+ Contemporary Worship + At Redeemer Lutheran Church

9:45 am March 17, 2024

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



God promises Jeremiah that a "new covenant" will be made in the future: a covenant that will allow all the people to know God by heart. The church sees this promise fulfilled in Christ, who draws all people to himself when he is lifted up on the cross. Our baptismal covenant draws us to God's heart through Christ and draws God's love and truth into our hearts. We join together in worship, sharing in word, song, and meal, and leave strengthened to share God's love with all the world.



PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Come, in this season of Lent let us worship Christ,

our Savior, who suffered death for all.

All We praise you, Lord.

Pastor 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.

Pastor 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.

Pastor 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!

Pastor Lord, you share life with us in our glory days,

and you visit us in our darker hours;

fill our hearts to overflowing by revealing to us the light of your countenance.

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

Amen.

Rock Of My Salvation

Teresa Muller



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CONFESSION

Pastor Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,

who writes the law on our hearts,

who draws all people together through Jesus.

All Amen.

Pastor Held in God's mercy,

let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence and reflection

Pastor 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.

Pastor 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, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and

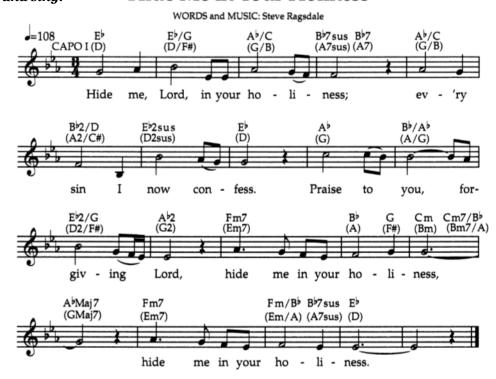
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All Amen.



SONG OF PRAISEPlease stand and sing.

Hide Me in Your Holiness



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10

Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

"You are my Son,

today I have begotten you";

as he says also in another place,

"You are a priest forever,

according to the order of Melchizedek."

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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





Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 12:20-33

Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

SERMON

A New Covenant Pastor Sandy Kessinger

Please stand and sing.

Shout to the Lord



Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965
Music: SHOUT TO THE LORD, Darlene Zschech
Text and music © 1993 Darlene Zschech/Hillsong Publishing, admin. in U.S. and Canada by Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP), c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

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

'Better is One Day' by Matt & Beth Redman

SONG OF OFFERING

Please stand and sing.

We are an offering

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





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. **And also with you.**

Pastor

Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor

All

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. 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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

COMMUNION SONG

All sing.

Glory and praise to our God





Text and music: Daniel Schutte

Text and music € 1976 Daniel Schutte and New Dawn Music

TABLE BLESSING

Please stand.

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

journey.

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.

I'm Yours





WORDS and MUSIC: Gary Chapman

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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: Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philippians 2:5-11 Mark 15:1-39

Wednesdays in Lent, February 21-March 20 Holden Evening Prayer Service Dinner 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall, Service at 7:30 pm

Called Where Jesus Goes

It isn't only the first disciples who become uncomfortable when Jesus talked about his approaching death. We often do as well. Perhaps focusing on the crucifixion seems gruesome. Perhaps it conjures in us the (false) story of a divine parent who cannot forgive without punishing someone, with Jesus standing in as that one. Maybe it feels like a morbid emphasis on sin.

Jesus did not understand himself as the victim of divine punishment. He entered into suffering as a part of his glorification, working with—not against—his Father. He knows that human life has become twisted under the powers of sin and death so that if we grasp onto our "life in this world," we will miss God's gracious intention for us. Christ's judgment of sin is not for our exclusion. Jesus never seeks to shame us, but condemns sin in order to deliver us from its power.

Perhaps, however, we shy away from talk of Christ's death because we sense, on some level, that if our Lord must go to the cross, then so too must we. Jesus declares, "Whoever serves me must follow me." Discipleship is a summons to die to ourselves and lose our life on this world's terms. Paradoxically, this cruciform journey is the road to true fruitfulness and flourishing. It begins in our baptism and is nourished at the Lord's table. It is sustained by the fellowship of faith, where together we hear the life-giving word of Jesus. It will find completion on the day of resurrection.

Our souls long for this way of salvation. Deep within us all, a voice whispers, "We wish to see Jesus." God knows this need, so Jesus is lifted up to drive out the powers of sin and death. God's unending mercy is displayed. For the same reason, we come together so that in hearing the word and sharing the eucharistic meal, and in our prayers, laments, and praises, Jesus may be lifted up to draw us, and all people, to salvation.

The flowers are given to the glory of God.

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

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