

+ Contemporary Worship +  
At Redeemer Lutheran Church

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9:45 am April 27, 2025

**Our mission is to share Christ's love with the greatest number of people.**



*In today's gospel the risen Christ appears to the disciples and offers them the gift of peace. Even amid doubts and questions, we experience the resurrection in our Sunday gathering around word and meal, and in our everyday lives. Throughout the coming Sundays of Easter the first two readings will be from the Acts of the Apostles and the first letter of Peter. Even as the early Christians proclaimed the resurrection, we rejoice in the new birth and living hope we receive in baptism.*



+ WELCOME TO WORSHIP +

## **PRELUDE**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Based on Psalm 16*

- Pastor      Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you.  
All            **I have said to the Lord, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”**
- Pastor      I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;  
All            **my heart teaches me night after night.**
- Pastor      I have set the Lord always before me;.  
All            **because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**
- Pastor      You will show me the path of life;  
All            **in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

**GATHERING HYMN**  
*All sing.*

# Your Everlasting Love

*Isaiah 54:8-10*



1. Your ev - er - last - ing love is high - er,  
 (2.) - er - last - ing love is deep - er,  
 (3.) - er - last - ing love is reach - ing,



high - er, high - er than the sky. Your ev -  
 deep - er, deep - er than the sea. Your ev -  
 reach - ing, reach - ing out to me. Your ev -



er - last - ing love is high - er,  
 er - last - ing love is deep - er,  
 er - last - ing love is reach - ing,



high - er, high - er than the  
 deep - er, deep - er than the  
 reach - ing, reach - ing out to



sky, high - er than the sky.  
 sea, deep - er than the sea.  
 me, reach - ing out to me.



Oh, the won - der of your ev - er - last - ing love is high - er than the  
 Oh, the won - der of your ev - er - last - ing love is deep - er than the  
 Oh, the won - der of your ev - er - last - ing love is reach - ing out to

## CONFESSION OF SIN

Pastor Christ has risen and we have risen to new life with him. Let us confess the ways we have continued to remain in the tombs of sin and death.

**All Living God, when we stand before the empty tomb we do not always feel the joy of the resurrection. We sometimes live in fear, doubt, and distrust. We sometimes feel empty. Forgive that which paralyzes us and prevents us from enjoying our new life in Christ. Forgive that which makes us doubt your unfailing love. Forgive that which tempts us away from the joy of your presence. Fill our emptiness with your glorious light.**

Pastor Let us awaken and rise from our sleep. Let the light of Christ shine on us. Christ has forgiven our sins. Christ calls us to new life. Christ will lead us into righteousness. As a called and ordained servant of the Church of Christ, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Receive the Holy Spirit and be empowered to be witnesses of God's love that we know through his Son, Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**All Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Let us pray.  
Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**All Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ THE WORD +

### Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

*After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.*

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: <sup>22</sup> "Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know <sup>23</sup> this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. <sup>24</sup> But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. <sup>25</sup> For David says concerning him,

'I saw the Lord always before me,  
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;  
<sup>26</sup> therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;  
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

<sup>27</sup> For you will not abandon my soul to Hades  
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

<sup>28</sup> You have made known to me the ways of life;  
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

<sup>29</sup> "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup> Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. <sup>31</sup> Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

'He was not abandoned to Hades,  
nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

<sup>32</sup> "This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses."

Reader Word of God, word of life. Congregation **Thanks be to God.**

**Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9**

*This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.*

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead <sup>4</sup> and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, <sup>5</sup> who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. <sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, <sup>7</sup> so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. <sup>8</sup> Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, <sup>9</sup> for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Reader            Word of God, word of life.            Congregation **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand and sing.*            **Halle, Halle, Hallelujah**

The musical score is written for a two-part setting (Soprano and Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. The lyrics are: Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954  
Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

**Please stand.**

Pastor            The Holy Gospel according to St. John.  
All                **Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel: John 20:19-31**

*The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.*

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Pastor            The Gospel of the Lord.  
Congregation   **Praise to you, O Christ.**



**SERMON**

*That All Might Believe*  
*Pastor John Teitman*

*Please stand and sing.*

**He who began a good work in you**

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are: "He who began a good work in you, he who began a good work in you will be faithful to complete it, will be faithful to complete it. He who started the work will be faithful to complete it in you." The chords are: G, Bm7, C, D, D/C, Bm7, Em7, Am, D7, G, Bm7, C, D, D/C, Bm7, E7, Am7, D7, Am7, D7, Am7, G/B, C, C/D, D7, G.

Text and music: Jon Mohr  
Text and music © 1987 Jonathan Mark Music, admin. Gaither Music and Brethren Music, admin. Text and music © 1987 Jonathan Mark Music, admin. Gaither Music and Brethren Music, admin.

### **APOSTLES' CREED**

Asst. Min.

With the whole Church, let us confess our faith.

All

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

**PRAYERS**

Prayers are included for the whole Church, the nations, those in need, the parish and special concerns. After each portion of the prayers:

Asst. Min. Merciful God.  
All **receive our prayer.**

At the end of the prayer:

Pastor Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,  
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

All **Amen.**

Pastor May the peace of Christ be with you always.

All **And also with you.**

**SHARING THE LORD’S PEACE**

Please greet one another with words such as “God’s peace be with you.”

Sit

+ SHARING OUR GIFTS +

**OFFERING**

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Our offerings to God are first of all just that – offerings of thanksgiving to God. As you are able please continue to support our ministry with your financial gifts.

Please sign the red attendance book and pass it down the pew.

**OFFERING MUSIC**

“My Savior My God” Words and Music by  
Aaron Shust and Dorothy Dora Greenwell

**OFFERTORY**

Please stand and sing.

We are an offering

Text and music: Dwight Liles  
Text and music © 1984 Bug and Bear Music, admin Word Music, Inc.

The musical notation is written on a single treble clef staff. It consists of two lines of music. The first line has five measures with chords G, C<sup>2</sup>, Dm<sup>7</sup>, C<sup>2</sup>/E, and C/E. The lyrics under the first line are "We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our". The second line has six measures with chords F, C/E, Dm<sup>7</sup>, Dm<sup>7</sup>/G, C, and C. The lyrics under the second line are "lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing." There are triplets indicated by a '3' over the notes in the second line.

### OFFERING PRAYER

Asst. Min. Let us pray.  
**All Risen Lord,  
you call us to believe and bear fruit.  
May the gifts that we offer here  
be signs of your abiding love.  
Form us to be your witnesses in the world,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.  
Amen.**

+ COME TO THE TABLE +

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

Pastor Lift up your hearts.  
**All We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**All It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.  
**All 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.**

Pastor Come, for all is now ready.

### COMMUNION

***All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.***

*Communion will be offered by intinction. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.  
For those not comfortable receiving from those who are distributing the elements, a separate  
tray is available.*


*Anyone not comfortable receiving the bread or the wine is invited to come forward for a  
blessing. To receive a blessing, please cross your arms.  
You are an important part of our faith community.*

*In Holy Communion we receive the true body and blood of Christ.*


All

## One Bread, One Body


*Refrain*




One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of




bles-sing which we bless, and we, though man-y



through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,  
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,  
3 Grain for the fields, scat - tered and grown,



*Refrain*

wom - an or man, no more.  
one in the Lord of all.  
gath - ered to one for all.

Text: John Foley, sr, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, sr

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**Please stand.**

Pastor

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood,  
strengthen and preserve you unto eternal life.

All

**Amen.**

**PRAYER**

Asst. Min.

Let us pray. Holy One, through this meal you have made your home  
among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to  
anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the  
nations. In the name of Jesus,

All

**Amen.**

+ THE SENDING +

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, + bless you now and forever.

**All**

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG**

*All sing.*

**Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises**

*Haleluya! Pelo tsa rona*

*Refrain— sung twice each time*



Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa ro - na, di tha -  
Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your prais - es, all our



bi - le ka - o - fe - la. Ha - le - lu - ya! Pe - lo tsa  
hearts are filled with glad - ness. Hal - le - lu - jah! We sing your



ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la. *End*  
prais - es, all our hearts are filled with glad - ness.



1 Christ the Lord to us said: I am wine, I am bread,  
2 Now he sends us all out, strong in faith, free of doubt,

*Repeat stanza, then sing refrain*



I am wine, I am bread, give to all who thirst and hun - ger.  
strong in faith, free of doubt. Tell to all the joy - ful gos - pel.

Text: South African; tr. *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984  
Music: HALELUYA! PELO TSA RONA, South African  
Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

**DISMISSAL**

Asst. Min.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**All**

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

# Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

**Children** are welcome in our worship. There is a children's worship bulletin for them. If you prefer, a nursery and/or childcare is available for children up to age 3 during all worship services.

**Hearing help available:** We have personal hearing amplification units available for your use. Please speak with the person at the sound board.

Church Phone: 703-356-3346

Email: [church@redeemermclean.org](mailto:church@redeemermclean.org)

## *Sunday Services*

***9:45 am for the contemporary service and 8:30 am and 11 am for traditional services***

Next Sunday's Scripture:

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19

1 Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35

## **Welcomed with Open Arms**

Thomas is not the only one missing from the assembly the Sunday after Easter Sunday. We are not told why Thomas is missing, but we do know why plenty of other folks are absent from the assembly: vacations, traveling, spring break for the kids.

Thomas is criticized for doubting, but he asks for nothing more than the same experience of the risen Christ the rest of the disciples had. By the grace of God, Jesus returns a second time and offers his body as living proof to Thomas. In the presence of Jesus, Thomas discovers he did not need the proof he demanded. Thomas' story is our story. We are not always where we need to be. Sometimes we even find ourselves in places we should not be at all. But Jesus comes to us, seeking us out and giving us the gift of faith. Thomas is not criticized, he is not condemned. Instead Jesus loves Thomas back into a relationship and shows the disciples what the words "Peace be with you" mean when lived out.

The resurrection promise can be heard through Peter's powerful preaching in the reading from Acts as well. Jesus will triumph over death. Peter points to Jesus' death on the cross, but what of the little ways we die? The loss of relationships, the ending of friendships, the pain of being alone and left out, the despair of losing a job, the doubt that comes on the heels of a negative diagnosis. Jesus comes to bring a holy peace and resurrection into the world in these times as well. This Sunday is an opportunity to proclaim the power of the resurrection and the grace of God, who welcomes Thomas with open arms.

The flowers are given to the glory of God.

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