

# THE DESERT STREAM



—Isaiah 35.6

December, 2025

## **Redeemer Lutheran Church**

[redeemerscottsdale.org](http://redeemerscottsdale.org)  
7670 E. Jomax Road  
Scottsdale, AZ 85262  
Tel.: 480-585-7002

**Sunday Worship...** 9a

**Sunday School...** 10:30a

**Kids: Bible History**

**Adults: St. Matthew**

**Midweek Bible Study:**

**+ 1 Peter +**

**Thursdays, 6 PM**

**At Redeemer & Teams**  
(No Class for Christmas, New Years Day)

**Forum, Voters @ RLC**

- Sun. 11/30
- Mon. 12/1, 6:30p

**Ladies' Guild Meets**  
Sunday, Dec. 14th.

**\*Lunch & Caroling—**  
Sun., Dec. 21st. (See back page for details)

**Book Club—** Next:  
Gene Veith's book The Spirituality of the Cross.  
Next meeting TBA.

Please Contact Pastor—

- **Private Confession**
  - **Christianity 101**
  - **Jr. Confirmation**
- The Congregation Prays:**  
**A Devotional Guide**  
**In Sunday's Bulletin!**

## *All You Really Need for Christmas*

There will have to be lights. They can bathe the outside the house as well as the inside. They'll light up the tree and the yard. We tend to think: It just wouldn't be the same without them.

There will have to be food. I can close my eyes and still smell the baking from home, when my mother and grandmother worked together for hours baking cookies by the hundreds. Come Christmas Eve we'll do our best to finish whatever is left of them—after the family's traditional late-night dinner of ham and cheese, cold beans, pickles and olives and potato salad.

There will have to be gifts. It always seemed very important to find just the right thing to give. Sometimes receiving the right gifts has also seemed very important.

There will have to be family, and friends too. There will have to be a whole number of other things that, without them, it just doesn't seem like Christmas.

Things like Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed and Berl Ives and Eggnog and pumpkin pie and Rum Chata and chestnuts roasting on an open fire...

But all you really need for Christmas is the Christ Child. Jesus was born into the world before these festivities were even a thing.

Jesus was born out in the cold without all the extras and amenities. He was born for you. He was born to your life. He was born to be your righteousness, and your sin-bearing Savior. Jesus was born for the world, and so in Him the world begins again.

Then Christmas comes everywhere, and for everyone. It comes to broken homes too, and orphanages. It comes to shine in the darkness. Christmas comes to poverty and sickness and it comes to prisons and hospitals.

*O how joyfully! O how merrily! Christmas comes with its gifts divine!*

For you to know the love of God for you—in the Christ child; in the swaddling clothes, in the manger bed. For you the Angel's message sounds anew:

Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people. Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior which is Christ the Lord! —Luke 2.

*Hail ye Christians! Hail the Joyous Christmas time!*

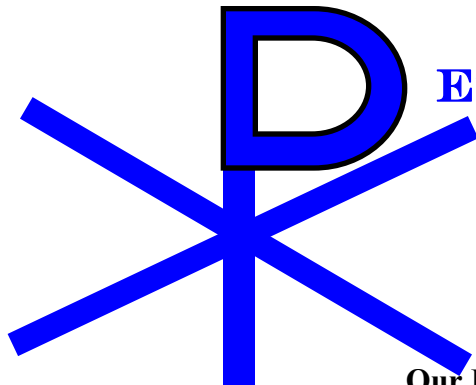
God grant it, I'll see you Sunday!

With Love,

Pastor Hamilton

**Acappella Advent Services**  
**(Kids Christmas Practice to follow)**  
**Wednesdays in Advent at Church**  
**4 PM, and for online upload**

- **Children's Christmas Service**  
**Sunday, Dec. 21, 9 AM**
- **Christmas Eve Candlelight**  
**Wednesday, Dec. 24, 4 PM**
- **Divine Service, Christmas Day**  
**Thursday, Dec. 25, 9 AM**



## DESERT STREAM CLASSIFIEDS

December, 2025

*In response to various requests from some of our membership to stay informed about meetings, plans and projects, this back page of our newsletter is provided. Please let Pastor know if there is more that we can do to keep everyone in touch and informed!*

**Redeemer**  
**Lutheran Church**  
*redeemerscottsdale.org*

*Find Us*

*On YouTube*

*and Facebook:*

**Redeemer Lutheran  
Church of Scottsdale**

*Please Promote our  
Worship Services and  
Online Content*

### **\*Christmas Caroling**

A Signup Sheet is  
Provided for a Brief  
Christmas Caroling  
Outing on Sunday,  
December 21st, with a  
light lunch and two to  
three stops to sing.  
We will need at least  
8 voices to make it  
work. **Come sing  
with us!**

**Thank you to all our  
Volunteers: Altar  
Guild, Music, Ladies  
Guild, Kitchen,  
Properties—And  
Volunteers for our  
Sunday School!**

**Please Pray for all  
these efforts!  
Thank You to  
Everyone!**

***Come to Church!  
Come to Bible Study!  
Bring a Friend!***

**Our Elders and Council met on Monday, November 3rd at 6:30 PM at the Church.** What follows is unofficial minutes:

Summary: Reports from the Pastor, Treasurer, Head Elder and Head Trustee were delivered. An update on new Church exterior lighting was provided. The Council took action to fund painting of the Sunday School classrooms up to \$500.

The meeting was called to order by Vice President/Interim Chairman Dick Welling at 6:30 PM and opened with prayer by the pastor. In attendance: Dick Welling, Norm Hartigan, Bryan Carlson, John Colville, Jim Bonnell, and Pastor Hamilton.

Item, Pastor's Report: October worship attendance averaged 32. Three adults are continuing under instruction, one with regularity. It was noted that some new families have become involved in Church and Sunday School lately.

Item, Treasurer's Report: YTD our giving has kept pace with our needs, and to date we remain approximately \$9000 to the good.

Item, Elders: Dick attended and represented our congregation and our synod at the Joint Reformation service at Emmanuel, Tempe (WELS).

Item, Trustees: The front door has sustained some damage and will need to be repaired with stain at potentially greater cost than initially hoped. This project is still in the research stage. No formal action has yet been taken.

Item, Trustees: The crash bar on the door that leads from the parish hall to the patio has been repaired and is working properly.

Item, Trustees: A search has begun for someone who can repair the deteriorating interior/exterior door that opens in the flower room.

Item, Trustees: Research on information for new exterior signage continues.

Evangelism: No Report.

Item, Trustees/Stewardship: 17 members and friends attended our workday this past month. Thank you!

Item, Christian Education: A motion was made to fund painting of our Sunday School classrooms up to \$500. m/s/p.

Item: A brief forum was proposed for November 30<sup>th</sup> to present the 2026 budget, with a special Voter's assembly to ratify just before the Council meets on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Approved by consensus.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. m/s/p.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer at approximately 7:20pm.

- **Midweek Bible Class** continues on **Thursday Evenings at 6PM, in person at Redeemer** and on **Microsoft Teams**. Please join us as we continue to study **the book of 1 Peter**. Your Link to join online:

<https://teams.live.com/join/9367419412339?p=3VieYxdvLBuNh2dpyl>

Thank you to all of the **Ladies of Redeemer** for your volunteer efforts! Regular reports are given in the meetings: Treasury, Alpha Pregnancy Center, Fellowship, Hospitality, Altar Guild, Sunday morning Fellowship. The next meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, December 14th**.

Thank you to all who are making such great **Puppets** for **Sunday School Openings!** They look amazing!