Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

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

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost, July 2, 2023 The Service at 9 am



The welcome of baptism is for all God's children. This baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today's gospel, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself.

From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission:

to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God's merciful welcome.



GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Tribute to America" - Mark Hayes

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: IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST #650

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.

In Christ There Is No East or West



Text: John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt.

Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866–1949

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



Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Text and music @ 1990 GIA Publications, Inc. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Pastor Let us pray.

O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus

Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Congregation Amen.

Please sit.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE WORD

Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9

Through a symbolic action, Jeremiah insisted that Judah and all the surrounding nations should submit to the king of Babylon. Hananiah contradicted Jeremiah, who in reply insisted that Hananiah's rosy prediction should not be believed until it came true. God confirmed the word of Jeremiah and sentenced the false prophet Hananiah to death (vv. 16-17).

The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

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

Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

Congregation sings words in bold.



Your love, O LORD, forever | will I sing;

from age to age my mouth will pro- claim your faithfulness.

For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is estab- | lished forever; you have set your faithfulness firmly | in the heavens.

"I have made a covenant with my | chosen one;

I have sworn an oath to Da- | vid my servant:

'I will establish your | line forever,

and preserve your throne for all | generations."

Happy are the people who know the | festal shout!

They walk, O LORD, in the light | of your presence.

They rejoice daily | in your name;

they are jubilant | in your righteousness.

For you are the glory | of their strength, and by your favor our might | is exalted.

Truly, our shield belongs | to the LORD;

our king to the Holy | One of Israel.

Reading: Romans 6:12-23

Sin is an enslaving power that motivates us to live self-serving, disobedient lives. Sin's final payoff is death. We, however, have been set free from sin's slavery to live obediently under God's grace, whose end is the free gift of eternal life.

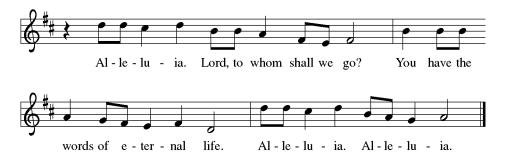
Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Please stand and sing.



The Gospel is announced.

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Congregation Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 10:40-42

When Jesus sends his disciples out as missionaries, he warns them of persecution and hardships they will face. He also promises to reward any who aid his followers and support their ministry.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet's reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward."

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

SERMON

A Cup of Cold Water Pastor Sandy Kessinger

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant



Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953 Music: THE SERVANT SONG, Richard Gillard; arr. Betty Pulkingham, b. 1928 Text and music © 1977 Scripture In Song, c/o Integrity's Hosanna Music (ASCAP), c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

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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. God, in your mercy, 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.

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.

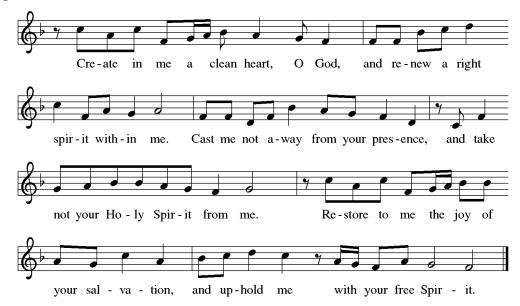
Please sign the red attendance book and pass it down the pew.

OFFERTORY

"God Bless America" by Irving Berlin, Matt Osifchin, baritone

COME TO THE TABLE

OFFERTORY SONG *Please stand and sing.*



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

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor Let us pray.

Congregation 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.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand.

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

Pastor Lift up your hearts,

Congregation We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God, Congregation 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,

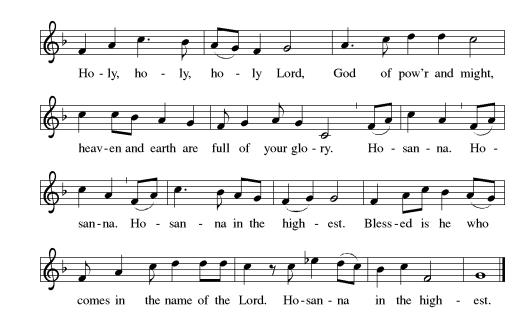
through our Savior Jesus Christ;

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:



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

All sing.

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,

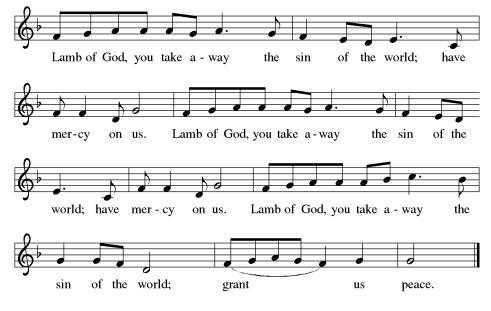
as we forgive those who trespass against us;

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.

O Living Bread from Heaven



Text: Johann Rist, 1607–1667; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt. Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

Please stand.

Pastor The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you

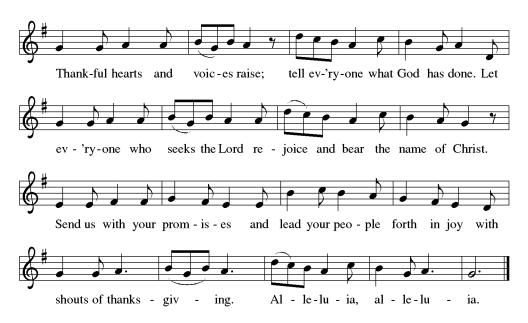
and keep you in his grace.

Congregation Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

Please stand and sing.

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



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: O BEAUTIFUL FOR SPACIOUS SKIES #888

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.

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies



Text: Katherine L. Bates, 1859–1929 Music: MATERNA, Samuel A. Ward, 1848–1903

DISMISSAL

Asst. Min. Go in peace. Share the good news.

Congregation Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"God of our Fathers" - George W. Warren, arr. Mary McDonald

A Welcome Promise

Earlier in the chapter from which today's gospel comes, Jesus gave his first twelve disciples instructions and advice before he sent them out to minister, teach, and preach (Matthew 10:1-8). We too are called to proclaim good news wherever we go, and like those first twelve, we may wonder why anyone should be interested in what we have to offer. We're not sure that we are good enough with words to persuade anyone. We're not sure that we are good enough with tools to be helpful with practical tasks. We're not sure that we have the financial resources to change lives with charitable giving. Often, we're not sure that we are brave enough to even try.

It's a good thing Jesus never sends us out alone. He always comes with us! That's why he can say that anyone who welcomes us welcomes him. What a wonderful gift to be able to bring to the people we meet: the opportunity to meet Jesus himself!

Sometimes Jesus sends us to faraway places. Sometimes he sends us deeper into our own communities. Sometimes he sends us to welcome others, and sometimes he sends us to be welcomed by others.

In all of those times, and in all of those places, Jesus has this reminder for us: "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me" (Matt. 10:40). We can depend on that because we can depend on him. Jesus is with us when we experience amazing hospitality and when we feel like we are all alone. Jesus is with us whether we are brave or timid. Jesus is there for the people we meet along the way, and Jesus is here for us. The promise is as certain as the waters of baptism, as real as the taste of bread and wine.

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

June 18 - July 16 9 am - Traditional Service

10:30 am - Contemporary Service

July 23 - August 20 9 am - Contemporary Service

10:30 am - Traditional Service

Next Sunday's Scripture: Zechariah 9:9-12 Psalm 145:8-14 Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

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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