for heav'n's em-  
Thee; here, Lord, a-bide! O en-ter with Thy grace di-



near; The Sav - ior of the world is here. Life and sal -  
ness, His scep - ter, pit - y in dis - tress. The end of  
homes To whom this King in tri - umph comes! The cloud - less  
ploy, A - dorned with prayer and love and joy. So shall your  
vine; Thy face of mer - cy on me shine. Thy Ho - ly



va - tion He doth bring; There-fore re - joice and glad - ly sing.  
all our woe He brings; There-fore the earth is glad and sings.  
sun of joy is He Who comes to set His peo - ple free.  
Sov - reign en - ter in And new and no - bler life be - gin.  
Spir - it guide us on Un - til our glo - rious goal is won.



To God the Fa - ther raise Your joy - ful songs of praise.  
To Christ the Sav - ior raise Your grate - ful hymns of praise.  
To God the Spir - it raise Your hap - py shouts of praise.  
To God a - lone be praise For word and deed and grace!  
E - ter - nal praise and fame We of - fer to Thy name.

### Post-Communion Canticle

#### *Thank the Lord*



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev - ry-one what



He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -



joice and proud - ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-



es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -



giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Post-Communion Collect

**A** Let us pray.  
**A** 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 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.

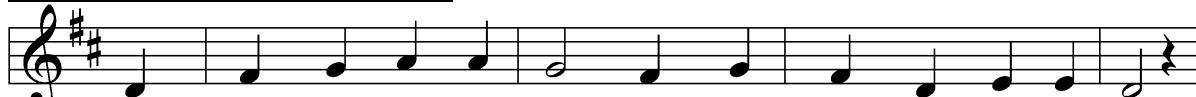
**C**

## 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  $\ddagger$  give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## 334 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You



1 O Lord, how shall I meet You, How wel - come You a - right?  
2 Your Zi - on strews be - fore You Green boughs and fair - est palms;  
3 I lay in fet - ters, groan - ing; You came to set me free.  
4 Love caused Your in - car - na - tion; Love brought You down to me.



Your peo - ple long to greet You, My hope, my heart's de - light!  
And I too will a - dore You With joy - ous songs and psalms.  
I stood, my shame be - moan - ing; You came to hon - or me.  
Your thirst for my sal - va - tion Pro - cured my lib - er - ty.



O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, Your lamp with - in my breast  
My heart shall bloom for - ev - er For You with prais-es new  
A glo - rious crown You give me, A trea - sure safe on high  
Oh, love be - yond all tell - ing, That led You to em - brace



To do in spir - it low - ly All that may please You best.  
And from Your name shall nev - er With-hold the hon - or due.  
That will not fail or leave me As earth - ly rich - es fly.  
In love, all love ex - cel - ling, Our lost and fall - en race.