

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

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

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, July 9, 2023

The Service at 9 am



The mystery of God's ways is sometimes hidden from the wise and intelligent. Jesus associates with those often excluded from the religious community. Like Paul, we struggle with our own selfish desires and seek God's mercy and forgiveness. We gather to be refreshed by Christ's invitation: "Come to me, all you that are weary." Gathered around word, water, and meal, we find rest for our souls.

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: LORD OF ALL HOPEFULNESS #765

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.

Lord of All Hopefulness



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional
Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

Pastor Let us pray.

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Congregation **Amen.**

Please sit.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE WORD

Reading: Zechariah 9:9-12

The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, they are designated as "prisoners of hope."

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;

triumphant and victorious is he,

humble and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim

and the war-horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,

and he shall command peace to the nations;

his dominion shall be from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;

today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Reader Word of God, word of life.

Congregation **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 145:8-14

Congregation sings words in bold.



The LORD is gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love.

LORD, you are | good to all,

and your compassion is over | all your works.

All your works shall praise | you, O LORD,

and your faithful | ones shall bless you.

They shall tell of the glory | of your kingdom

and speak | of your power,

that all people may know | of your power

and the glorious splendor | of your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through- | out all ages.

You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in | all your works.

The Lord upholds all | those who fall

and lifts up those who are bowed down.

Reading: Romans 7:15-25a

Life enslaved under sin is a catch-22 existence in which we know good but do not do it and do things we know to be bad. Through Jesus Christ, God has set us free from such a futile existence.

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ 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 11:16-19, 25-30

Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] “To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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

SERMON

The Inner Conflict
Pastor Sandy Kessinger

HYMN OF THE DAY: JUST AS I AM, WITHOUT ONE PLEA #592

Please stand and sing.

Just As I Am, without One Plea

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. The first system contains four verses of lyrics. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system concludes the hymn with the phrase 'O Lamb of God, I come, I come.' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final cadence in the third system.

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a con - flict,
3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,
4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry

shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
man - y a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,
cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,
bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871

Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

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,
Congregation **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

"Take Our Lives" Jonathan Shippey

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.

**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

Congregation

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Pastor

Congregation

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor

Congregation

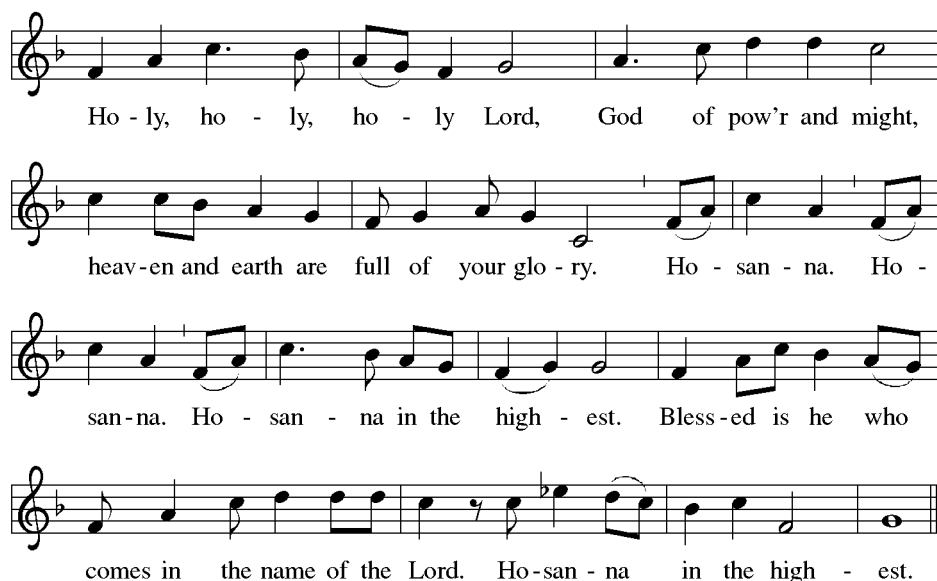
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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:

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

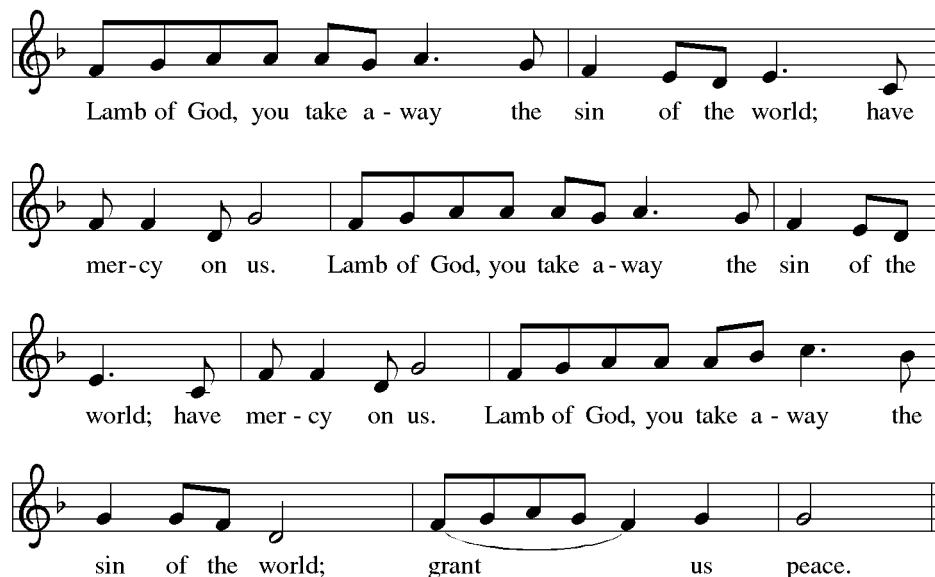
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.

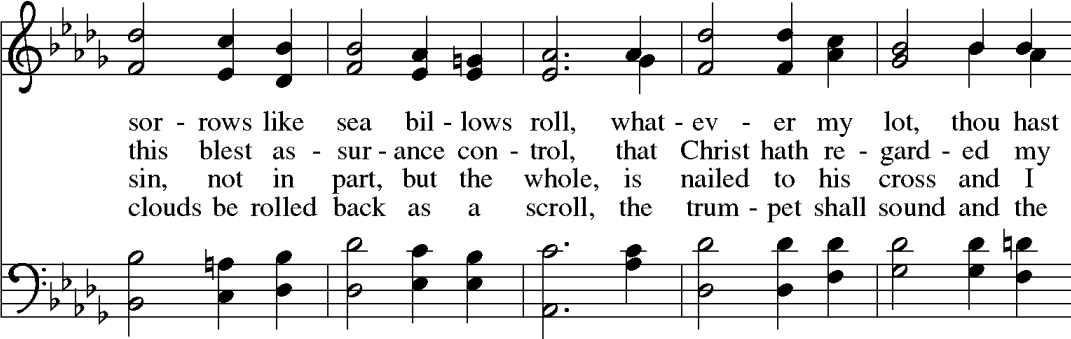
Anyone not comfortable receiving the bread or the wine are invited to come forward for a blessing.

You are an important part of our faith community.

When Peace, like a River
It Is Well with My Soul



1 When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let
3 He lives—oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; my
4 Lord, has - ten the day when our faith shall be sight, the



sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, that Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, is nailed to his cross and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, the trum - pet shall sound and the



taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate, and hath shed his own blood for my soul.
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; e - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain



It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul,

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 - 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.
Congregation **Amen.**

THE SENDING

BLESSING

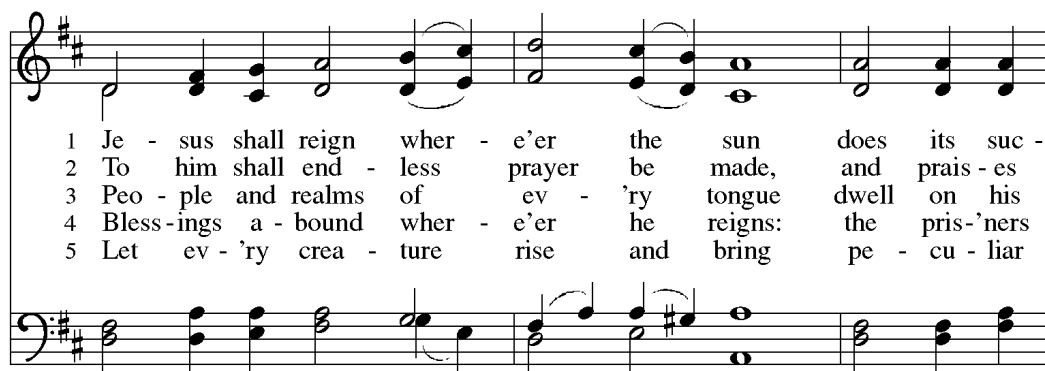
Pastor Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Congregation **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN: JESUS SHALL REIGN #434

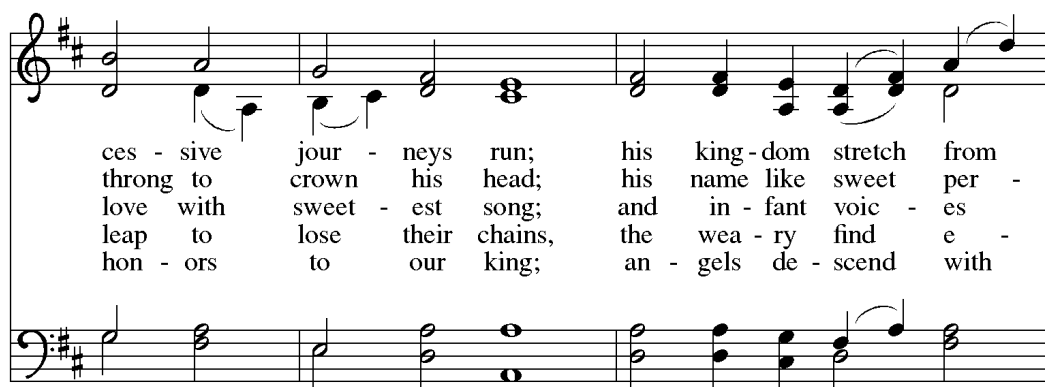
Please follow the cross, turning toward the cross as it passes by your pew. As the cross leads, so Christ leads us out into the community to share Christ's love.

All sing.

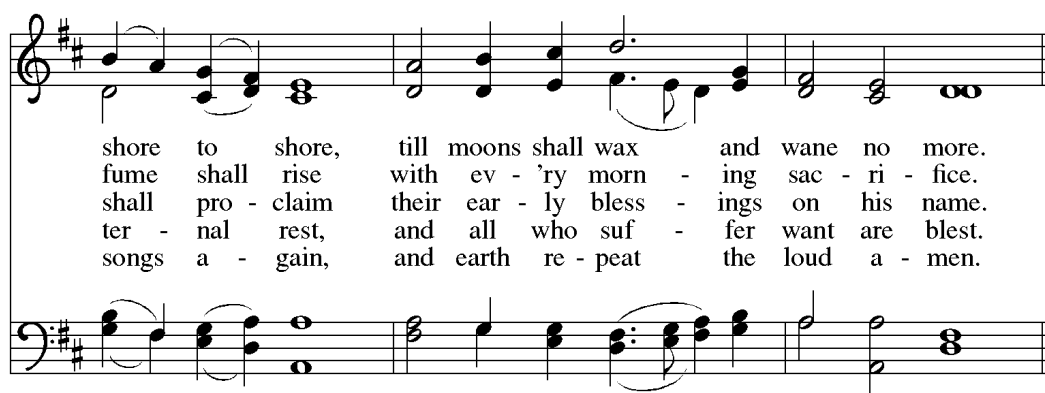
Jesus Shall Reign



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE



A Gift of Rest

When very young children are tired, they sometimes get cranky. Because they are still learning to interpret how they feel, they don't yet know that in order to feel better, they need to get some rest. They just know that something is not right.

Adults are not always a whole lot better about getting the rest we need. Even if we try, we have organized our society in ways that make rest seem like a luxury. We don't make sure that workers have enough time off, or even enough hours to sleep. We don't feel like we deserve a break if we haven't gotten enough work done. Even when we have the time, chronic uncertainty and anxiety can rob us of rest.

In the Bible, rest is more than just necessary—it's good. And it's more than just good—it's holy. It's right there in the Ten Commandments: everyone gets a day of rest. Jesus continues in that tradition by promising rest. Jesus doesn't say he will teach his followers how to rest, or give them a way to earn rest, or tell them where to find rest. He says, "I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). He also promises to carry the burdens that make rest seem all but impossible. For Jesus, rest is not a luxury—it's a gift!

When we take time to rest, or make it possible for others to rest, we are not being lazy, self-indulgent, or wasteful. Instead, when we value rest, we are joining in Jesus' own work. We are being the body of Christ for ourselves and our neighbors. And when even that is too much for us to manage on our own, still Jesus promises to give us the rest we need.



Welcome to Bishop Kurt Kusserow!
Sunday, July 23 -- Global Mission Sunday

Come hear Bishop Kusserow preach at both services
and meet him and his wife Pam between services.

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 Paull 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 on Sunday, July 23, 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.

“Global Mission” in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

“... the ELCA walks with more than 80 companion churches in other countries to participate in God’s reconciling mission through proclamation and service. Participating in these relationships, ELCA members see how people’s lives are touched by the gospel, how their lives are transformed and renewed, and how their communities live in hope.”

One of the programs with ELCA Global Mission is YAGM: Young Adults in Global Mission. ELCA members, ages 21-35, spend a year in international service. Current country programs include Argentina/Uruguay, Central Europe, Jerusalem/West Bank, Mexico, Senegal, and the United Kingdom. Redeemer supports YAGM with a contribution from the Social Outreach ministry budget.

For more information about Global Mission and YAGM, see the [ELCA website](#).

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: Isaiah 55:10-13 Psalm 65:(1-8) 9-13 Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9,18-23

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.