

THE ORDER FOR OUR WORSHIP

PRELUDE - *“Trust in His Steadfast Love”* by Donald Moore

HYMN 537 - *we sing, standing*

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

OPENING DIALOG

I will speak of your testimonies before kings, O Lord, **and shall not be put to shame.**

I will bless the Lord at all times; **His praise shall continually be in my mouth.**

My soul makes its boast in the Lord; **let the humble hear and be glad.**

Come, O children, listen to me; **I will teach you the fear of the Lord.**

The Lord redeems the life of his servants; **none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

GREETING, followed by PRAYER

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. **Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

(please be seated)

FIRST LESSON *(bulletin back page)*

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

PSALM 95:1-7 - *we sing, see insert*

SECOND LESSON *(bulletin back page)*

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

HYMN 173 - Alleluia- *we sing, standing*

GOSPEL *(bulletin back page)*

Before, all shout: Glory to you, O Lord!
After, all shout: Praise to you, O Christ!

HYMN 711 - *we sing as indicated, seated*

1 - all **2 - women & girls**
3 - men & boys **4 - all**

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

OFFERTORY

10:30 - *“Wachet Auf”* by J.S. Bach - Frank Vasi, soloist

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: **Hear our prayer!**

LORD'S PRAYER

COLLECT

BENEDICTION

HYMN 837 - *we sing, standing, vs 1,2,5,6*

POSTLUDE- *“Allegro”* by Scarlatti

NEWS AND NOTES

Last Sunday Here

Worshiping: 117 Offering: \$6,604

This Week Here

Wed - 1:30PM - Bible Study
- 7:00 PM - Bell Choir
- 7:45 PM - Parish Choir

Altar Flowers this morning are given by Ed and Nancy Schweizer in celebration of their 41st wedding anniversary.

Advent Jubilee Lunch is next Sunday, December 3, immediately following our 10:30 service. Look for sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

All are welcome to join us every Sunday in between services as we gather for fellowship and coffee. If you are able to help by serving on a Sunday, please sign up on the bulletin board. Baked goods are always welcome and may be brought in at any time and placed in the freezer to be enjoyed when needed.

If you took some **pictures at Pastor Nuechterlein's 70th Anniversary** of Ordination gala, and are willing to share some with Pastor, Gloria, their family, and the congregation, please transmit them to Tim at theweilands55@gmail.com as attachments. They will be made available additionally with photos taken with the disposable cameras, and with the videos recording the event. Thank you in advance!

Pledge Packets - If you have not already done so, please pick up your packet this morning and return your pledge to the church by December 17th. Your pledge will assist CLC in planning and meeting our financial obligations. Thank you!

Christmas Decorating - please join us on Saturday, December 16 at 9:00 a.m. to lend a hand decorating our building. Many hands make light work and your assistance would be greatly appreciated. We will gather on Fri, December 15 at 3:00 to harvest and bring the tree into the Sanctuary.

A WORD ABOUT THE LESSONS

By the Cross of Christ, We Enter the Kingdom of Our God and Father When the crucified and risen Lord Jesus comes to judge the living and the dead, *“he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats”* (Matt. 25:32). *“To those on his right,”* who have been crucified and raised with Him through repentance and faith in His Gospel, He will grant the blessed kingdom of His Father (Matt. 25:34). Having been justified by His grace, they live unto righteousness in Him (Matt. 25:35–40). But *“those on his left,”* who trust in themselves and despise their neighbor, will depart *“into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels”* (Matt. 25:41). Until that day, the Lord searches for His sheep *“as a shepherd seeks out his flock”* (Ezek. 34:11–12). Through His preaching of repentance, He disciplines the proud sheep and goats, *“the fat and the strong,”* but through the preaching of forgiveness He rescues the lost, binds up the injured, strengthens the weak and feeds *“the lean sheep”* (Ezek. 34:16, 20). In this way, He destroys the power of death in the children of Adam by His cross, so that *“in Christ shall all be made alive”* by His resurrection (1 Cor. 15:20–26).