



**Redeemer Lutheran Church of Leisure World and  
St. Theodore of Canterbury Episcopal Church**  
13564 St. Andrews Drive; Seal Beach, CA 90740  
Phone (562) 598-8697; FAX (562) 598-8697  
e-mail: [redeemer\\_lutheran@verizon.net](mailto:redeemer_lutheran@verizon.net)

In This Issue ... December 2024

<b>Article</b>	<b>Page</b>
Birthdays	1
Calendar Notes	1
Emergency Pastoral Care	1
Message from the Pastor	2
Message from the President	3-4
Announcements	5-7
Advent Wreath Prayers	8
Finance Report	9
Lessons to Study	10
Worship and Discipleship	11-12
Monthly Calendar	13



### ***Happy Birthday***

#### **December Birthdays**

*Nancy Luebben*      *December*      6

#### **January Birthdays**

*Wendy Alfageme*      *January*      3  
*Maria Teresa Smith*      *January*      8  
*Dale Diesslin*      *January*      11  
*Cedric Elmer*      *January*      15  
*Mickey Costello*      *January*      19  
*Evelyn Benedix*      *January*      20  
*Carmen Leslie*      *January*      24  
*Carl Keene*      *January*      28

### ***Happy Anniversary***

#### **January Anniversaries**

*Tee Teclu and Dee Worku*      *January*      10

### **CALENDAR NOTES**

#### **Sundays**

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Service

#### **Wednesdays**

12:00 Noon to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours  
 12:00 noon Bible Study in the Fellowship  
 Hall [On Break until the New Year]

### **DECEMBER**

**December 1:** First Sunday of Advent

The Rev. Brad Stienstra Presiding

**December 8:** Second Sunday of Advent

**November 11:** 3:00 p.m. Advent Reflection  
 Study and Supper

**December 15:** Third Sunday of Advent

**December 18:** 3:00 p.m. Advent Reflection  
 Study and Supper

**December 22:** Fourth Sunday of Advent

**December 24:** 10:30 a.m. Christ Eve  
 Service  
 Brunch in the Fellowship Hall  
 Cookie Exchange

**December 25: Christmas Day**  
**Office Closed**

**December 29:** First Sunday of Christmas

**December 31:** New Year's Eve

**Emergency Pastoral Care:** Whenever you are in need of emergency pastoral care, please call the office and leave a message (562) 598-8697 or contact Interim Pastor Finck at (714) 345-2791.

## ***Message from the Interim Pastor:***

December 2024

### ***“Light!”***

The first page of the Bible begins with these four verses...

*In the beginning when God created the heaven and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light!” and there was light, and God saw that the light was good. Genesis 1:1-4*

***“Let there be light!”*** are the first words of God as recorded in Genesis, and so with this divine mandate, the universe, including our tiny planet, began. And the story of “light” continued down through the ages.

The Gospel of John, telling the story of Jesus from the vantage point of one of his closest disciples, begins with these four verses...

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. John 1:1-4*

There is a wonderful connection between the story of *God’s creation* and the story of *Jesus’ incarnation*... Light exploded into the darkness and chaos as God chose to fling and bring our universe into motion and magnificence. Divine Light, coming (adventing) in human form, entered a world that has been clouded, shadowed, and darkened by the imperfection and brokenness of humanity, giving our world and each of us the hope and promise of new and renewed life.

***“Let There Be Light!”*** will be the theme of our Advent and Christmas days during the month of December as we gather on Sunday mornings and also on Wednesday afternoons on December 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. On Christmas Eve, December 24<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate the Nativity of our Lord Jesus at 10:30 a.m. in our sanctuary. During this season, we will give thanks for the many ways God shines forth in brilliant love and compassion, and we will meditate on the ways the light of God has opened our eyes, touched our hearts, and given us courage and faith throughout our lives.

I hope and pray that everyone reading this page will again be showered with the Light of God in these coming days as we celebrate the gifts and outpouring love of God! All are always welcome at Redeemer Lutheran and St. Theodore of Canterbury Episcopal Church!

***Let there be light!***

***+Pastor Murray D. Finck***

The Rev Murray D. Finck, Bishop Emeritus

## *Message from Our President...*

Dear Members and Friends,

We had a very successful Holiday Bazaar on November 14 and 15 with many people from Leisure World coming to purchase from our vendors who were selling baked goods, candy, jewelry, art, pottery, handicrafts, jellies, bric-a-brac, Christmas decorations, clothing, and items from all over the world collected by Bishop Finck and Rhoda. The vendors donated 10% of their sale to the church. We had 100% profit from the baked goods, our Boutique table, and several of our members donated all of their sales to us. The final tally was:

Bake Sale	\$620.00
Vendor Tables	\$536.00
Boutique	<u>\$315.66</u>
Total Deposited	\$1,471.66

I thought it was a wonderful few days that brought new friends to our church who found it to be a very welcoming, friendly atmosphere, with the plus of being serenaded with beautiful music by Mickey Costello on his guitar. Throughout the day many people took advantage of our sofa and chairs to sit, have some coffee, treats and good fellowship. There were always many people at the Bishop's tables deep in conversation about his many treasures. Several of whom that had been former members of Redeemer. If you weren't able to attend, please be sure to come, and maybe participate in some way, for our Spring Fair. Many thanks to Chair, Carmen Leslie, Committee members Betty Lucera, Barbara Long, John Robinson and so many wonderful volunteers that made it a very successful event.

December 1 is the first Sunday in Advent. Many thanks to Sylvia Makus who is preparing for the decoration of our church. The Advent wreath will be in place, the first candle lit, and poinsettias will adorn the altar this Sunday. In the next few weeks, the creche will be set up on the outside, the Three Wise Men Painting done by Carmen Leslie and Barbara Simundza will be hung at the entrance, a Christmas tree decorated by members of the Altar Guild in the Sanctuary along with more poinsettias, and a display of Nativity Scenes in the Fellowship Hall. We would love to have you bring your Nativity scene to share during the Advent Season. Sharon Heck and Cedric Elmer will begin our Sunday services during Advent with beautiful piano duets. The Choir is practicing Christmas music as we begin our celebration of the birth of Jesus.

We will be having two Advent Suppers on Wednesday, December 11 and 18 beginning at 3:00. We will start with an hour of Inspiration and Christmas Carol singing accompanied by Nancy Anderson on the piano followed by supper.

We will celebrate Christmas Eve and Christmas Day on December 24 at 10:30 am followed by a brunch. At this brunch on Christmas Eve morning, we will also have a Christmas Cookie Exchange. Cookies will be available to purchase too. There are sign-up sheets for volunteering to make food for these events, and, also, if you would like to participate in the cookie exchange.

Please mark your calendars for these special dates to join with your fellow Christians as we celebrate the Christmas season.

It is a wonderful time of year, and, as we near the end of 2024, and take time in prayer and thanks for our many blessings, if you are able, you might want to consider a tax-deductible year-end gift to our church.

Wishing you many blessings,

***Kay Pushman***

Council President



# ANNOUNCING

## **Advent Reflection and Supper and Christmas Eve Service**



Please join us on December 11 and 18 for an Advent Reflection Study and Supper at 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

We will be having a 10:30 a.m. Christmas Eve Service in the Sanctuary on Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>. Please come and bring your friends, neighbors, and family if you wish. It will be followed by a brunch in the Fellowship Hall. You are also invited to participate in a Cookie Exchange during the brunch!

## **Cookie Exchange**



There is a sign-up sheet in the entryway for a cookie exchange we are planning to have on December 24 after our Christmas Eve Service. It's time to bring out those cookie recipes and have a fun filled time sharing your special cookies with others!

## **Annual Congregational Meeting Part 1**



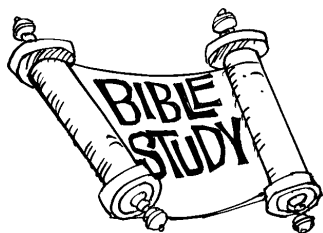
We held the Annual Congregational Meeting Part 1 on Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> right after the Sunday Service. The budget for 2025 was approved and new members of the Church Council *Susan Avila, Carol Costello, and Linda Peters* were approved. The Annual Congregational Meeting Part 2 will be held on February 23, 2025. Annual Reports will be presented at that time along with the choosing of delegates to the 2025 Pacifica Synod Assembly to be held on Friday, May 16 to Saturday, May 17, 2025, at Gloria Dei

Lutheran Church, Dana Point.

## **Holiday Bazaar!**

Thank you to all who participated in the Holiday Bazaar! It was beautiful to see so much creativity and fellowship with the whole community.

## **Bible Study**



Bible Study will be on a break until the New Year. We meet in the Fellowship Hall from noon to about 1:15 p.m. starting again in January. You can bring friends, your Bible, and your lunch, if you wish! There are drinks available to share. There is also, usually, a sweet treat or two to share. We will be finish up the study of the Ten Commandments (Commandments 8, 9, and 10). Bishop Murray Finck will be leading

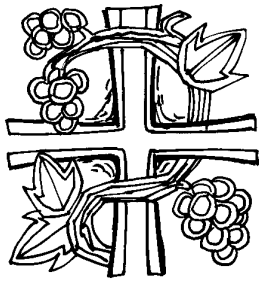
the discussion. This is a great way to meet members and friends to share an understanding of faith and the Holy Scriptures.

### **Sealed Pledge Drive**



Once again, we are bringing back our Sealed Pledge Drive. We did not do it during the pandemic because we all had enough on our minds. Now that we have returned to a new normal, we are encouraging you to share your time, talents, and treasures with the Church to further the work of the Lord. You will be receiving a pledge card to be returned, a copy of that pledge card for you to keep as a reminder, and a return envelope that can be mailed back or returned in the offering plate. **Do not include any gifts in the envelope** because they are not opened, it's a SEALED pledge; it is between you and God. It will include a space for you to put in how you would like to share your time and talents, a space for evangelization, and a financial commitment. Please, pray about what commitments you can make. It will be mailed to you, if we have your mailing address. We are reaching out to everyone, member or visitor, because we are all called to share through our belief in the Christ who came as a baby, lived as a man, died for us all, and will come again.

### **Outside Memorial Cross Wall**



The Council has been discussing a way to honor members, friends, family, and other loved ones. It was decided to turn one wall of the Outside Cross Chapel into a Cross Memorial Wall. Currently we will be placing a cross and plaque for Pasto Gil. The Church is providing the plaque and the Moore family have chosen a cross. We will also be putting up a plaque and cross for Jerry Brady with a donation provided by Jerry's family. We are opening this up to our membership if they would like to include a loved one on this wall. Because we do want to keep it somewhat uniform, the Church will order the plaques but you will have options for the symbol on it of a Lutheran Rose, an Episcopal Flag (like the one on the bench for Betty Hobbs in the Cross Chapel), a simple Cross, or no symbol at all. We also have appropriate options for a cross to be hung if you do not want to go through finding and ordering your own. The suggested donation if you provide the cross is a minimum of \$150.00 or if the Church also provides the cross the suggested donation is \$200.00. The Church will place the cross and plaque on the wall. If you would like more information about this project, please feel free to speak to the Council President, Kay Pushman.

### **Free Dollar Donations**

We work with Ralph's to be one of their choices for their community giving program. To date this year, we have received \$84.89 with only 4 households participating. If you shop at Ralph's, even just occasionally, we would like to invite you to participate in this free program to help the church financially. There are flyers on the bulletin board on how to sign up for this program and there are members willing to help you to sign-up, if you need it. You can speak to Kay Pushman if you want more information on this no cost to you program. There is also Thrivent Choice Dollars that Redeemer Lutheran can be designated to receive if you bank with Thrivent. We have received \$863.00 from Thrivent Choice this year. We thank all who have participated in these programs and have designated Redeemer as their charity of choice.



### **Special Christmas Gift**



Would you like to contribute to a monetary Christmas gift for Bishop Finck? If you would, please give your gift **in an envelope with Bishop Finck's name on it** by December 22. You can put it in the offering plate, give it directly to me, or drop it in my mail. I live at 13560 Saint Andrews Drive 3C; just 4 doors down from the church. If you wish to write a check, please make it out to Kay Pushman (do not make it out to the church). I know Bishop Finck will be so happy to know the members are thinking of him. Thank you. ~ Kay Pushman

### **Personal Annual Giving Reports**



If we have a record of your giving for the 2024 year, it will be sent to you at the end of January. No need to request it be sent! If you do NOT receive one and think you should have, please contact the Church at (562) 598-8697 or email the Secretary at: redeemer\_lutheran@verizon.net. Please wait until **FEBRUARY** to contact us about not receiving a report.

### **Year End Gifts**



Year End Gifts are encouraged by many charities at this time of the year. Please remember Redeemer with year-end gifts too. Please pray about a year end gift to your church ~ if you don't, who will?

### **ANNUAL REPORTS**



ALL REPORTS ARE DUE IN THE OFFICE WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2025 TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PUBLISHED REPORT FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING ~ PART 2 ON FEBRUARY 23, 2025.

Reports are need from: the Pastor, the Council President, the Financial Secretary, the annual financial report for 2024, and the budget for 2025. All other ministries that wish to submit an annual report are welcome to do so but also need to be in the office by Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>. Thank You!!!

### **Woven Image Christmas**



You are invited to a *Woven Image* Christmas Concert celebrating the season with traditional and contemporary Christmas carols and beloved sing-alongs. There are two dates:

**Saturday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m.**, with a holiday reception to follow the concert, at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, 5895 Ball Road, Cypress 90630. A free-will offering will be taken to support Lutheran Disaster Response.

**Sunday December 8 at 4:00 p.m.** at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 12301 Magnolia St, Garden Grove 92841. A free-will offering will be taken to support the Ministry Center at ORLC to support the unhoused in the community.

## **LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH**

### **First Sunday of Advent**



We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.

As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy.

Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

**Amen.**

*Light the first candle.*

### **Second Sunday of Advent**



We praise you, O God, for this circle of light that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.

As we light the candles on this wreath, kindle within us the fire of your Spirit, that we may be light shining in the darkness. Enlighten us with your grace, that we may welcome others as you have welcomed us.

Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

**Amen.**

*Light two candles.*

### **Third Sunday of Advent**



We praise you, O God, for this victory wreath that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.

As we light the candles on this wreath, strengthen our hearts as we await the Lord's coming in glory.

Enlighten us with your grace, that we may serve our neighbors in need.

Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

**Amen.**

*Light three candles.*

### **Fourth Sunday of Advent**



We praise you, O God, for this wheel of time that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent.

As we light the candles on this wreath, open our eyes to see your presence in the lowly ones of this earth.

Enlighten us with your grace, that we may sing of your advent among us in the Word made flesh.

Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

**Amen.**

*Light all four candles.*



**REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH  
ST. THEODORE OF CANTERBURY EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
FINANCE REPORT  
Month Ending OCTOBER 31, 2024**

**FINANCES FOR THE MONTH of October 2024**

<b>Operating Expenses of</b>	\$8,965.00	<b>Exceeded</b>
<b>Operating Income of</b>	<u>\$7,951.00</u>	
<b>By</b>	(\$1,014.00)	

*[we spent more than we took in]*

**For the year to October 31, 2024**

<b>Operating Expenses of</b>	\$83,846.00	<b>Exceeded</b>
<b>Operating Income of</b>	<u>\$78,494.00</u>	
<b>by</b>	(\$5,352.00)	

*[we spent more than we took in]*

**Comparing Budgeted to Actual for 2024:**

<b>Actual</b> Income of	\$78,494.00	<b>Exceeded</b>
<b>Budgeted</b> Income of	<u>\$73,080.00</u>	
<b>by</b>	\$5,414.00	

*[we took in more than our budget anticipated]*

<b>Actual</b> Expense of	\$83,846.00	<b>Exceeded</b>
<b>Budgeted</b> Expense of	<u>\$73,080.00</u>	
<b>by</b>	(\$10,766.00)	

*[we spent more than our budget anticipated]*

**Other Income and Expenses for the Year:**

<u>Income:</u>	<u>Oct</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Expenses:</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Memorial	\$5,500	\$8,790		\$257
Memorial Wall	\$500	\$600		\$86
Disaster Relief	\$40	\$40		
Fundraising – Boutique	\$100	\$275		
Fundraising - Pump		\$663		
Fundraising - Other	\$62	\$62		
Fundraising - Bake Sale	<u>\$162</u>			
<b>Total:</b>	\$6,202	\$10,592		

Respectfully submitted,  
Doris Weinert  
Finance Chairman

**CYCLE C – Year of Luke**  
**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT THROUGH**  
**THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY**

**December 1, 2024 – *First Sunday of Advent***

Jeremiah 33:14-16  
Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13  
Luke 21:25-36

**December 8, 2024 – *Second Sunday of Advent***

Malachi 3:1-4 or Baruch 5:1-9  
Luke 1:68-79  
Philippians 1:3-11  
Luke 3:1-6

**December 15, 2024 – *Third Sunday of Advent***

Zephaniah 3:14-20  
Isaiah 12:2-6  
Philippians 4:4-7  
Luke 3:7-18

**December 22, 2024 – *Fourth Sunday of Advent***

Micah 5:2-5a  
Luke 1: 46b-55 or Psalm 80:1-7  
Hebrews 10:5-10  
Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

**December 24, 2024 – *Christmas Eve***

Isaiah 9:2-7  
Psalm 96  
Titus 2:11-14  
Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

**December 25, 2024 – *Christmas Day***

Isaiah 62:6-12 or Isaiah 52:7-10  
Psalm 97 or Psalm 98  
Titus 3:4-7 or Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]  
Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20 or John 1:1-14

**December 29, 2024 – *First Sunday of Christmas***

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26  
Psalm 148  
Colossians 3:12-17  
Luke 2:41-52

**January 5, 2025 – *Second Sunday of Christmas***

Jeremiah 31:7-14 *or* Sirach 24:1-12  
Psalm 147:12-20 *or* Wisdom 10:15-21  
Ephesians 1:3-14  
John 1:[1-9] 10-18

**January 6, 2025 – *Epiphany of Our Lord***

Isaiah 60:1-6  
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14  
Ephesians 3:1-12  
Matthew 2:1-12

**January 12, 2025 – *Baptism of Our Lord***

Isaiah 43:1-7  
Psalm 29  
Acts 8:14-17  
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

**January 19, 2025 – *Second Sunday after Epiphany***

Isaiah 62:1-5  
Psalm 36:5-10  
1 Corinthians 12:1-11  
John 2:1-11

**January 26, 2025 – *Third Sunday after Epiphany***

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10  
Psalm 19  
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a  
Luke 4:14-21

## **Worship and Discipleship by Margo Geesing**

### **“Advent and Beyond”**

Usually, Advent begins the last Sunday of November, but this year the whole of Advent is in December, starting December 1 with the First Sunday of Advent. So, all those Advent Calendars with just 24 days is correct this year! This year all of our Gospel Lessons come from the Gospel of Luke. Come along on the journey, perhaps you will learn something about your relationship with Jesus or perhaps someone will learn something from you through your relationship with Jesus but we always travel in relationship with Jesus!

#### **December 1, 2024 – First Sunday of Advent**

##### **The Gospel Lesson is from Luke chapter 21 verses 25-36**

The First Sunday in Advent Jesus is warning his followers about the end times when he will return again. He outlines signs and portends of the coming tribulations. An interesting thing is that Jesus says, *“Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place.”* Yet, we are still here. He has not returned, yet. Of course, we all think we are in the end times. The Jews believed that Jesus was coming back soon. Nostradamus foretold the end time on numerous occasions. The world was going to end at the change of the century mark, the world was going to end in 2012. The world is going to end in 10 years, 25 years, 40 years... Jesus flat out tells us that we will not know when this is going to happen. The Father is the only one who knows. Our concern is not to know when it is going to happen, but to be prepared when it does happen. Our concern is to continue the mission he started. Our call is to live the Christian life in love for the Lord and one another. *This week of Advent, practice hope in your Savior.*

#### **December 8, 2024 – Second Sunday of Advent**

##### **The Gospel Lesson is from Luke chapter 3 verses 1-6**

The Second Sunday in Advent we hear from John the Baptist, the foreshadower of Jesus and Jesus's cousin! While John the Baptist did actually prepare the way for Jesus, we also need to prepare the way for Jesus. We need to prepare ourselves. We need to prepare our friends and families. We need to prepare our neighbors and communities. Not only do we prepare for the coming of Christmas this year but also for the Second Coming of Christ. It is not enough for us to wonder were we celebrating Christmas this year or with whomever we are celebrating with. We need to look forward to the future and where we are going to celebrate eternal life and with whom are we going to be with. We are called to bring all to Christ. To share the peace within ourselves that only comes from knowing the Lord. To live in the peace of Christ. *This week of Advent, practice being at peace within yourself and the world around you.*

#### **Sunday, December 15, 2024 – Third Sunday of Advent**

##### **The Gospel Lesson is from Luke chapter 3 verses 7-18**

The Third Sunday in Advent we are still following John the Baptist as he prepares the people for the coming of the Messiah. He calls the people to repentance and not to depend on who their forefathers were to be saved. He calls them to bear good fruit from the gifts they are given. He calls them to live their vocations with honor. He calls them to mercy, justice, and generosity. These are the fruits that we must bear. This message has been continuous in the Gospels; whether from John the Baptist, St. Paul, St. Peter, or Jesus himself. This kind of life

has a natural joy that comes from living the life we are called to in harmony with God's will for us. *This week of Advent, practice living in the joy that comes from knowing Christ.*

### **December 22, 2024 – Fourth Sunday of Advent**

#### **The Gospel Lesson is from Luke chapter 1 verses 39-45 [46-55]**

The Fourth Sunday of Advent we hear the story of Mary going to her cousin Elizabeth in the time of Elizabeth's confinement. Then we hear the beautiful praise of God by Mary in response to Elizabeth's greeting. The absolute trust and love that these women, and their men, place in God is astounding. These are not rich and powerful people with a life of ease. These are everyday people who so love God that they allow God to guide their lives freely. At no point does God tell them that their life will be easy or soft if they do these things for him. There is no bargaining with God. There is just obedience coming from their love. How often do we respond to God with this same trust and love? How often do we try to bargain with God? How often do we treat God as a vending machine – we put this into the relationship and I get this back from God? *This week of Advent, practice living in love for God and his many gifts he has given to each of us.*

### **December 29, 2024 – First Sunday of Christmas**

#### **The Gospel Lesson is from Luke chapter 2 verses 41-52**

The final Sunday in December is the First Sunday of Christmas. Jesus has grown into a twelve year old little boy. I was a parent of three children, one a little boy. If my son had answered me the way Jesus answered Mary, there would be words. I always wonder if the story Luke heard was a bit cleaned up. Think about it. They had traveled a day from Jerusalem. They looked through their friends and relatives for maybe a few hours. They returned to Jerusalem, another day of travel. Then they spend another day looking for him. So, their twelve-year-old son has been lost to them for three days. And his answer to them, "*Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?*" This is not an answer any parent wants to hear. They want to hear, I'm sorry, or, I won't do it again. Luke glosses over the aftermath of this with, "*Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them, ...*" Luke ends with that Jesus increased in wisdom and in years. And, hopefully, a little more care for his earthly parents! A final thought, it is interesting to look at this Gospel lesson from the beginning of Jesus's life in comparison to the end of Jesus's life. His parents search for him for three days just as Jesus was in the tomb for three days.

### **December 24 / 25, 2024 – Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day**

#### **The Gospel Lesson is from Luke chapter 2 verses 1-20**

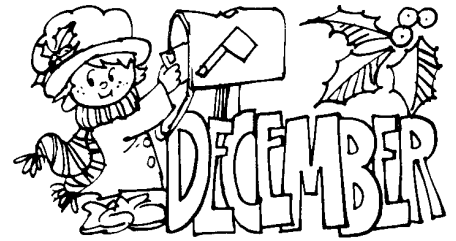
Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Gospel is the announcement of Jesus to the shepherds by the angels. For me, this is the Christmas Gospel. And I hear it in the voice of Linus from the Peanuts. It is a beautiful lesson. I just suggest you sit with this and think about it. Our God came as a little baby to bring to the world the gifts of hope, joy, love, and peace.

### **December 25, 2024 – Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Day**

#### **The Gospel Lesson is from John chapter 1 verses 1-14**

The other possible lesson is from John 1:1-14. It is the declaration that Jesus is one with the Father. He was at the beginning of creation and he is the light of the world. He has passed that light to us in baptism. YOU are a light to the world. Go, light the world in hope, joy, love, and peace.

Redeemer Lutheran Church of Leisure World and  
 St. Theodore of Canterbury Episcopal Church  
 13564 Saint Andrews Drive  
 Seal Beach, CA 90740  
 Office (562) 598-8697 Fax (562) 598-8697  
 E-Mail: redeemer\_lutheran@verizon.net  
 website: www.redeemerlutheransealbeach.com



2024

Interim Pastor: Bishop Murray Finck, Bishop Emeritus

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> <b>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> 10:30 Holy Communion Service	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> 10:30 Holy Communion Service	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 3:00 p.m. Advent Reflection Study and Supper	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> <b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> 10:30 Holy Communion Service <i>Sealed Pledge Drive Begins</i>	<b>16</b> <b>NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Office Hours 3:00 p.m. Advent Reflection Study and Supper	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b> 10:30 Holy Communion Service	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 10:30 a.m. Christmas Eve Service Brunch to follow Cookie Exchange	<b>25</b> <b>CHRISTMAS DAY</b> <b>OFFICE IS CLOSED TODAY</b>		<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>29</b> 10:30 Holy Communion Service Birthdays Celebrated	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> <b>NEW YEAR'S EVE</b>	<b>JANUARY 1</b> <b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>			