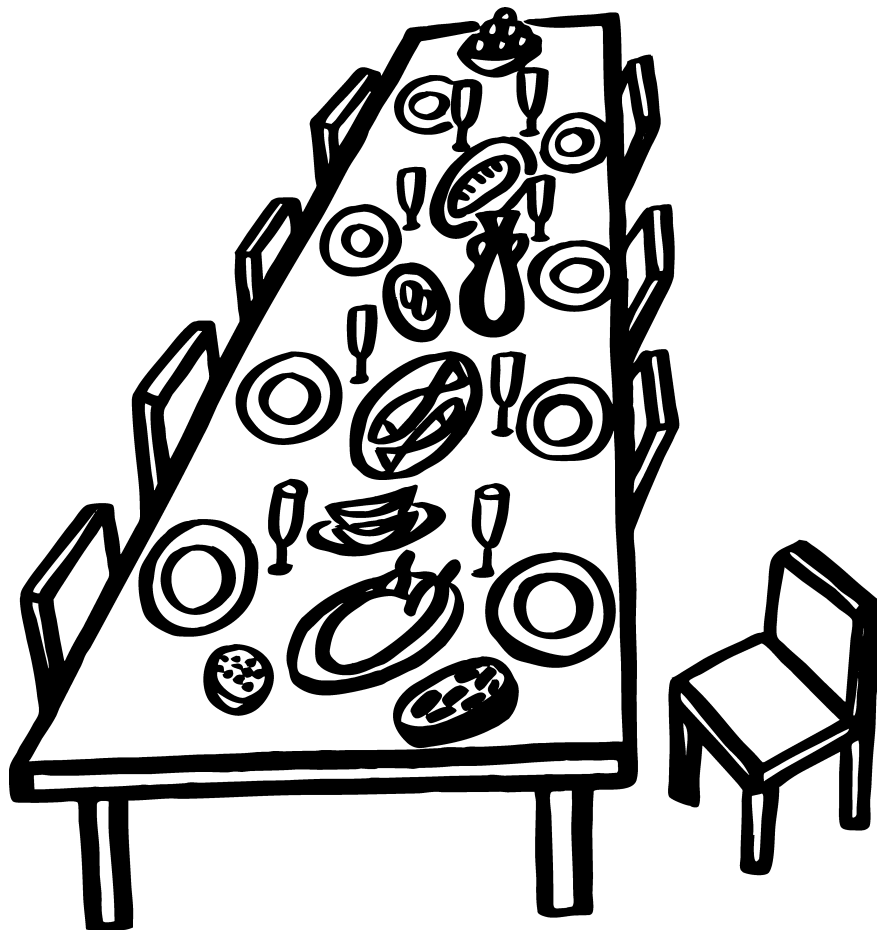


+ Contemporary Worship +  
At Redeemer Lutheran Church

*9:00 am August 31, 2025*

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



*Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church.  
By God's grace in holy baptism we have a place at Christ's banquet table. When, by the power  
of that same Spirit, humility and mutual love continue among us, the church can be more  
inviting still.*



+ WELCOME TO WORSHIP +

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Please stand.*

*Based on Psalm 112*

Pastor      Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord.  
All            **We take great delight in God's commandments.**

Pastor      Light shines in the darkness for the upright.  
All            **The righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

Pastor      They will never be shaken.  
All            **They will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

Pastor      Their heart is steadfast.  
All            **Always trusting in the Lord. Amen! Alleluia!**

**GATHERING HYMN**  
*All sing.*

Text and music: Twila Paris

Text and music © 1984 Singspiration Music, a division of Brentwood-Benson Music Publishing

# We bow down

You are Lord of cre - a - tion and Lord of my life,  
 Lord of the land and the sea. You were Lord of the heav - ens be -  
 fore there was time, and Lord of all lords you will be.  
 We bow down and we wor - ship you, Lord; we bow  
 down and we wor - ship you, Lord; we bow down and we  
 wor - ship you, Lord; Lord of all lords you will be.



### **CONFESSION OF SIN**

Pastor Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,  
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.  
**All Amen.**

Pastor God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us  
from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we  
may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus  
Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**All Amen.**

Pastor Gracious God,  
**All have mercy on us.**  
**We confess that we have turned from you**  
**and given ourselves into the power of sin.**  
**We are truly sorry and humbly repent.**  
**In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,**  
**things we have done and things we have failed to do.**  
**Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,**  
**so that we may live and serve you in newness of life**  
**through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**  
**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.  
**All Amen.**

## SONG OF PRAISE

*Please stand and sing.*

### Wind of the Spirit



Wind of the Spir - it, move fresh as we wor - ship and  
fill us with hope ev - 'ry day.  
Breath of cre - a - tion, blow life in our be - ing, and  
gift us with pur - pose, we pray; so our  
life is filled with mean - ing, and love is what we're breath - ing in the  
wind of the Spir - it, wind of the Spir - it.

Text: Handt Hanson and Paul Murakami

Music: WIND OF THE SPIRIT, Handt Hanson and Paul Murakami

Text and music © 1991 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Let us pray.

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble.  
Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus  
Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All Amen.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## + THE WORD +

### **Reading: Proverbs 25:6-7**

*The book of Proverbs is part of a collection of writings known as wisdom literature. Wisdom literature gave directions to Israel's leaders and people for the conduct of daily life. Today's reading is about humility.*

Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence  
or stand in the place of the great;  
for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"  
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

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

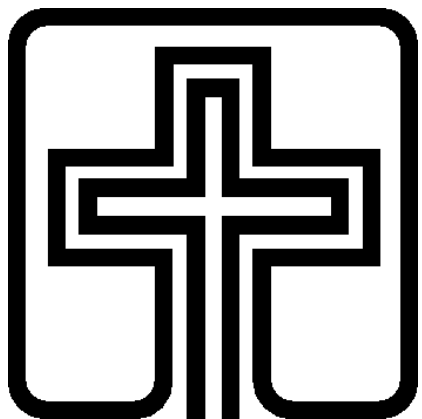
### **Reading: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16**

*The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.*

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence,  
"The Lord is my helper;  
I will not be afraid.  
What can anyone do to me?"

Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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



*Please stand and sing.*

## What a mighty word God gives

What a might - y Word God gives!

What a might - y Word God gives!

When he speaks, our faith is fed. Give us, Lord, our dai - ly bread.  
God sent us the on - ly Son, who for us the vic - try's won.

What a might - y Word God gives!

Text: James Tallman  
Music: anonymous  
Text © 1996 James Tallman



Pastor  
All

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

**Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14**

*Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to imitate God's gracious hospitality to those in need.*

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Pastor  
All

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

**SERMON**

*Seating Arrangement  
Pastor Sharon Core*



*Please stand and sing.*

## 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,

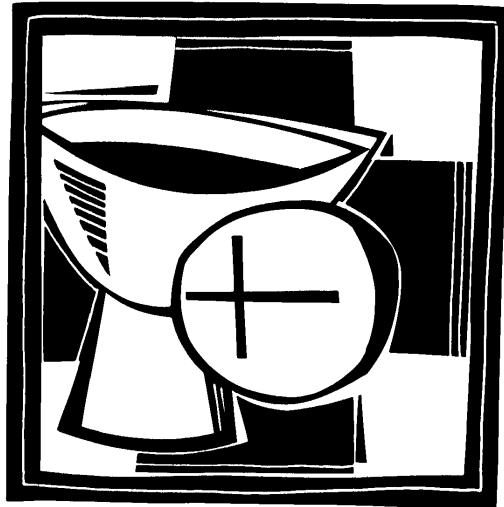
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.  
when my life is . . . al - most . . . gone,  
and the day is . . . past and . . . gone,

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  
© 1938 Unichappell Music Inc., © renewed; admin. Hal Leonard Corp.

PRECIOUS LORD  
irregular



**APOSTLES' CREED**

Asst. Min.

**All**

With the whole Church, let us confess our faith.

**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,  
**All 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.  
**All Amen.**

## SHARING THE LORD'S PEACE

Pastor May the peace of Christ be with you always.

**All And also with you.**

*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

*"Zion's Walls" from 'Old American Songs' by Aaron Copland, Matt Osifchin, baritone*

### 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.

G C<sup>2</sup> Dm<sup>7</sup> C<sup>2</sup>/E C/E

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our

F C/E Dm<sup>7</sup> Dm<sup>7</sup>/G C

lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering.

### OFFERING PRAYER

Asst. Min. Let us pray.  
All **Creator God,  
in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good,  
and the harvest is plentiful.  
Strengthen us at your table  
with these gifts of the earth  
that we may work for the good of all,  
through Jesus Christ, our 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.*

*For those not comfortable receiving from the pastor's hands  
a separate tray with preset elements 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.*

**COMMUNION SONG**  
*All sing.*

**Come and Taste**

The musical score for 'Come and Taste' is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of five staves of music. The lyrics are: 'Come and taste and see how good the love of God can be! Come and taste and see how good the love of God can be! We come here broken - heart - ed, seek - ing all that God of - fers. Come and taste and see how good the love of God can be! Come see!' The music features a simple melody with some triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over a group of notes) and rests for the lyrics.

Text: Handt Hanson and Paul Murakami  
Music: COME AND TASTE, Handt Hanson and Paul Murakami

Text and music © 1996 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc.

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***Please  
stand.***

**Pastor**

**All**

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

**PRAYER**

**Asst. Min.**

Let us pray. God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation  
you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now  
send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your  
redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus  
Christ, our Lord.

**+ THE SENDING +**

**BENEDICTION**

**Pastor**

**All**

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

**SENDING SONG**  
All sing.

# I Believe in Jesus

Romans 10:9

WORDS and MUSIC: Marc Nelson

$\text{♩} = 92$

E A E/B B

1. I be-lieve in Je - sus;  
2. I be-lieve in you, Lord;

E A B

I be-lieve he is the Son of God.  
I be-lieve you are the Son of God.

E A E/B B

I be-lieve he died and rose a-gain;  
I be-lieve you died and rose a-gain;

E A B

I be-lieve he paid for us all.  
I be-lieve you paid for us all.

A B/D# E E/G#

And I be - lieve that he's here now,  
And I be - lieve that you're here now,

A B E E/G#

stand - ing in our midst,

A B/D# E E/G#

here with the pow - er to heal now,

A B 

1	E	A/C#	A/B
---	---	------	-----

2	E
---	---

and the grace to for - give. give.

**DISMISSAL**

Asst. Min.

**All**

Go in peace. Share the good news.

**Thanks be to God.****POSTLUDE****Did You Get the Invitation?**

Choosing the invitation design for an important event can be nerve-wracking. But deciding whom to invite? Whittling down the list of desired attendees can be even more difficult than choosing the invitation itself. So much stress.

In today's gospel reading, Jesus uses a dinner party as a teaching opportunity. In the ancient world, being invited to such an occasion was an honor, but figuring out where to sit once you arrived required a whole other stress-inducing decision. How embarrassing it would be to choose a place of prominence, only to discover you're not that important and have to move down the table. How disappointing it would be to invite someone to your party but not receive an invitation to their next gathering. (Is that why you invited them, anyway?) So many of these social games we continue to play.

You might say that Jesus takes the stress out of party-planning because he encourages us to take an honest and humble view of it all: the view from God's vantage point. In the realm of God, the last in the eyes of the world are first, and the first, last.

In the kingdom of God, roles are reversed, orders are disrupted, and convention is thrown out the window so all may know the grace, peace, and love of God. The divine Host throws amazing parties and desires everyone, especially those overlooked by the party-throwers and powerbrokers of the world, to have a chance to enjoy them.

Today's gospel reading reminds us that at God's table, everyone is invited and no one goes away empty. The party is freely offered and not a setting for social games. The table has no head and no foot but, rather, is a cloud of witnesses gathered around the life of the Crucified and Risen One.

The eucharist is the prime example of this feast. Did you get the invitation? Because you're invited!

## 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.

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

**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

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

Next Sunday's Scripture: Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Psalm 1 Philemon 1:1-21 Luke 14:25-33

*The flowers are given to the glory of God.*

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*Please return this bulletin to the entrance hall for recycling if you choose not to take it home.*