

# *Prepare*



Redeemer Church Office  
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December 4th, 2022, 10:00a.m.  
631 N. 19<sup>th</sup> Street,  
Milwaukee, WI 53233

## **PRELUDE**

### **WELCOME AND INVOCATION**

*Pastor Lisa*

**SONG:** “Freedom!”

**1. Oh, Freedom. Freedom is coming. Oh, yes, I know.**

### **LIGHTING THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE**

*Natalie Chan*

### **PRAYER AS ADVENT BEGINS**

*Isaiah Ofori*

God of Love, we light these candles as we prepare for the coming of your Son. Awaken our hearts to you this Advent season, so that when Christ arrives, we are ready to receive him with all our hearts, all our minds, and all our strength. Amen.

**SONG:** “Freedom!”

**2. Oh, Jesus. Jesus is coming. Oh, yes, I know.**

### **FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-6**

*Brittany Wilson*

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, 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 descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. <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 swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, 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, have not perished.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

*To the tune of Go Tell It on the Mountain -*

Go! Tell it on the Mountain, over the hills and everywhere.  
Go! Tell it on the Mountain, the Good News heard today!

Gospel Verse (Cantor) –  
Today we hear the story of John the Baptist's cry  
Prepare the way for the Savior  
God's love is made alive!

Go! Tell it on the Mountain, over the hills and everywhere.  
Go! Tell it on the Mountain, the Good News heard today!

The Gospel for the First Sunday in Advent is found in the book of Luke, the third chapter, verses 1-8:

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>3</sup> In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup> during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup> 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 the prophet Isaiah,

“The voice of one crying out 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 be made straight,  
and the rough ways made smooth,

<sup>6</sup> and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’ ”

<sup>7</sup> John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Therefore, bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham.

This is the Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

**SERMON:**

“Prepare”

*Pastor Lisa*

**SERMON SONG:** “Prepare the Royal Highway”

*Red Book 264*

*Prayer squares are collected.*

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Song: “Wait for the Lord”*

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

The first line of musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a melody starting on G4, moving to A4, B4, and then a dotted quarter note G4. The bass staff provides accompaniment with chords: G2-B2-D3, A2-C3-E3, and D3-F3-A3. The piece ends with a double bar line and a common time signature (C).

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

The second line of musical notation continues in G major and 4/4 time. The treble staff melody starts on G4, moves to A4, B4, and then a dotted quarter note G4. The bass staff accompaniment includes chords: G2-B2-D3, A2-C3-E3, and D3-F3-A3. The piece ends with a double bar line and a common time signature (C).

**PEACE IS SHARED**

The peace of the Lord be with you all. **And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERING SONG: "People Get Ready" by Curtis Mayfield**

People get ready  
There's a train a comin'  
You don't need no baggage  
You just get on board  
All you need is faith  
To hear the diesels hummin'  
You don't need no ticket  
You just thank the Lord

People get ready  
There's a train to Jordan  
Picking up passengers  
Coast to coast  
Faith is the key  
Open the doors and board 'em  
There's hope for all  
Where love is the most

There ain't no room  
For the hopeless sinner  
Turn on his brother out of his own  
Have pity on those whose  
Chances grow thinner  
There's no hiding place  
From the Kingdom's throne

People get ready  
Oh the Lord is comin'  
Meeting His brothers everywhere  
Love is the key  
To keep the flame burning  
You know in your heart  
He soon will be here

People get ready  
There's a change comin'  
You don't need no baggage  
You just get on board  
All you need is faith  
To hear the diesels hummin'  
You don't need no money  
You just love the Lord

(People get ready, there's a change a'comin)  
(Lovin' each other is... lovin' the Lord)  
(People get ready, there's a train a'comin)  
(Faith is your ticket, just get on board)  
(People get ready...)

## OFFERING PRAYER

*from spaciousfaith.com*

LA: Holy One, this Advent season we wait in hope.

**And we give in hope.**

Hope for your coming reign;

**Hope because of your presence with us even now.**

Receive these generous offerings,

**And use them for your work of healing and hope in our world. Amen.**

## PREPARATION FOR COMMUNION

*Song: "What Feast of Love"*

**What feast of love is offered here, what banquet come from heaven?  
What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given?**

*Prayer*

**This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heaven.  
Oh Taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!**

*Words of Institution*

*Lord's Prayer*

**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.**

*Invitation*





## SONG DURING COMMUNION: “Walk in the Reign”

Refrain



Close as to - mor - row the sun shall ap - pear.  
Free - dom is com - ing and heal - ing is near. And I shall be  
with you in laugh - ter and pain to stand in the wind and  
walk in the reign, to walk in the reign.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

LA: God of grace, thank you for this bread and wine, and for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. We celebrate how the mystery of this Table reveals the depth and height and breadth of your love for us. **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ADVENT BLESSING:** *Romans 15: 13*

*Pastor Mike*

P: Give yourself the time and space to prepare *within your heart and soul and mind* for the coming of Christmas, and as you do:

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope ☩ by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

**CLOSING SONG:** “Freedom is Coming” Reprise

**Oh, Freedom. Freedom is coming. Oh, yes, I know.**

**Oh, Jesus. Jesus is coming. Oh, yes, I know.**

**DISMISSAL:** Go in Peace. Jesus is On the Way! **Thanks be to God.**

**WORSHIP LEADERS:**

**PREACHER:** Rev. Dr Lisa Bates-Froiland

**LITURGICAL ASSISTANT:** Pastor Mike Skunes

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:** Jeff Bray

**READER:** Brittany Wilson

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:** Amy Nyren and Brittany Wilson

**USHERS:** Dorothy Zeidler and Bill Tomczak

**ALTAR SETUP:** Brittany Wilson, Maureen Lloyd

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICES: Wednesdays at 6:30pm**

- **December 7<sup>th</sup> at Pastor Lisa's** (RSVP to [admin@redeermilwaukee.org](mailto:admin@redeermilwaukee.org))
- **December 14<sup>th</sup> at Scott McIntosh and LuAnn Blohm's** (RSVP to [admin@redeermilwaukee.org](mailto:admin@redeermilwaukee.org))
- **December 21<sup>st</sup> Location TBA**

## **NAMI GROUPS**

- The Journey Support Group for women who live with PTSD or C-PTSD will meet from 1:00pm-2:30 on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at Redeemer in the library.
  - Registration: Call 414-326-3454 or email [theresa@namisoutheastwi.org](mailto:theresa@namisoutheastwi.org)

## **THE FOOD PANTRY IS SEEKING DONATIONS!**

- **Personal Hygiene Products:** The Food Pantry is in need of personal hygiene products (deodorant, soap, tooth brushes/paste, etc.). Donations can be dropped in the box in the Narthex or in the office.

## **SAVE THE DATE: April 27<sup>th</sup>, The 2<sup>nd</sup> Revel with a Cause!**

- The auction theme is "*hand-crafted.*" If you have any items you would like to donate, please contact [admin@redeermilwaukee.org](mailto:admin@redeermilwaukee.org) or call 414-933-7004.