

+ Contemporary Worship +
At Redeemer Lutheran Church

9:45 am April 26, 2026

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



Today is sometimes called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus is called the “gate” of the sheep in today’s gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world’s violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God’s tender care to all creation.



+ WELCOME TO WORSHIP +

PRELUDE

*Prelude, opus 3, no. 2 in C sharp minor by Sergei Rachmaninoff
Emily Osifchin, piano*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Based on Psalm 23

- Pastor The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.
All The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.
- Pastor You restore my soul, O Lord;
All and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.
- Pastor Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
All for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- Pastor You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
All you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- Pastor Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
All and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

GATHERING HYMN
All sing.

Your Everlasting Love

Isaiah 54:8-10

$\text{♩} = 132$

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

sky.
 sea.
 me.

*Last time
 end here*

2. Your ev -
 3. Your ev -

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. I 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.

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ THE WORD +

Reading: Acts 2:42-47

Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was poured out on God's people. The new community is sustained in worship and fellowship, shares what they have, and ensures that everyone has enough.

⁴² [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

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

Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25

Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly amid adversity.

¹⁷ If ¹⁹ It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰ If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²² “He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian 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 voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. 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.

Please stand.

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

Gospel: John 10:1-10

Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Those who listen to Jesus are led to abundant life.

[Jesus said:] ¹ “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

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

SERMON

Believing the Familiar
Pastor Sharon Core

Please stand and sing.

Step by step

O God, you are my God, and I will ev - er praise
you. O God, you are my God, and
I will ev - er praise you. I will seek you in the morn-
- ing, and I will learn to walk in your ways, and

Chords: D(no3), G, G², D/F#, C/E, C/D, G, D(no3), G, G², D/F#, D, C/E, C/D, G, G², G, Em, C/E, Em, Dsus, D, Am/E, Am/C, Am

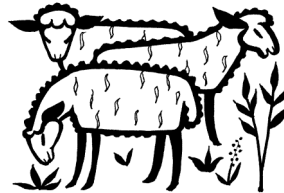
G G² G D/F# D C/D Am/D D⁷sus
 step by step you'll lead me, and I will fol-low you all of my

¹G D(no3) ²G G² G Em
 days. O days, and I will fol-low you all of my

Dsus D Am⁷ F C D⁷sus
 days, and I will fol-low you all of my days, and

G²/D D C/D G
 step by step you'll lead me, and I will fol-low you all of my days.

Text: Beaker
 Music: Beaker; arr. Nvlen Butler-Moore



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

"Here Is Our King" by David Crowder

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 two staves in treble clef. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the lyrics: "We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our". Above the notes are the chords G, C², Dm⁷, C²/E, and C/E. The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering." Above the notes are the chords F, C/E, Dm⁷, Dm⁷/G, and C. There are triplets indicated by a '3' over the notes in the second staff.

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 sing.

Text and music: Graham Kendrick
Text and music © 1986 Make Way Music, admin. Integrity Music, Inc.

Amazing love

C Dm⁷ Gsus G

1 My Lord, what love is this that pays so
2 And so they watched him die, de - spised, re -
3 And now this love of Christ shall flow like

Csus C G C Dm⁷ F/G G C

dear - ly, that I, the guilt - y one, may go free?
ject - ed; but, oh, the blood he shed flowed for me.
riv - ers; come, wash your guilt a - way, live a - gain.

Refrain Gm⁷ C Eb

A - maz - ing love, oh, what sac - ri - fice, the Son of God giv'n for

G Gm⁷ C

me; my debt he pays and my death he dies, that

Gm⁷ C Gm⁷ C

I might live, that I might live.

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 na-
tions. 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

End

ro - na, di tha - bi - le ka - o - fe - la.
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; arr. *Freedom Is Coming*
English text and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

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DISMISSAL

Asst. Min.

All

Go in peace. Share the good news.

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

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

Next Sunday's Scripture:

Acts 7:55-60 Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 1 Peter 2:2-10 John 14:1-14

An Abundant Life

Abundant life is promised to those who follow Jesus. But what is meant by abundant life? Some Christians, and much of contemporary American culture, interpret an abundant life to mean the "good life" of many fine things, an opulent lifestyle. Much of our economy and leisure time revolves around consumerism—shopping and buying things which we hope will make us happier and our lives better. But an abundance of things does not necessarily lead to an abundant life.

What does Jesus mean when he says that he came so that we may have an abundant life? Psalm 23 provides us with a good illustration of what Jesus is promising to his followers. The psalm imagines an abundant life not in material terms but in relational terms. An abundant life is one lived in the presence of God, in the company of the Lord. Whether one is in green pastures or the darkest valley, there is nothing to want, because God is present. We are in the gracious and generous care of our Lord through times of material abundance and in times of want and scarcity. This relationship between our Lord and us who are his followers is a relationship with one who knows us abundantly, who knows us by name, and who knows what we truly need to be fulfilled. The image of Jesus as our shepherd reminds us that he is with us at all times, and our relationship with him provides us all we need.

*The flowers are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of William Buchholtz, father of Laura Broderdorf.*

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