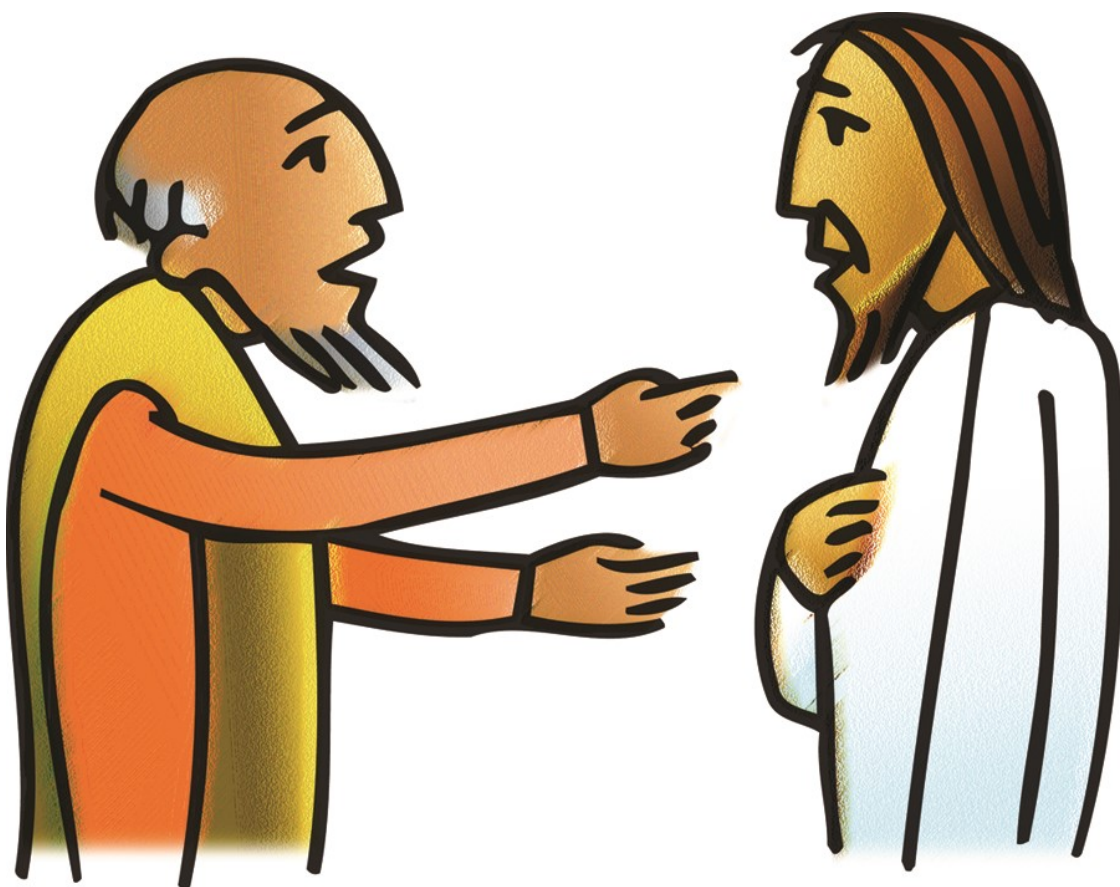


# Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

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

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, August 27, 2023

The Service at 8:30 and 11 am



*In Isaiah the people are advised to look to their spiritual ancestors as the rock from which they were hewn. Jesus declares that the church will be built on the rock of Peter's bold confession of faith. God's word of reconciliation and God's mercy are keys to the church's mission. Paul urges us to not be conformed to this world but to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, using our individual gifts to build up the body of Christ. From the table we go forth to offer our spiritual worship through word and deed.*



## 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: COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING #807

*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.*

## Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";  
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;

streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.  
and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.  
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.

While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,  
Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;  
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.

teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.  
he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.  
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–1790, alt.

Music: NETTLETON, J. Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

## 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!



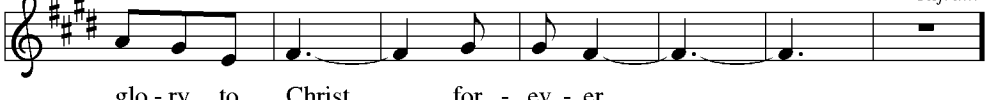
1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



*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, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Congregation **Amen.**

*Please sit.*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### THE WORD

#### Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6

*Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.*

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness,  
you that seek the LORD.  
Look to the rock from which you were hewn,  
and to the quarry from which you were dug.  
Look to Abraham your father  
and to Sarah who bore you;  
for he was but one when I called him,  
but I blessed him and made him many.  
For the LORD will comfort Zion;  
he will comfort all her waste places,  
and will make her wilderness like Eden,  
her desert like the garden of the LORD;  
joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people,  
and give heed to me, my nation;  
for a teaching will go out from me,  
and my justice for a light to the peoples.  
I will bring near my deliverance swiftly,  
my salvation has gone out  
and my arms will rule the peoples;  
the coastlands wait for me,  
and for my arm they hope.  
Lift up your eyes to the heavens,  
and look at the earth beneath;  
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,  
the earth will wear out like a garment,  
and those who live on it will die like gnats;  
but my salvation will be forever,  
and my deliverance will never be ended.

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

## Psalm 138

*Congregation sings words in bold.*



I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I will sing your praise.

**I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;**

**for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

When I called, you answered me;  
you increased my strength within me.

**All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,  
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

They will sing of the ways of the LORD,  
that great is the glory of the LORD.

**The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,  
perceiving the haughty from afar.**

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

**You will make good your purpose for me;**

**O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.**

## Reading: Romans 12:1-8

*In response to God's merciful activity, we are to worship by living holistic, God-pleasing lives. Our values and viewpoints are not molded by the time in which we live but are transformed by the Spirit's renewing work. God's grace empowers different forms of service among Christians, but all forms of ministry function to build up the body of Christ.*

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Reader

Word of God, word of life.

Congregation

**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.

Pastor

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Congregation

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20**

*At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.*

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Pastor

The Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation

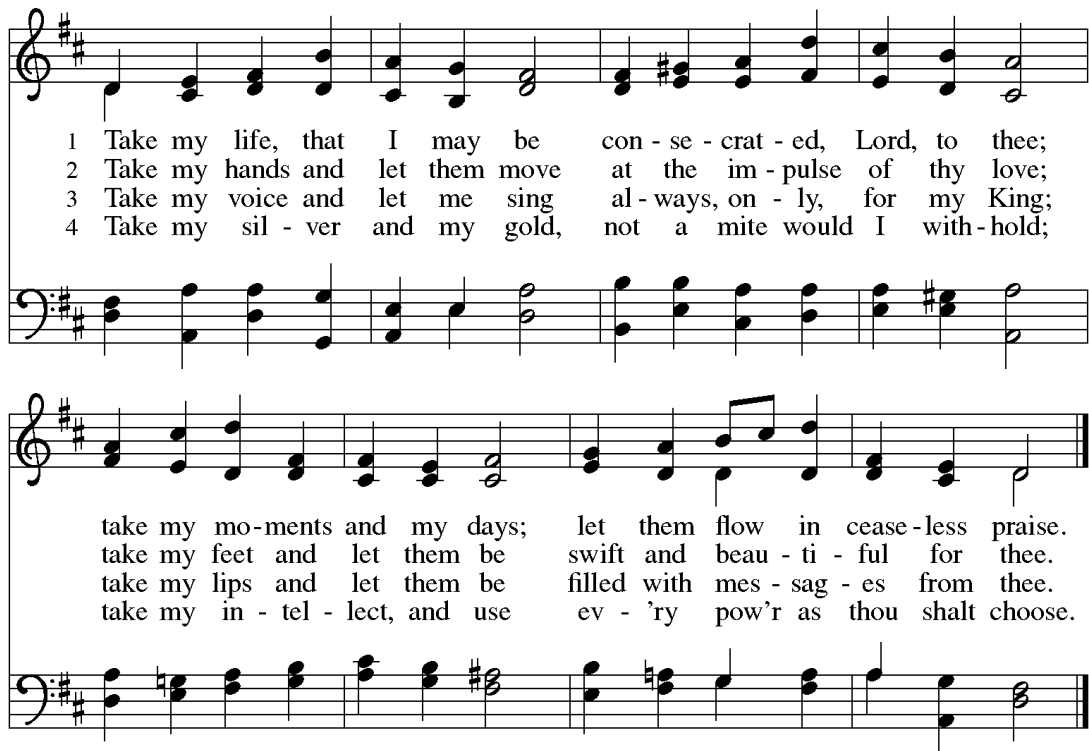
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

***"Who Do You Say That I Am"***  
***Pastor Josh Wullenweber***



## Take My Life, That I May Be



1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;  
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;  
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;  
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;

take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.  
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.  
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.  
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;  
 it shall be no longer mine.  
 Take my heart, it is thine own;  
 it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
 at thy feet its treasure store;  
 take myself, and I will be  
 ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.  
 Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

## APOSTLES' CREED

Pastor 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:*

Pastor 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. Please give as you are able.*

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

## OFFERTORY

*"Sing for Joy" music by Henry Purcell arranged by Hal H. Hopson*

## 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

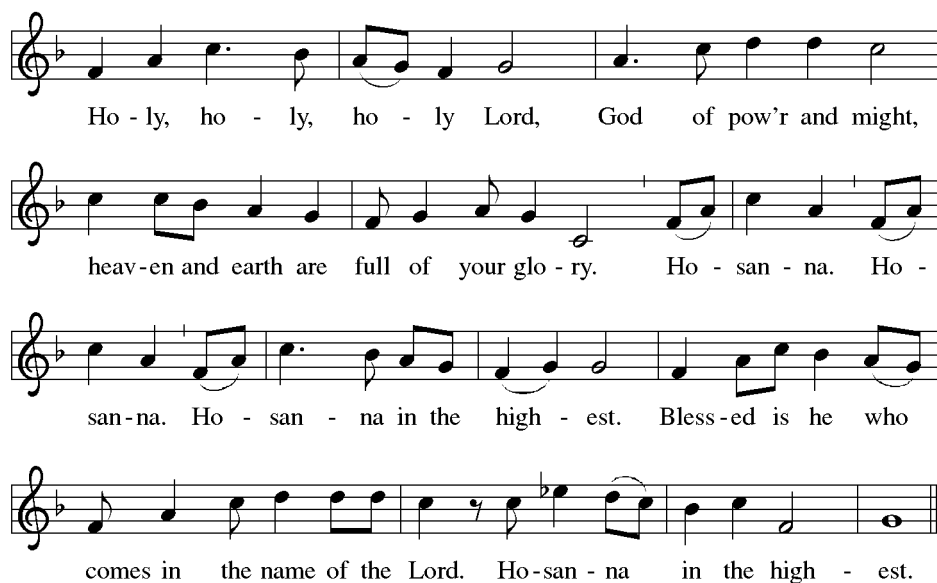
Pastor Congregation	Let us pray. <b>God of all creation,          all you have made is good,          and your love endures forever.          You bring forth bread from the earth          and fruit from the vine.          Nourish us with these gifts,          that we might be for the world          signs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

*Please stand.*

Pastor Congregation	The Lord be with you. <b>And also with you.</b>
Pastor Congregation	Lift up your hearts. <b>We lift them to the Lord.</b>
Pastor Congregation	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. <b>It is right to give our thanks and praise.</b>
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

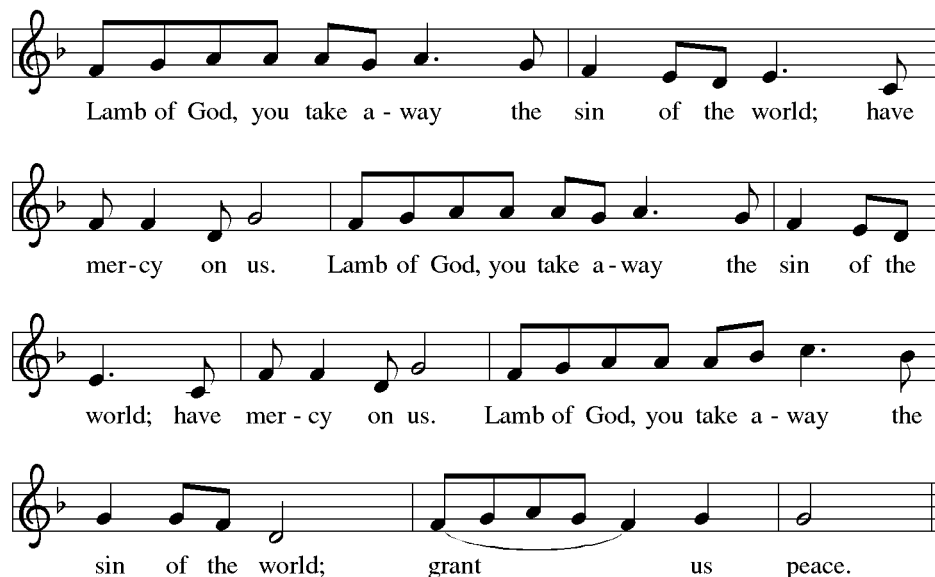
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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: WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME #798

All sing.

# Will You Come and Follow Me

## The Summons

1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call  
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call  
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call  
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call  
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call

your name? Will you go where you don't  
 your name? Will you care for cruel and  
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners  
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -  
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low

know and nev - er be the same?  
 kind and nev - er be the same?  
 free and nev - er be the same?  
 side and nev - er be the same?  
 you and nev - er be the same.

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my  
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -  
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as  
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the  
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and

name be known, will you let my life be  
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer  
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I  
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and  
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and

grown in you and you in me?"  
 pray'r in you and you in me?"  
 mean in you and you in me?"  
 sound in you and you in me?"  
 grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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*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 - jice 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

Pastor           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: WE ALL ARE ONE IN MISSION #576

*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.*

## We All Are One in Mission



1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,  
2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit - ness in God's name.  
3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.



our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.  
Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:  
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem - ing Word.



A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove  
to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris - ing grace,  
We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.  
so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.  
our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955  
Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version  
Text © 1986 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

### DISMISSAL

Pastor  
Congregation

Go in peace. Share the good news.  
**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.

***Redeemer's Sunday worship schedule is:  
8:30 and 11 am - Traditional Services 9:45 am - Contemporary Service***

Next Sunday's Scripture: Jeremiah 15:15-21 Psalm 26:1-8 Romans 12:9-21 Matthew 16:21-28

## **Dare We?**

There are lots of possible truthful answers to Jesus' question "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" (Matthew 16:13): prophet, teacher, storyteller, healer, wonder-worker, rabble-rouser, friend, exorcist, Nazarene, Jew, son of Joseph. We come to know one another from many angles: in experiences and relationships; by what others say; on Facebook, Twitter, the six o'clock news; at Monday coffee group, happy hour; through factory newsletters, class yearbooks. One might be, all at once, author, gardener, mother, felon, philanthropist, swimmer.

Jesus begins by asking what people say about him—what's the word on the street? As expected, responses are a mixture of religious, political, and personal perspectives. Then Jesus cuts closer, exacting from his disciples their answer. "Who do you say that I am?" (Matt. 16:15). It might seem that he's quizzing the group with a trick question to see who answers rightly and thus gets rewarded with keys to the kingdom of heaven.

Peter's answer gains him the glory. If that episode was all Matthew's gospel recorded, we might conclude that Peter did, in fact, recognize Jesus more clearly than the others. But every one of the disciples had made that very same confession, "You are the Son of God," in the safety of a seaworthy boat with Jesus on a calmed sea (Matt. 14:33). In this sense, Peter's response was predictable.

However, Matthew bothers to write that this happened in Caesarea Philippi, also known as Paneas, site of a famous shrine to Pan, god of shepherds. Named for Caesar, the emperor, and Philip, ruler of the region, it is identified with imperial power. In the context of tremendous political and religious forces, Jesus asks, "Who do you say that I am?"

In this sense, it is a brave confession when Peter names Jesus—not Caesar—as Chosen, Lord, and presence of God. Jesus' way of blessing the world contradicts all that empire is about. On that confession the church is called to stand—today. Dare we?

*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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