

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Our Mission: To share Christ's love with the greatest number of people.

9th Sunday after Pentecost, August 10, 2025

The Service at 10:30 am



Jesus says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part in today's assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.



GATHERING

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand.

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

Pastor Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Congregation **Amen.**

Pastor Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor Most merciful God,
Congregation **have mercy on us.**
We confess that we are in bondage to sin
and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.

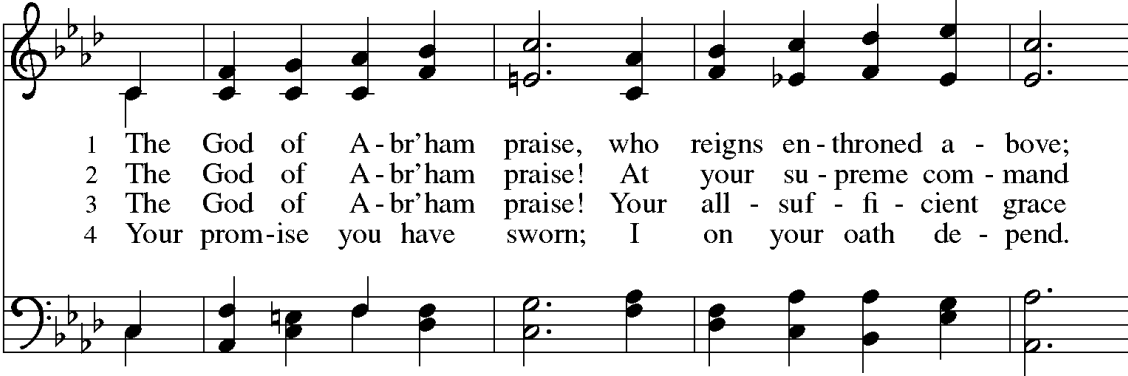
Pastor God, who is rich in mercy,
loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.
By grace you have been saved.
In the name of + Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Congregation **Amen.**

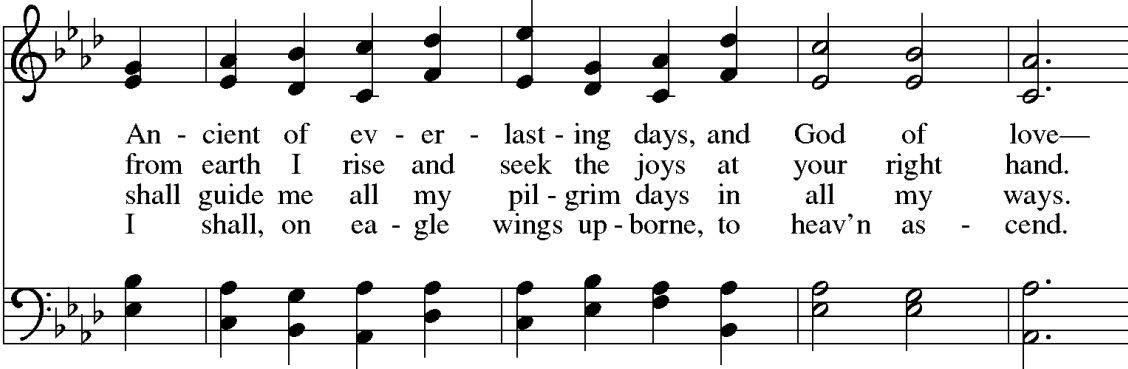
GATHERING HYMN: #831

We invite you to turn and face the cross (as you are comfortable). Please turn to the front of the sanctuary after the cross has passed you. All sing.

The God of Abraham Praise



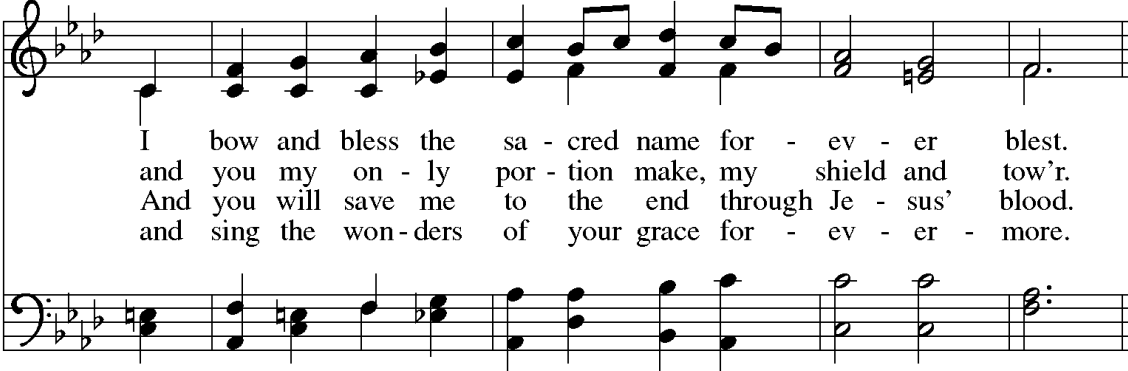
1 The God of A-br'ham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove;
2 The God of A-br'ham praise! At your su - preme com - mand
3 The God of A-br'ham praise! Your all - suf - fi - cient grace
4 Your prom - ise you have sworn; I on your oath de - pend.



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love—
from earth I rise and seek the joys at your right hand.
shall guide me all my pil - grim days in all my ways.
I shall, on ea - gle wings up - borne, to heav'n as - cend.



“I Am the One I Am”—by earth and heav'n con - fessed;
I all on earth for - sake—its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r—
You deign to call me friend; you call your - self my God!
I shall be - hold your face; I shall your pow'r a - dore,



I bow and bless the sa - cred name for - ev - er blest.
and you my on - ly por - tion make, my shield and tow'r.
And you will save me to the end through Je - sus' blood.
and sing the won - ders of your grace for - ev - er - more.

Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799, alt., based on the Yigdal, c. 14th cent.
Music: YIGDAL, Jewish melody; arr. Meyer Lyon, 1751–1797

APOSTOLIC GREETING

Pastor

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Congregation

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

All sing.

Now the Feast and Celebration

Refrain



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



Refrain
freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



Refrain
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



Refrain
God; to make all things new.

Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor The Lord be with you.

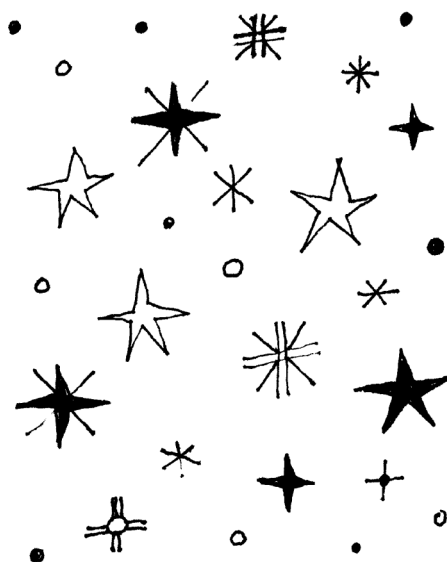
Congregation **And also with you.**

Pastor Let us pray.

Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Congregation **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



THE WORD

Reading: Genesis 15:1-6

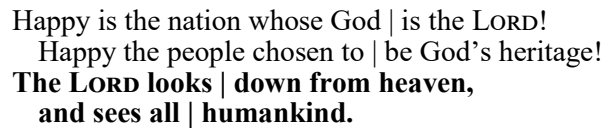
God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Reader Word of God, word of life.

Congregation **Thanks be to God.**

Congregation sings words in bold.



A king is not saved by the size | of the army,
nor are warriors rescued by | their great strength.
The horse gives vain | hope for victory;
despite its great strength it | cannot save.

Our innermost being waits for | you, O LORD,
our helper | and our shield.
Surely, our heart rejoic- | es in you,
for in your holy name we | put our trust.

Reading: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered himself faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

g. All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

7

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Please stand and sing.



The Gospel is announced.

Pastor

Congregation

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 12:32-40

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

Jesus said: "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

"Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

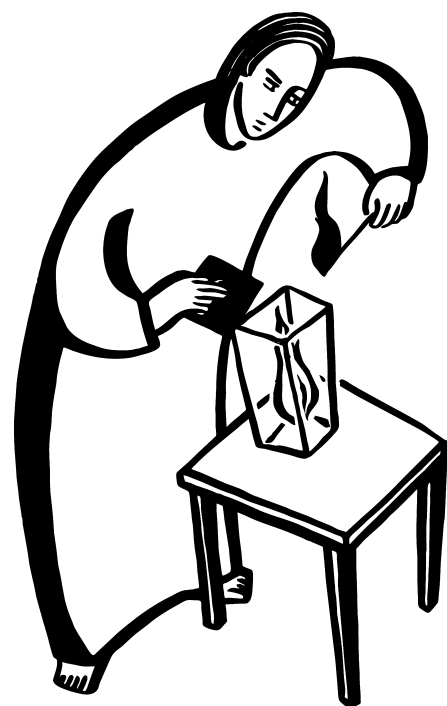
"But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

Pastor

Congregation

The Gospel of the Lord.

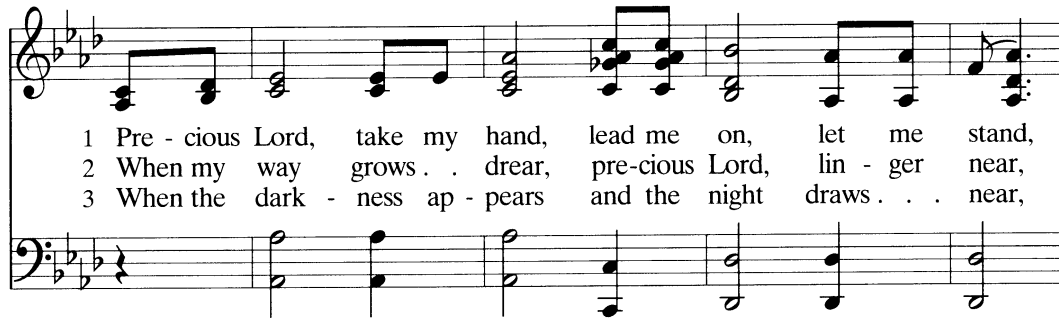
Praise to you, O Christ.



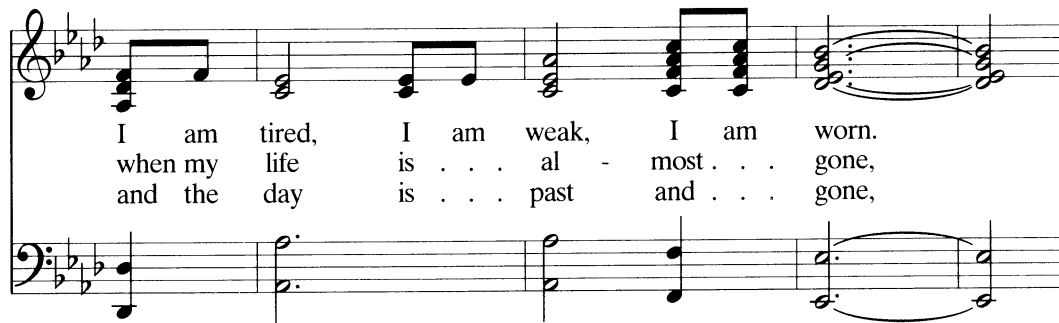
SERMON

Pastor John Teitman

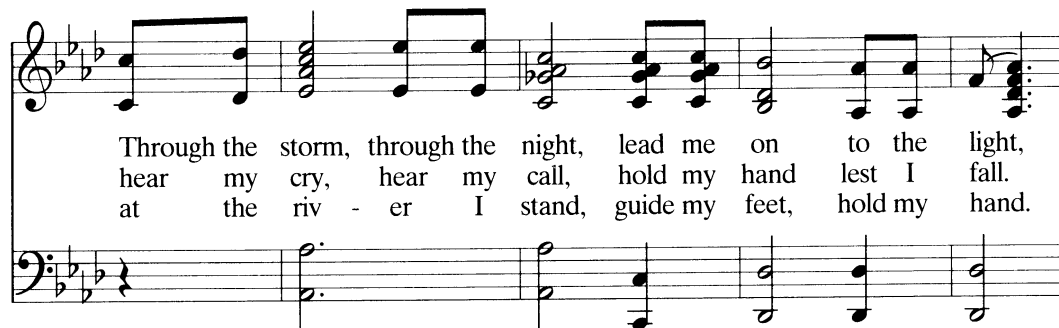
Precious Lord, Take My Hand



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
2 When my way grows . . drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near,
3 When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws . . . near,



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
when my life is . . . al - most . . . gone,
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,



Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light,
hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.



take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

Text: George N. Allen, *The Oberlin Social and Sabbath School Hymn Book*, 1844; adapt. Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993
Music: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993
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PRECIOUS LORD
irregular

APOSTLES' CREED

Asst. Min. With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
Congregation **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. God of grace,
Congregation **hear 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.
Congregation **Amen.**

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor The peace of Christ be with you always.
Congregation **And also with you.**

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say, "Peace be with you" or similar words.

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.

OFFERTORY

"He Leadeth Me" by Benjamin Harlan

COME TO THE TABLE

OFFERTORY SONG
Please stand and sing.

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Asst. Min.
Congregation

Let us pray.
**Holy God, gracious and merciful,
you bring forth food from the earth
and nourish your whole creation.
Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way,
that all may know your care;
and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor
Congregation

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Pastor
Congregation

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

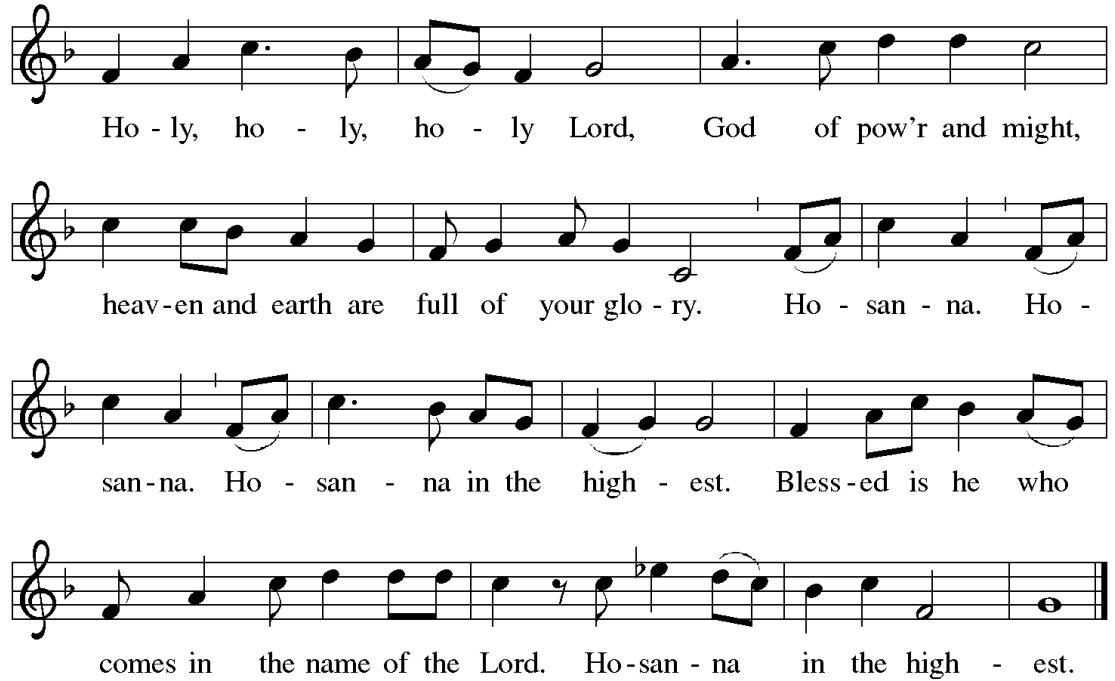
Pastor
Congregation

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

Pastor

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

All sing.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor

Congregation

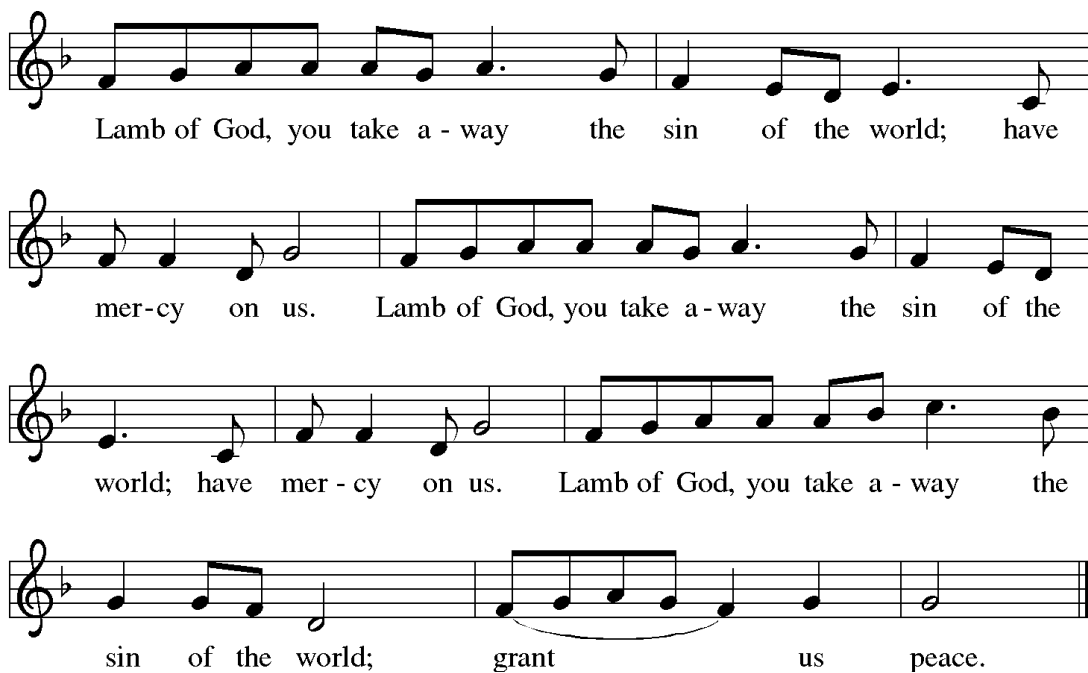
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

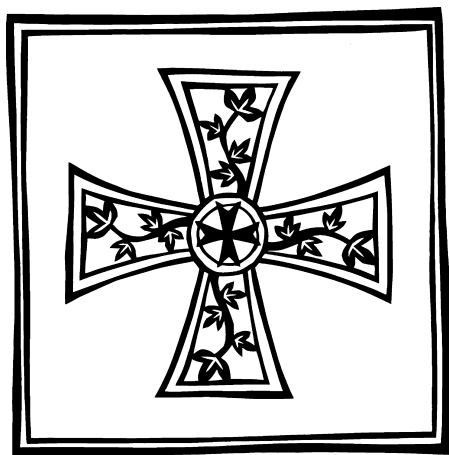
**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

All sing.



INVITATION TO COMMUNE



COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Communion will be offered by intinction.

*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.

Just a Closer Walk with Thee



Refrain Just a clos - er walk with thee, grant it, Je - sus, is my plea;
 1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;
 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
 3 When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;

dai - ly walk-ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.
 I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Ref.*
 Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. *Ref.*
 guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore. *Ref.*

Text: North American traditional
 Music: CLOSER WALK, North American traditional

Please stand.

Pastor The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
 Congregation **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Asst. Min. Let us pray. Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.
 Congregation **Amen.**

THE SENDING

BLESSING

Pastor Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
 Congregation **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN #796

Please follow the cross, turning toward the cross as it passes by your pew. As the cross leads, so Christ leads us out into the community to share Christ's love.

How Firm a Foundation

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3 "When through fi - ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove

is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can he say than to you he has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,

who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

DISMISSAL

Asst. Min.
Congregation

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

Summer Sunday Services: July 27 to August 31
9 am for the contemporary service and 10:30 am for the traditional service

Starting September 7:
8:30 and 11 am for the traditional services and 9:45 am for the contemporary service

Next Sunday's Scripture: Jeremiah 23:23-29 Psalm 82 Hebrews 11:29-12:2 Luke 12:49-56

Always Ready

For which events are you always prepared? Perhaps the coffee is always on in your house, awaiting the unannounced guest at any hour. Or perhaps you always have your passport up to date, ready to take advantage of that spur-of-the-moment vacation deal that arrives in your inbox. Being prepared for what life brings us, knowing we're ready to tackle whatever comes our way, can give us a sense of security.

Today's gospel reading takes the idea of readiness to divine proportions as Jesus reminds the disciples to be prepared for God's inbreaking at any moment. How are we prepared for God to show up in our everyday life? How are we prepared to encounter God being at work, even now?

God's kingdom is like a grand wedding party where everyone is invited and has a light to shine. God's realm is like a gigantic feast where all are fed and no one goes away empty. God's reign is one in which humanity can invest in things that last, instead of hoarding for lean times, because in the community of God there is enough for all so we never need to be afraid.

While many people might hear this reading as referring only to Christ's final coming, in our liturgy we are reminded that Christ arrives in many and various ways all the time. We are blessed by the Holy Spirit in the waters of baptism, in the bread and wine of the eucharist, in the face of our neighbors as we greet one another with God's overwhelming peace.

The kingdom of God is always at hand, breaking through the ordinary and mundane in extraordinary ways. Today we are reminded to be ready for it, to look for it, to anticipate it with fearless expectation. So, how are we ready to encounter Christ today?

The flowers are given to the glory of God.

Today we are using Setting 3 from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal.

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