

+ Contemporary Worship +  
At Redeemer Lutheran Church

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9:45 am March 10, 2024

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



*The fourth of the Old Testament promises providing a baptismal lens this Lent is the promise God makes to Moses: those who look on the bronze serpent will live. In today's gospel Jesus says he will be lifted up on the cross like the serpent, so that those who look to him in faith will live. When we receive the sign of the cross in baptism, that cross becomes the sign we can look to in faith for healing, for restored relationship to God, for hope when we are dying.*



## **PRELUDE**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Seminarian Come, in this season of Lent let us worship Christ,  
our Savior, who suffered death for all.

**All We praise you, Lord.**

Seminarian Come, let us worship Christ, who ventured into the depths of life;  
who finds and heals us when we need it most.

**All We praise you, Jesus, image of the compassionate Father.**

Seminarian Come, let us worship him who took upon himself our sins;  
by accepting death he lifted us out of the darkness.

**All We praise you, Lord of the cross.**

Seminarian Come, let us pray to him who conquered evil and hatred,  
who lives forever at God's side.

**All We draw closer to you, O Lord, throughout these 40 days of Lent!**

Seminarian Lord, you share life with us in our glory days,  
and you visit us in our darker hours;

**All United with Christ, we pray that our lives will bear much fruit.  
Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG**  
*Please stand and sing.*

## More Love, More Power

Jude Del Hierro

More love, — more pow-er,

more of You — in my — life. —

More love, — more pow-er,

more of You — in my — life. And I will wor-ship

You with all of my heart. — And I will wor-ship

You with all of my mind. — And I will wor-ship

You with all of my strength, — for You are my Lord, —

You are my Lord. —

You are my Lord.

## **CONFESSION**

Seminarian Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,  
who writes the law on our hearts,  
who draws all people together through Jesus.

**All Amen.**

Seminarian Held in God's mercy,  
let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

### *Silence and reflection*

Seminarian Holy God,  
**All we confess that we are caught in snares of sin  
and cannot break free.  
We hoard resources while our neighbors  
are hungry and cold.  
We speak in ways that silence others.  
We are silent when we should speak up.  
We keep score in our hearts.  
We let hurts grow into hatred.  
For all these things and for sins only you know,  
forgive us, Lord.  
Amen.**

Seminarian Here is a flood of grace:  
Out of love for the whole world,  
God draws near to us,  
breaks every snare of sin,  
washes away our wrongs,  
and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ .  
**All Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor Let us pray.  
O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen  
world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light,  
that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and  
Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and  
forever.

**All Amen.**



**SONG OF PRAISE**  
Please stand and sing.

## Hide Me in Your Holiness

WORDS and MUSIC: Steve Ragsdale

$\text{♩} = 108$  CAPO I

$E^b$   $E^b/G$   $A^b/C$   $B^b7sus$   $B^b7$   $A^b/C$   
(D) (D/F#) (G/B) (A7sus) (A7) (G/B)

Hide me, Lord, in your ho - li - ness; ev - 'ry

$B^b2/D$   $E^b2sus$   $E^b$   $A^b$   $B^b/A^b$   
(A2/C#) (D2sus) (D) (G) (A/G)

sin I now con - fess. Praise to you, for-

$E^b2/G$   $A^b2$   $Fm7$   $B^b$   $G$   $Cm$   $Cm7/B^b$   
(D2/F#) (G2) (Em7) (A) (F#) (Bm) (Bm7/A)

giv - ing Lord, hide me in your ho - li - ness,

$A^bMaj7$   $Fm7$   $Fm/B^b$   $B^b7sus$   $E^b$   
(GMaj7) (Em7) (Em/A) (A7sus) (D)

hide me in your ho - li - ness.

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**Reading: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22**

Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,  
for God's mercy endures forever.  
Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim  
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,  
gathering them in from the lands;  
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.  
Some were fools and took rebellious paths;  
through their sins they were afflicted.  
They loathed all manner of food  
and drew near to death's door.  
Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD  
and you delivered them from their distress.  
You sent forth your word and healed them  
and rescued them from the grave.  
Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love  
and your wonderful works for all people.  
Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving  
and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

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

**Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10**

*While we were dead in our sinfulness, God acted to make us alive as a gift of grace in Christ Jesus. We are saved not by what we do but by grace through faith. Thus our good works are really a reflection of God's grace at work in our lives.*

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved — and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God — not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**  
*Please stand and sing.*

## I Will Delight

*Words and Music by*  
**Walt Harrah and**  
**John Andrew Schreiner**

**VERSE**

$\text{♩} = 98$  G

The musical score is written for guitar and voice. It begins with a guitar introduction in G major, 4/4 time, with a tempo of 98 beats per minute. The introduction consists of a series of chords and eighth notes. The first system of the verse has the lyrics: "I will de - light in the law of the Lord, I will med - i - tate day and night." The second system starts at measure 5 and has the lyrics: "Then like a tree firm - ly plant - ed I'll be, ground - ed in Your Word." The third system has the lyrics: "Bless - ed is the one who fol - lows the way of the Lord, bless - ed is the". The fourth system starts at measure 15 and has the lyrics: "one." The score includes a guitar part and a vocal part with lyrics.

I will de - light in the law of the Lord, I will med - i - tate day and night.

Then like a tree firm - ly plant - ed I'll be, ground - ed in Your Word.

Bless - ed is the one who fol - lows the way of the Lord, bless - ed is the

one.



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

**GOSPEL: John 3:14–21**

*To explain the salvation of God to the religious leader, Nicodemus, Jesus refers to the scripture passage quoted in today's first reading. Just as those who looked upon the bronze serpent were healed, so people will be saved when they behold Christ lifted up on the cross.*

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

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

**SERMON**

*Give Thanks to the Lord  
Pastor Sandy Kessinger*



*Please stand and sing.*

## There is a Redeemer



1 There is a Re - deem - er, Je - sus, God's own Son,  
 2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, name a - bove all names,  
 3 When I stand in glo - ry, I will see his face;



pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Ho - ly One.  
 pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, hope for sin - ners slain.  
 there I'll serve my king for-ev - er, in that ho - ly place.

### *Refrain*



Thank you, O my Fa - ther, for giv - ing us your Son and



send - ing your Spir - it till the work on earth is done.

Text and music: Keith Green

Text and music © 1982 Birdwing Music/Cherry Lane Music Publishing Co., Inc., admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing

## **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. Hear us, O God.

**All** Your mercy is great.

*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 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."*

*Please sit.*

## **OFFERING**

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.  
Please give as you are able. We appreciate those who give in-person and those who give electronically.*

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

## **OFFERING MUSIC**

*"Blessed Be Your Name" by Matt and Beth Redman*

**SONG OF OFFERING**  
*Please stand and sing.*

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

We are an offering

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our  
 lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering.

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Pastor Let us pray.

**All** **Jesus, you are the bread of life**  
**and the host of this meal.**  
**Bless these gifts that we have gathered**  
**that all people may know your goodness.**  
**Feed us not only with this holy food**  
**but with hunger for justice and peace.**  
**We pray this in your name.**  
**Amen.**

**MEAL**

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.**

Pastor Blessed are you, God of everlasting covenant, for your promises are steadfast and your provision is sure. Through the 40 years of your people's desert wanderings, you were constant in fire and cloud; with manna and mercy you sustained every step. You made Jesus' temptation of 40 days a theater of truth where your word stood strong. In every age you have shaped your people through times of wilderness and wondering, of temptation and trial, and brought them into the land of promise, and the life of covenant. And so with all who have walked the wilderness way in every time and place and all who walk this day with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we join their unending hymn.

**All** **Holy, holy, holy Lord**  
**God of power and might,**  
**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**  
**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

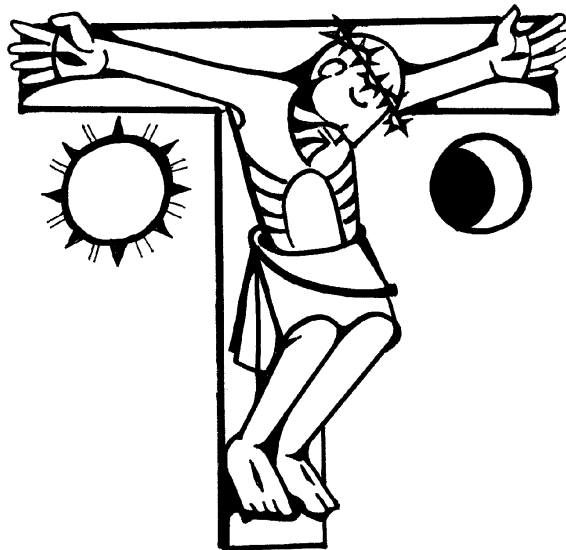
## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

### **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.



### **DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

***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.*

*In Holy Communion, we believe in the real presence of Christ in, with, and under the consecrated bread and wine.*

## COMMUNION SONG

### Taste and See

*Refrain – All*



Taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord. Oh,



taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

*Leader or All*



- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times.
- 2 Glo - ri - fy the Lord with . . . me.
- 3 Wor-ship . . . the Lord, all you peo-ple.



Praise shall al - ways be on my lips;  
To - geth - er let us all . . . . praise God's name.  
You'll want for noth-ing . . . if you ask.



my soul shall glo - ry in the Lord;  
I called the Lord, . . who an - swered me;  
Taste and see . . . that the Lord is good;

*Refrain*



for God has been so good to me.  
from all my trou - bles I was set free.  
in God we need put all our trust.

Text: James E. Moore Jr., b. 1951, based on Ps. 34

Music: TASTE AND SEE, James E. Moore Jr.

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### **TABLE BLESSING**

*Please stand.*

Pastor            May the body and blood of Christ strengthen you and sustain you for your Lenten journey ahead.

**All                Amen.**

### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Asst. Min.        Let us pray.  
Generous God,  
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.  
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,  
now make us one to feed the world;  
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

**All                Amen.**

### **BLESSING**

Pastor            Beloved,  
we are God's own people,  
holy, washed, renewed.  
May God the Father, Son +, and Holy Spirit  
bless you and keep you,  
Shower you with mercy,  
fill you with courage,  
and give you peace.

**All                Amen.**

**SENDING SONG***All sing.***Give Thanks**

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,  
give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.  
Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,  
give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.  
And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am  
rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And  
now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am  
rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

*Last time*

Text: Henry Smith

Music: GIVE THANKS. Henry Smith

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**DISMISSAL**

Asst. Min.

**All**

Go in peace. Christ is with you .

**Thanks be to God.****POSTLUDE**

## 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.

**Hearing help available:** We have for your use personal hearing amplification units available in the narthex. Please refer questions or comments to an usher.

Church Phone: 703-356-3346

Email: Church@redeemermclean.org

*Next Sunday's Scripture:*

*Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 51:1-12 Hebrews 5:5-10 John 12:20-33*

*Wednesdays in Lent, February 21-March 20*

*Holden Evening Prayer Service*

*Dinner 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall, Service at 7:30 pm*

### Lifted Up for Us

"So must the Son of Man be lifted up," Jesus says. There is a double meaning to this. Just as God told Moses to raise a bronze serpent on a pole to effect healing for the Israelites (Numbers 21:4-9), Jesus will be lifted on the pole of the cross. The image of Jesus crucified reveals how human power tries to dehumanize those who threaten the status quo or violate the norms decreed by those at the top of society's ladder. It is a horror to consider this happening to anyone, but so much more when the victim is the perfect Holy One, God in the flesh. It confronts us with humanity's rejection of God, in how we treat other human beings and in how we dehumanize ourselves by following our sinful impulses—what Ephesians calls "the passions of our flesh" (2:3).

This, though, is not the only meaning of Jesus being "lifted up," for "God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him." The cross is more than the humiliation of Jesus; it is also his glorious exaltation. The crucifixion of Jesus is his coronation as Lord of all, who rules by grace and mercy. By defeating death in the resurrection, he will indeed disrupt the status quo of shame, violence, and greed through the power of love, truth, and peace.

This was prefigured in the story of poisonous serpents. When the people looked on the emblem of their sin, a bronze model of the snakes that poisoned them after they grumbled against the Lord, they were healed. So, too, when we turn to the Crucified One, we do not find condemnation but salvation. Beholding the Savior lifted up on the cross by our sin, we receive mercy and healing. In the death of Jesus, God forgives and embraces us with eternal life. In the proclamation, prayer, song, and sacraments of our assembly, we remember and affirm that the crucified yet exalted Christ extends saving love to us and to the world.

*The flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the birthdays of Betsy, Diane, and Judy by Judy Kuhagen.*

*Call to Worship was written by Andreas Wagner,  
Great Thanksgiving by Samuel Wells.*

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