

# Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

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

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, July 23, 2023

The Service at 9 and 10:30 am

## Global Mission Sunday



*It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.*

**We are a church that believes God is calling us into the world — together.**

Seventy million Lutherans do make a difference! As a member of The Lutheran World Federation, the ELCA is one of 142 member churches in 79 countries all over the world. We are called to walk alongside our Lutheran brothers and sisters to grow the church and to do God's work of restoring and reconciling communities everywhere.

The ELCA has deep, longstanding relationships with Lutheran churches and other partners around the world. We respond to our companions and help support the growth of their work — new congregations, urban and youth outreach, theological education, pursuit of justice and peace and leadership training just to name a few. As we work together with our partners and participate in God's work in the world, we all grow in faith and benefit — we grow stronger as a global church.

The ways in which we live and serve as a global church are as diverse as the people, communities, churches and countries that we work alongside and support. The ELCA is hard at work with its partners:

- Building up the church in countries around the world.
- Creating meaningful service opportunities for young adults and adults.
- Supporting the work of over 240 ELCA missionaries in more than 40 countries.
- Nurturing Companion Synod relationships with global church partners.
- Providing scholarships, theological education and training for international leaders.
- Pursuing support for crucial and innovative approaches to participating in God's mission in the world.

This is how we go about working together as a global church to build up Christ's church throughout the world.

*From the ELCA Website on Global Missions*



## 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 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 the Holy Spirit  
that we may confess our sin,  
receive your forgiveness,  
and grow into the fullness  
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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 captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.**

**We have failed to live as one people  
and have not sought the unity of the church.  
We have failed to do your holy will  
that calls us to carry out your mission in all the world.  
We have ignored those who suffer  
and have not met the needs of the oppressed and the poor.**

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,  
so that we may 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: WE ALL ARE ONE IN MISSION #576 (FINNISH FOLK TUNE)

*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.*

## 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.

### GATHERING

Pastor Come, let us gather in the name of the Triune God.  
Congregation **Come, Holy Spirit, into the church and throughout the world.**

Pastor There is one body and one Spirit.  
Congregation **One Lord, one faith, one baptism.**

Pastor One God and Father of all.  
Congregation **Who is above all and through all and in all.**

Pastor Come, let us gather in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
Congregation **Let us gather in unity with our siblings throughout the world.**

**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  
Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com). 800.442.3358.  
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## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor           The Lord be with you.  
Congregation   **And also with you.**

Pastor           Let us pray.  
Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Congregation   **Amen.**

*Please sit.*

## BLESSING OF QUILTS

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



## THE WORD

### Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

*There are no other gods besides God: the word of the LORD does not fail to come to pass. We can trust in God, through whom Israel—and we—are redeemed.*

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,  
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:  
I am the first and I am the last;  
besides me there is no god.  
Who is like me? Let them proclaim it,  
let them declare and set it forth before me.  
Who has announced from of old the things to come?  
Let them tell us what is yet to be.  
Do not fear, or be afraid;  
have I not told you from of old and declared it?  
You are my witnesses!  
Is there any god besides me?  
There is no other rock; I know not one.

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

Psalm 86:11-17



Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk | in your truth;  
give me an undivided heart to re- | vere your name.  
**I will thank you, O Lord my God, with | all my heart,  
and glorify your name for- | evermore.**  
For great is your | love toward me;  
you have delivered me from the | pit of death.  
**The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people | seeks my life;  
they have not set you be- | fore their eyes.**  
But you, O Lord, are gracious and full | of compassion,  
slow to anger, and full of kind- | ness and truth.  
**Turn to me and have mer- | cy on me;  
give your strength to your servant, and save the child | of your handmaid.**  
Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be | put to shame;  
because you, LORD, have helped me and com- | forted me.

**Reading: Romans 8:12-25**

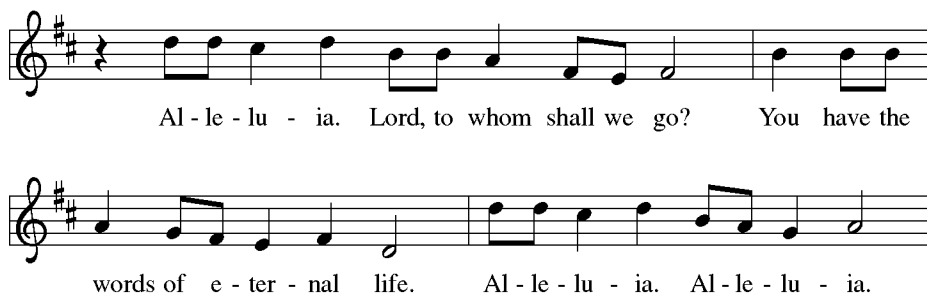
*For Paul, true spirituality means that we experience the reality of the Spirit, which enables us to pray as God's children, keeps us in solidarity with creation, and gives us unseen hope that God will liberate us and creation from bondage to death and decay.*

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Reader	Word of God, word of life.
Congregation	<b>Thanks be to God.</b>

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



The Gospel is announced.

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

**Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

*Jesus tells a parable about the coexistence of good and evil in this world. God's judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.*

[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' "

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

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

**SERMON**

*Bishop Kurt Kusserow  
Redeemer welcomes Bishop Kusserow to preach on Global Mission Sunday.*

**Bishop Kusserow**

Kurt Kusserow was born to the Reverend Ralph and Carol (Zigler) Kusserow and grew up in Malaysia and Singapore, where his parents served as missionaries from 1966 to 1982. He was confirmed at Jurong Christian Church, Singapore, on Christmas Day, 1977.

Bishop Kusserow received a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in English from Thiel College in 1985, and a Master of Divinity degree from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio, in 1989. He was ordained to the ministry of Word and Sacrament on September 10, 1989 by Bishop Paul E. Spring, at Mt. Lebanon United Lutheran Church in Pittsburgh. His first call was to a cooperative ministry, Town and Country Lutheran Ministry, where he served Faith Lutheran Church in Oklahoma Boro, and Hebron Lutheran Church in Avonmore. In 1997, he was called to serve St. Paul Lutheran Church in Trauger, until his election to the office of bishop of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod in June, 2007. Bishop Kusserow was re-elected to a third six-year term in June, 2019.

Bishop Kusserow will be at Redeemer today, along with his wife, Pam. He will preach at both services. We will offer a Coffee Hour in-between service as a time for you to meet and greet them. Pastor Kessinger served with Bishop Kusserow as one of his assistants until her call to Redeemer.



**HYMN OF THE DAY: LISTEN, GOD IS CALLING #513 (TANZANIAN FOLK TUNE)**

*Please stand and sing.*

# Listen, God Is Calling

## *Neno lake Mungu*

*Refrain*  
Leader All

Ne - no, ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la - ku - i - ta we - we,  
Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,

ne - no la wo - ko - vu, te - na je - ma. ma.  
of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.

Leader All

Ye - su a - li - se - ma, Mka - hu - bi - ri.  
1 Je - sus gave his man - date: share the good news  
2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.  
3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader All *Refrain*

Ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la wo - ko - vu.  
that he came to save us and set us free.  
In the tri - une name of God go and bap - tize.  
walk - ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

Text: Tanzanian traditional; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922  
Music: NENO LAKE MUNGU, Tanzanian tune; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, b. 1919  
Text © 1968 Lutheran Theological College, Makumira, Tanzania, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
Arr. © 1968 Austin C. Lovelace, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

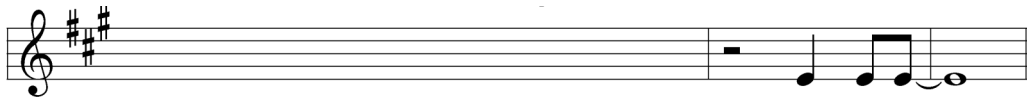
## APOSTLES' CREED

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.**

## FOR THE HEALING OF THE NATIONS



*The leader names those for whom prayers are made. The assembly responds: Peace be yours.*

*After each verse:*



For the heal-ing of the na-tions, we pray to you, O God.



For the heal-ing of the na-tions, we pray to you, O God.

Text: Susan Briehl  
Music: John D. Becker, from *Litany of the Saints*  
Text © 2009 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.  
Music © 1987 John D. Becker. Published and distributed by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97218. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## 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

*"You Are My All in All" by Dennis L. Jennigan  
Sung as a round in English and Spanish simultaneously.*

## 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

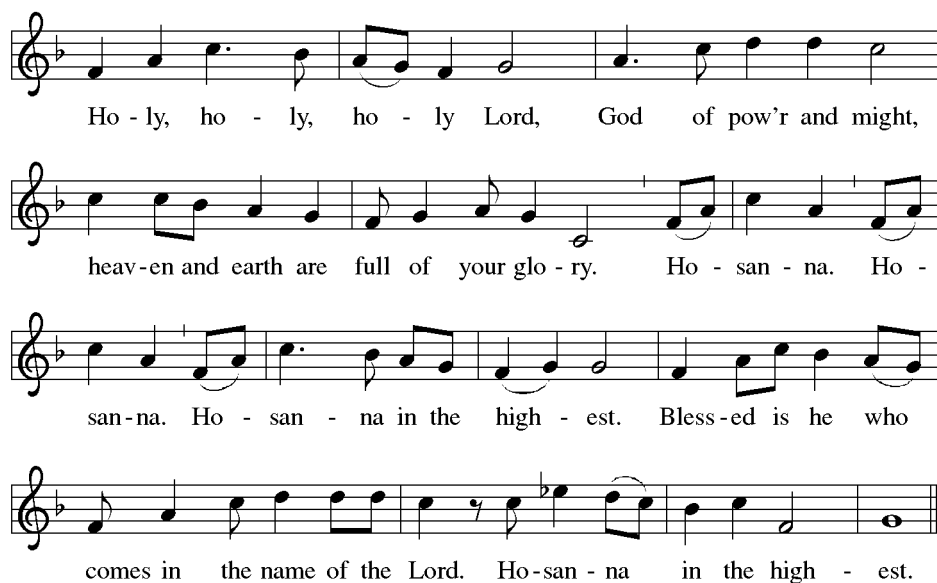
Pastor	Let us pray.
Congregation	<b>God of all creation,</b> <b>all you have made is good,</b> <b>and your love endures forever.</b> <b>You bring forth bread from the earth</b> <b>and fruit from the vine.</b> <b>Nourish us with these gifts,</b> <b>that we might be for the world</b> <b>signs of your gracious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

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Please stand.*

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



## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor

Congregation

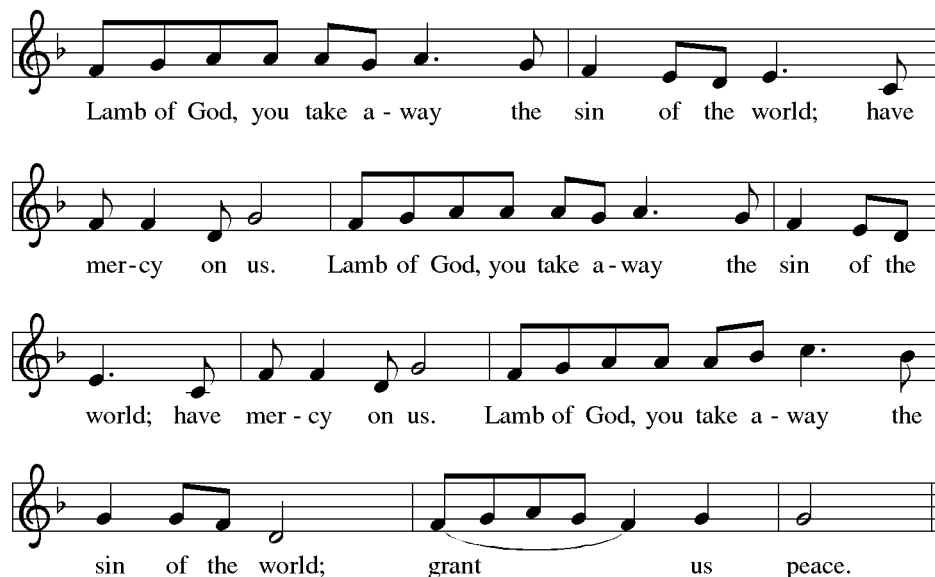
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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

*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 MUSIC

*"Panis Angelicus" Cesar Franck, Israel Lozano, Darcy Monsalve, duet*

*Please stand.*

Pastor

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

## 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

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.  
**Amen.**

Congregation

## THE SENDING

### BLESSING

Pastor

Congregation

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

**SENDING HYMN: WE ARE MARCHING IN THE LIGHT OF GOD" (SOUTH AFRICAN)**

*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 Are Marching in the Light of God

### Siyahamba

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -  
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',  
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march - ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,  
We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,

oo  
oo

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march-ing in the light of God.

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-, kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march - ing in the light of, the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba \_\_\_\_\_ oo \_\_\_\_\_  
We are march - ing \_\_\_\_\_ oo \_\_\_\_\_

Si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba,  
We are march - ing, march - ing, we are march - ing, march - ing,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.  
we are march-ing in the light of God.

*Additional stanzas ad lib.:*  
We are dancing ...  
We are praying ...  
We are singing ...

Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984  
Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional  
Tr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

## 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.

## *Summer Sunday Services*

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

Next Sunday's Scripture: 1 Kings 3:5-12 Psalm 119:129-136 Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

### **A Righteous Harvest**

One of the lessons of history is that when humans try to do the weeding, things end badly. Whenever we try to divide the world into good guys and bad guys, people get hurt. Everyone winds up being a bad guy to somebody, and you can do anything to the bad guys. You can lie about them. You can hurt them. You can hurt other people on your way to getting the bad guys, and that's regrettable. But it's okay to sacrifice some of the good guys in order to get the bad guys, right?

But the kingdom of heaven is not like the farmer who pulled up half of the wheat seedlings while going after the weeds. The kingdom of heaven is more like Jesus, who was so unwilling to cause harm to others that he died instead. Instead of pulling up the weeds and casting them into the fire, Jesus went into the fire himself.

Therefore, the harvest is fruitful beyond imagining, because the harvest is Jesus himself! Jesus bears the fruit of righteousness, reconciliation, and peace. He will gather all people into his care, and they will not be troubled by sickness, or violence, or hatred, or death. This will happen, not because Jesus will destroy all enemies, but because Jesus, by his death, will transform enemies into friends.

The weeds and the wheat are still growing in this world. Although Jesus has already done all that is needed for the final harvest, all of us growing here on this earth still need the help of our neighbors. Just as the farmer in the story instructed his servants to care for the wheat until it was time for the harvest, so God calls us to actively work with Jesus to make things better for people right here and right now.

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