

+ Contemporary Worship +  
At Redeemer Lutheran Church

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10:30 am July 16, 2023

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



+ WELCOME TO WORSHIP +

*Based on Psalm 65*

Pastor Lord, you visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous;  
All **the river of God is full of water.**

Pastor Lord, you drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;  
All **with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

Pastor May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,  
All **and the hills be clothed with joy.**

Pastor May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,  
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain  
All **let them shout for joy and sing. Amen! Alleluia!**

## GATHERING SONG

Text and music: Twila Paris  
Text and music © 1984 SingInspiration 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 We are called to follow Christ. We are called to obey Jesus' commandment to love one another. Let us confess how we have fallen short of that love.

All **Loving God,  
we have not loved you or each other with our whole hearts.  
Forgive us, we pray, and lead us toward wholeness,  
that we may be filled with your joy.**

Pastor The promise of our faith is that we are forgiven. As a called and ordained servant of the Church of Christ, I therefore 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 Lord.

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.

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All

**Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## + THE WORD +

### **Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13**

*God's word to Israel's exiles is as sure and effective as never-failing precipitation. Their return to the Holy Land in a new exodus is cheered on by singing mountains and by trees that clap their hands.*

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,  
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,  
making it bring forth and sprout,  
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,  
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;  
it shall not return to me empty,  
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,  
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy,  
and be led back in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you  
shall burst into song,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.  
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;  
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;  
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,  
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

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

### **Reading: Romans 8:1-11**

*There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its death-dealing ways. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.* There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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

**Please stand and sing.**

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

## 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!

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

### Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

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



**SERMON**

*The Parable of the Sower*  
*Pastor Sandy Kessinger*

*Please stand and sing.*

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950  
Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson  
Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## **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. God, in your mercy,  
**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 the Lord be with you always.

**All And also with you.**

*Please greet one another with words such as "God's peace be with you."*

*Sit*

## **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.*

## + SHARING OUR GIFTS +

### OFFERING MUSIC

*"Give Me Jesus", African -American spiritual arr. by H.T. Burleigh, Raeshawn Parker, solo*

### OFFERTORY

*Please stand and sing.*

We are an offering

The musical notation is written on a single staff in treble clef. It consists of two lines of music. The first line has five measures with the following lyrics: 'We lift our', 'voic - es,', 'we lift our', 'hands,', 'we lift our'. Above the staff are the chords: G, C<sup>2</sup>, Dm<sup>7</sup>, C<sup>2</sup>/E, and C/E. The second line has five measures with the following lyrics: 'lives up to you:', 'we are an', 'of-fer-ing,', 'we are an', 'of-fer-ing.'. Above the staff are the chords: F, C/E, Dm<sup>7</sup>, Dm<sup>7</sup>/G, and C. There are triplets in the second measure of the second line and the fourth measure of the second line.

Text and music: Dwight Liles  
Text and music © 1984 Bug and Bear Music, admin: Word Music, Inc.

### OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor Let us pray.

**All** Gracious God, with your steadfast love you call us from death to life, from silence to speech, and from idleness to action. With joy and thanksgiving we ask that these gifts may be a sign of that love, and that we may continue to share all that we have received to the glory of your holy name.  
**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.**



## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

### **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.  
***Please sit.***



### **INVITATION TO COMMUNE**

***All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.***

*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. For those taking Holy Communion: Pastor will give verbal instructions on how Holy Communion will be distributed.*

**All sing.**

## We Come to the Hungry Feast

1 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a word of peace.  
2 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry for a world re - leased  
3 We come to the hun - gry feast hun - gry that the hun - ger cease,

To hun - gry hearts un - sat - is - fied the love of God is  
from hun - gry folk of ev - 'ry kind, the poor in bod - y,  
and know - ing, though we eat our fill, the hun - ger will stay

not de - nied. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
poor in mind. We come, we come to the hun - gry feast.  
with us; still we come, we come to the hun - gry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943  
Music: HUNGRY FEAST, Ray Makeever  
Text and music © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

**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.

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.

**All**

**Amen.**

## + THE SENDING +

**BENEDICTION**

Pastor

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

**All**

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG**  
*All sing.*

# Celebrate the Lord of Love

WORDS and MUSIC: Paul Baloche, Ed Kerr

$\text{♩} = 116-124$

Trade your heav - y heart for a heart of joy;

cel - e - brate what God has done.

Join the song of praise as we gath - er here;

cel - e - brate the Lord of Love. Je - sus is our Lord;

he is reign - ing here. We de - clare, "His king -

dom's come." Dark - ness has to flee in his ho - ly light;

cel - e - brate the Lord of Love. *Fine*

All cre - a - tion sings; hear the o - cean roar.

Let the earth pro - claim that Christ is Lord. *D.C. al Fine*

**DISMISSAL**

Asst. Min.  
All

Go in peace. Share the good news.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*Please join the Redeemer family outside the Crossroads foyer area  
for fellowship and refreshments.*

## **Lutheran Church of the Redeemer**

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.

### ***Summer Sunday Services***

***July 23 - August 20***

***9 am - Contemporary Service***

***10:30 am - Traditional Service***

*Next Sunday's Scripture:*

*Isaiah 44:6-8 Psalm 86:11-17 Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43*

Today we, the Redeemer Congregation, welcome into baptized membership:

Axel Windsor; his parents are Lisa and Brian Windsor,  
and sponsors are Dylan Olsen, Haley Jacobson, and Mya Olsen.

We pray God's richest blessings on Axel as he and his parents continue to grow in faith.

*The flowers are given to the glory of God  
and in memory of Sara Hope Skotzko by Jane and Scotty Skotzko.*

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