

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

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

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost, August 20, 2023

The Service at 10:30 am



In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.

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 **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.**

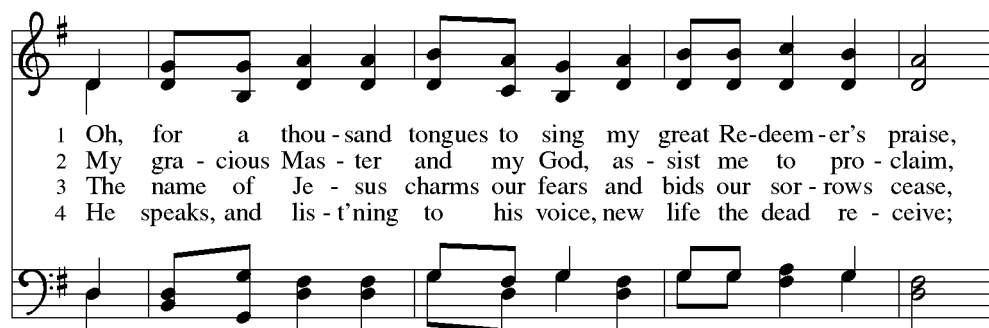
Pastor God, who is rich in mercy,
loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.
By grace you have been saved.
In the name of Jesus Christ,
your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through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

Congregation **Amen.**

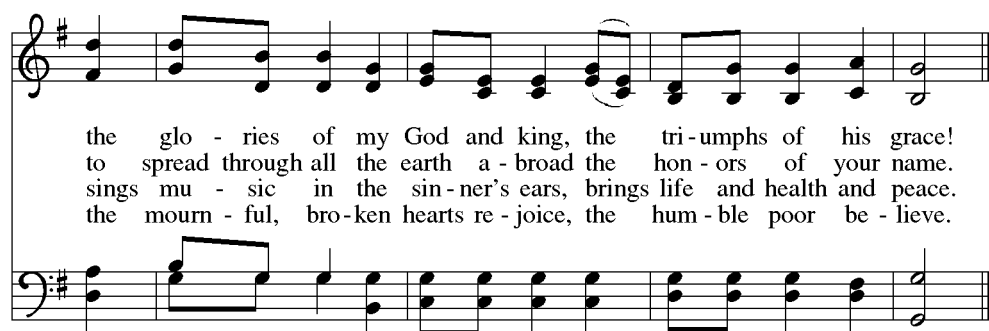
GATHERING HYMN: OH, FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING #886

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.

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem - er's praise,
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
3 The name of Je - sus charms our fears and bids our sor - rows cease,
4 He speaks, and lis - t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive;



the glo - ries of my God and king, the tri - umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
sings mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn - ful, bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.

5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace!

6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

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.**

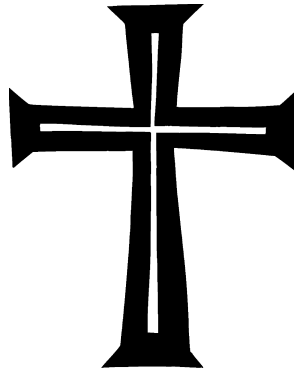
Pastor Let us pray.
 O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue
 your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the
 faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Congregation **Amen.**

Please sit.

TEMPLE TALK

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (BLESSING OF BACKPACKS)



THE WORD

Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.

Thus says the LORD:
 Maintain justice, and do what is right,
for soon my salvation will come,
 and my deliverance be revealed.

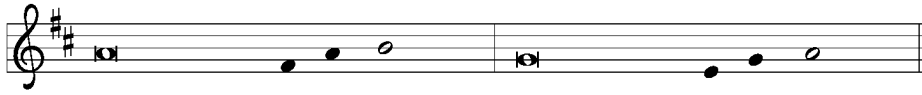
And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
 to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
 and to be his servants,
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,
 and hold fast my covenant—
these I will bring to my holy mountain,
 and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
 will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
 for all peoples.

Thus says the Lord God,
 who gathers the outcasts of Israel,
I will gather others to them
 besides those already gathered.

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

Psalm 67

Congregation sings words in bold.



May God be merciful to | us and bless us;
may the light of God's face | shine upon us.

Let your way be known | upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.

Let the peoples praise | you, O God;
let all the | peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and | sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.

Let the peoples praise | you, O God;
let all the | peoples praise you.

The earth has brought | forth its increase;
God, our own | God, has blessed us.

May God | give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth | stand in awe.

Reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

[Paul writes:] I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Reader
Congregation

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand and sing.



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



The Gospel is announced.

Max Miller
Congregation

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

Max Miller
Congregation

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

SERMON

Max Miller

*Redeemer welcomes the return of our seminarian, Max Miller.
Max is currently enrolled at Duke Divinity School and is affiliated with United Lutheran Seminary.*

HYMN OF THE DAY: LORD OF ALL NATIONS, GRANT ME GRACE #716

Please stand and sing.

Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace



1 Lord of all na - tions, grant me grace to love all
2 Break down the wall that would di - vide thy chil - dren,
3 For - give me, Lord, where I have erred by love - less
4 Give me thy cour - age, Lord, to speak when - ev - er
5 With thine own love may I be filled and by thy



peo - ple, ev - 'ry race; and in each per - son may I
Lord, on ev - 'ry side. My neigh - bor's good let me pur -
act and thought - less word. Make me to see the wrong I
strong op - press the weak. Should I my - self the vic - tim
Ho - ly Spir - it willed, that all I touch, wher - e'er I



see my kin - dred, loved, re - deemed by thee.
sue; let Chris - tian love bind warm and true.
do will cru - ci - fy my Lord a - new.
be, help me for - give, re - mem - b'ring thee.
be, may be di - vine - ly touched by thee.

Text: Olive Wise Spannaus, b. 1916, alt.
Music: BEATUS VIR, *Šamotulský Kancionál*, 1561
Text © 1969 Concordia Publishing House.

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. Hear us, O God.
Congregation **Your mercy is great.**

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. Offering plates are found at the front of the worship space by the baptismal font and in the back of the church as you leave our worship space.
Please give as you are able.*

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

OFFERTORY

'I Will Sing With the Spirit' John Rutter

COME TO THE TABLE

OFFERTORY SONG

Please stand and sing.



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

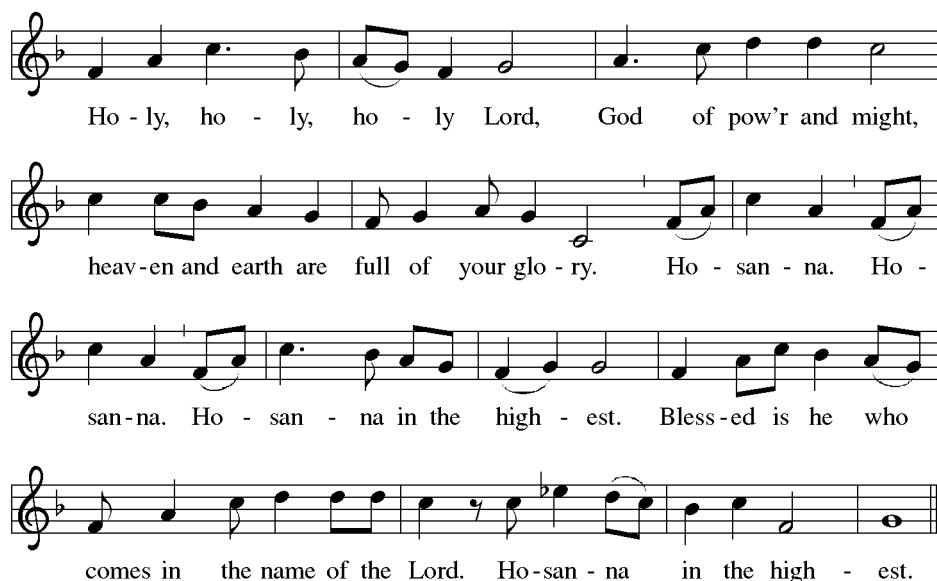
Pastor Congregation	Let us pray. God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.
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THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand.

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

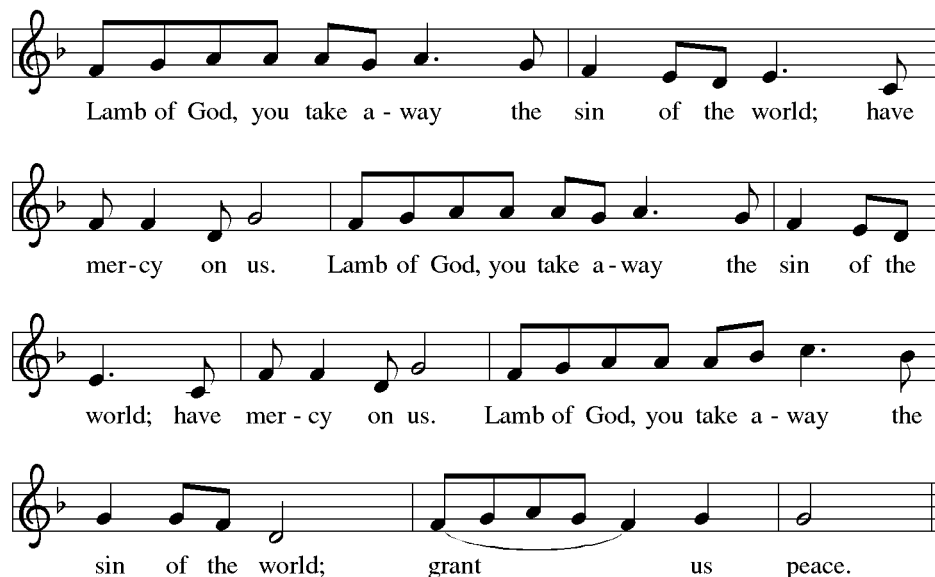
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNE

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

We gather around the communion rail either kneeling or standing to receive communion.

Communion will be offered by intinction.

For those not comfortable receiving from the pastors' hands a separate tray with preset elements will follow.

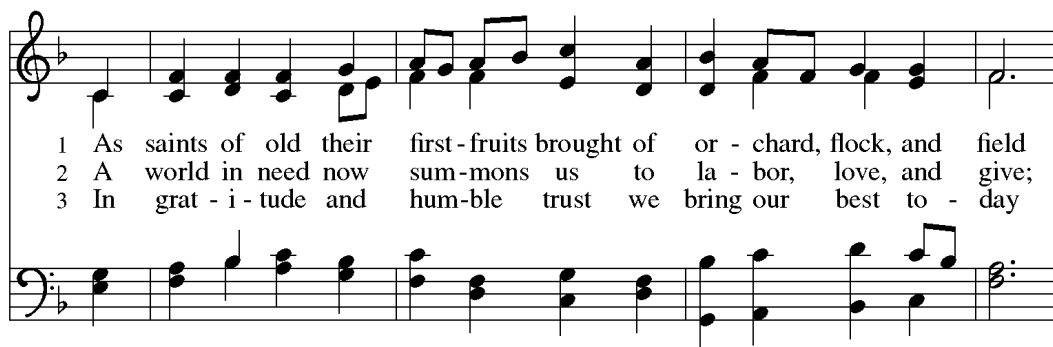
Anyone not comfortable receiving the bread or the wine are invited to come forward for a blessing.

You are an important part of our faith community.

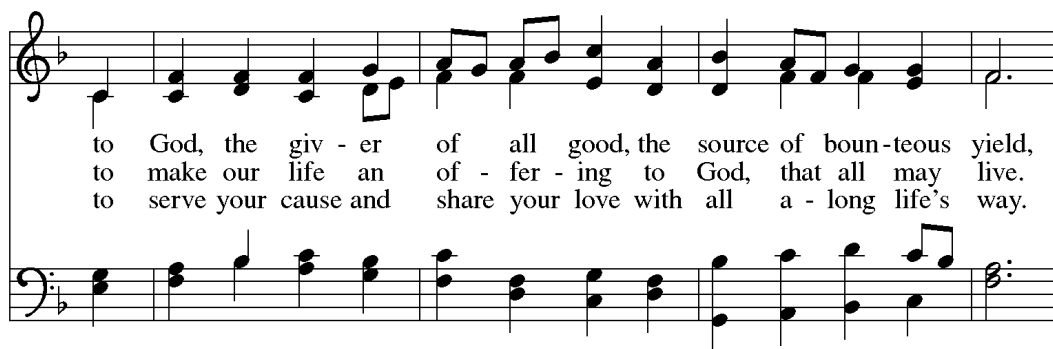
COMMUNION HYMN: AS SAINTS OF OLD #695

All sing.

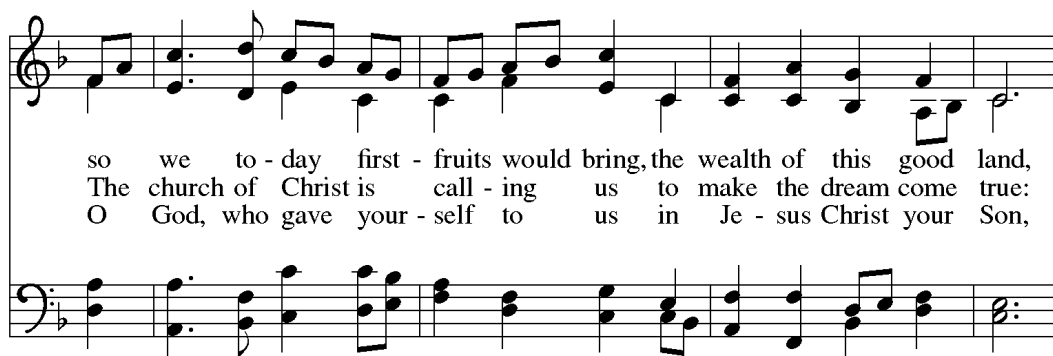
As Saints of Old



1 As saints of old their first-fruits brought of or - chard, flock, and field
 2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la - bor, love, and give;
 3 In grat - i - tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to - day



to God, the giv - er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield,
 to make our life an of - fer - ing to God, that all may live.
 to serve your cause and share your love with all a - long life's way.



so we to - day first - fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land,
 The church of Christ is call - ing us to make the dream come true:
 O God, who gave your - self to us in Je - sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
 a world re-deemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.
 teach us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

Text: Frank von Christerson, 1900–1996, alt.

Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

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Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

Please stand.

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

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Please stand and sing.

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let
ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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: GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS #733

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.

All sing.

Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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DISMISSAL

Asst Min.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Congregation

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

1545 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, VA 22101

Children are welcome in our worship.

Church Phone: 703-356-3346

Email: Church@redeemermclean.org

Hearing help available: We have for your use, personal hearing amplification units available in the narthex. Please refer questions or comments to an usher.

Summer Sunday Services

*July 23 - August 20 9 am - Contemporary Service
10:30 am - Traditional Service*

***Starting next week, August 27, August 27, our worship schedule is:
8:30 and 11 am - Traditional Services 9:45 am - Contemporary Service***

Next Sunday's Scripture: Isaiah 51:1-6, Psalm 138, Romans 12:1-8 Matthew 16:13-20

Holding Jesus Accountable

As disturbing as the report of Jesus' callous-sounding encounter with the unnamed Canaanite woman may be to our ears, all around him, on both sides of their ethnic divide, were people who would have been outraged by any act of generosity or goodwill between a Jew and a Canaanite. So it's no surprise when the disciples urge Jesus to send her away. Animosities toward "those" on the other side of the border, between children of Canaan and children of Israel, were deeply entrenched and easily inflamed. Jesus appears to identify with the ill will.

All eyes and ears attend the scene. The shouting, then kneeling woman is in stubborn company with others whose protesting faith demands more than silence from God, who refuse to be rejected by God, who insist on being heard by God. She is in the company of Jacob, who wrestled with God through the night and demanded a blessing; with Moses pleading for God's mercy upon stiff-necked people; with Job, not settling for a vindictive Creator. She's in tradition with the psalmist's entreaty "My God, . . . why [are you] so far from saving me?" (Psalm 22:1). She is beside Martha railing against Jesus' delay as her brother, Lazarus, lay dying, and beside the blind men shouting to Jesus above defiant crowds at Jericho.

The Canaanite woman is clear about the way of Jesus, so she dares to hold him—Son of David, face of God—accountable. Yes, her aggressive and, surely for many, objectionable faith in the mercy of Jesus against all evidence to the contrary results in her daughter's healing. What's more, her persistent challenge to Jesus becomes an enduring voice to be heard by any who dare claim that God's mercy is limited, God's help is restricted, or God's providence is settled. She raises her voice and takes a knee for the church of Jesus Christ, representing all the voices shouting, "Have mercy on me."

The flowers are given to the glory of God.

Today we are using Settings 3 from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship book.

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