



# ROYAL REDEEMER

AN LCMS CONGREGATION

January 25, 2026  
9am Worship

THE PROBLEM OF EMPTINESS:

I am the Bread of Life

## The 911 Generation: The Problem of Emptiness

(Pastor John Mitchell)

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After the Epiphany - January 25, 2026

9:00am Order of Worship

The 911 Generation: The Problem of Emptiness

**Prelude / Welcome**

**412 The People That in Darkness Sat      sts. 1, 3, 6**

1 The people that in darkness sat, A glorious  
3 To us a Child of hope is born, To us a  
△ 6 Lord Je-sus, reign in us, we pray, And make us  
light have seen; The light has shined on them who long In  
Son is giv'n, And on His shoul-der ev-er rests All  
Thine a - lone, Who with the Fa-ther ev-er art And  
shades of death have been, In shades of death have been.  
pow'r in earth and heav'n, All pow'r in earth and heav'n.  
Ho - ly Spir - it, one, And Ho - ly Spir - it, one.

**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.

**Passing of the Peace**

## Kyrie

LSB 152

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

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

**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation 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,

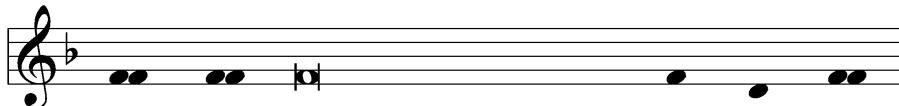
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

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

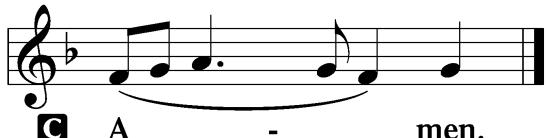
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise

let us pray to the Lord.

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



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



**C** A - men.

**Gloria in Excelsis** *LSB 154*



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



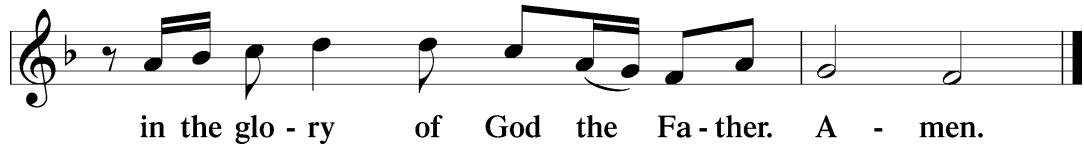
You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

*(Please Sit)*

## First Lesson

Isaiah 9:1-4

**9** Nevertheless, there will be no more gloom for those who were in distress. In the past he humbled the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the nations, by the Way of the Sea, beyond the Jordan—

**2** The people walking in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
on those living in the land of deep darkness  
a light has dawned.

**3** You have enlarged the nation  
and increased their joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as people rejoice at the harvest,  
as warriors rejoice  
when dividing the plunder.

**4** For as in the day of Midian's defeat,  
you have shattered  
the yoke that burdens them,  
the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor.

## Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

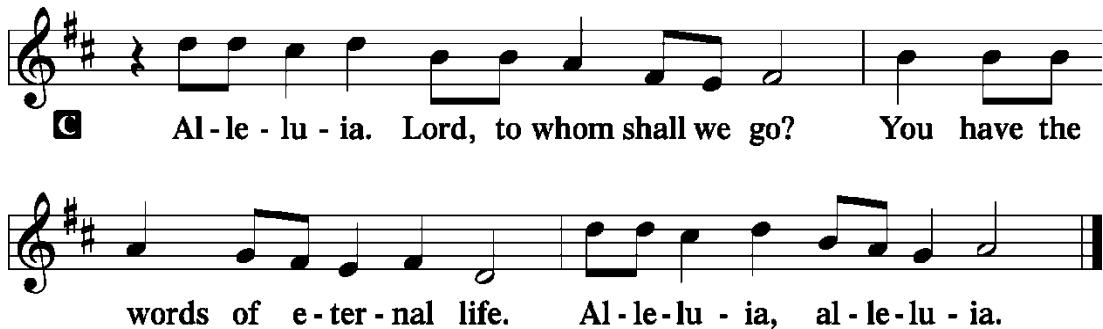
**10** I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought. **11** My brothers and sisters, some from Chloe's household have informed me that there are quarrels among you. **12** What I mean is this: One of you says, "I follow Paul"; another, "I follow Apollos"; another, "I follow Cephas"; still another, "I follow Christ."

<sup>13</sup> Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup> so no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup> (Yes, I also baptized the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I don't remember if I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup> For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

<sup>18</sup> For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

*(Please Stand)*

### Alleluia and Verse



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

### Holy Gospel

**P** The Holy Gospel, according to St John the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

John 6:25-35

<sup>25</sup> When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, “Rabbi, when did you get here?”

<sup>26</sup> Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw the signs I performed but because you ate the loaves and had your fill. <sup>27</sup> Do not work for food that spoils, but for food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval.”

<sup>28</sup> Then they asked him, “What must we do to do the works God requires?”

<sup>29</sup> Jesus answered, “The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.”

<sup>30</sup> So they asked him, “What sign then will you give that we may see it and believe you? What will you do? <sup>31</sup> Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written: ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’”

<sup>32</sup> Jesus said to them, “Very truly I tell you, it is not Moses who has given you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup> For the bread of God is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

<sup>34</sup> “Sir,” they said, “always give us this bread.”

<sup>35</sup> Then Jesus declared, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

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



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

### Apostles' Creed

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life  $\ddagger$  everlasting. Amen.

(Please Sit)

### 642 O Living Bread from Heaven      sts. 1-3

Three staves of musical notation in G clef and common time. The lyrics are as follows:  
1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, How well You  
2 My Lord, You here have led me To this most  
3 You gave me all I want - ed; This food can  
  
feed Your guest! The gifts that You have giv - en  
ho - ly place And with Your - self have fed me  
death de - stroy. And You have free - ly grant - ed  
  
Have filled my heart with rest. Oh, won - drous food of  
The trea - sures of Your grace; For You have free - ly  
The cup of end - less joy. My Lord, I do not

bless - ing, Oh, cup that heals our woes! My heart, this  
 giv - en What earth could nev - er buy, The bread of  
 mer - it The fa - vor You have shown, And all my  
 gift pos - sess - ing, With prais - es o - ver - flows.  
 life from heav - en, That now I shall not die.  
 soul and spir - it Bow down be - fore Your throne.

## **Message** The 911 Generation: The Problem of Emptiness

### **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) via the Church Center App, 3) by mail to the church, 7127 Dutchland Pkwy., Liberty Township, Ohio, 4) via Church Center - you can find a link on the Worship Live page of our website, or 5) by arranging an automatic deposit through your bank account (see the Give page under the Serve section of our website).

*(Please Stand)*

### **Announcements**

### **Prayer of the Church**

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

O Lord, you gather us by the work of your Spirit and dwell among us by your Means of Grace for the sake of your Son. May we tell others of you and declare your praises to all who will hear.

Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: O God, grant peace to the nations. Give good and faithful leaders in our land. Grant them wisdom and integrity for the good of all people that justice may be served, and for the protection of the unborn and the weak. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Holy Lord, your Son welcomed the sick and the afflicted, and He healed them. Have mercy upon all whom we bring before you in prayer, especially those who we now name silently in our hearts..., and deliver them according to your gracious will. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Gracious Lord, be present with the lonely. Work through us, that they may find welcome and consolation among God's people. Grant that those who mourn find hope in Christ. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord God, heavenly Father, you raised your Son, Jesus, from the dead as the first fruits of the new creation. We rest in the hope and promise of the resurrection. We give you thanks and praise for all those who have departed in faith from this mortal life. Preserve us also in your Word and faith until we die. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: All these things and whatever else you know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God 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.**

### 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.

### 643 Sent Forth by God's Blessing



1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con - fess-ing,  
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing To God ev - er - liv - ing,

The peo - ple of God from His dwell - ing take leave.  
The tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face.

The Sup - per is end - ed. O now be ex - tend - ed  
Our faith ev - er shar - ing, In love ev - er car - ing,

The fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.  
Em - brac - ing His chil - dren of each tribe and race.

The seed of His teach - ing, Re - cep - tive souls reach - ing,  
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;

Shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.  
U - nite us as one in this life that we share.

His grace did in - vite us, His love shall u - nite us  
Then may all the liv - ing With praise and thanks - giv - ing

To work for God's king - dom and an - swer His call.  
Give hon - or to Christ and His name that we bear.