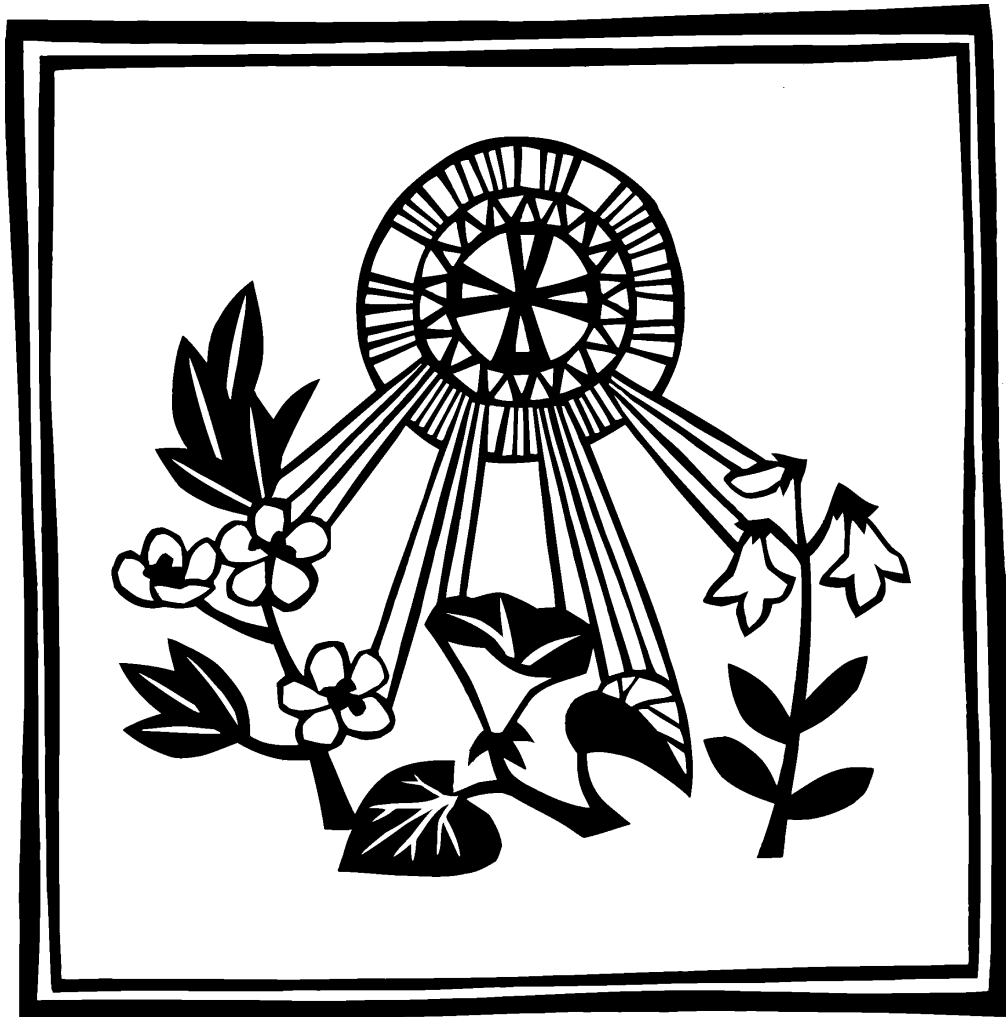


# Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

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

**Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 10, 2026  
The Service at 8:30 and 11 am**



*Jesus does not abandon his followers. Through the Holy Spirit, Jesus comes to abide with his disciples of every generation. As Pentecost draws near, we are reminded that the risen Christ dwells in us as the Spirit of truth. We receive this Spirit in baptism and pray that in our gathering around the Lord's table the Spirit will transform us to be the body of the risen Christ in the world.*



*Today is Youth Leadership Sunday.*

## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

8:30 *Prelude No. 6 in D minor, BWV 851 by J. S. Bach*  
*Kai Osifchin, piano*  
11:00 *“Ride On, King Jesus” arranged by H. T. Burleigh*  
*Eric Cho, voice*

### 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.*

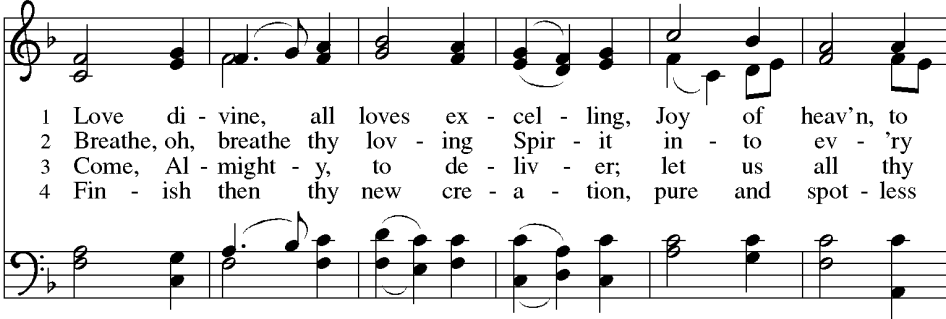
Pastor Most merciful God,  
Congregation **have mercy on us.**  
**We confess that we are in bondage to sin**  
**and cannot free ourselves.**  
**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,**  
**by what we have done**  
**and by what we have left undone.**  
**We have not loved you with 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: LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING #631

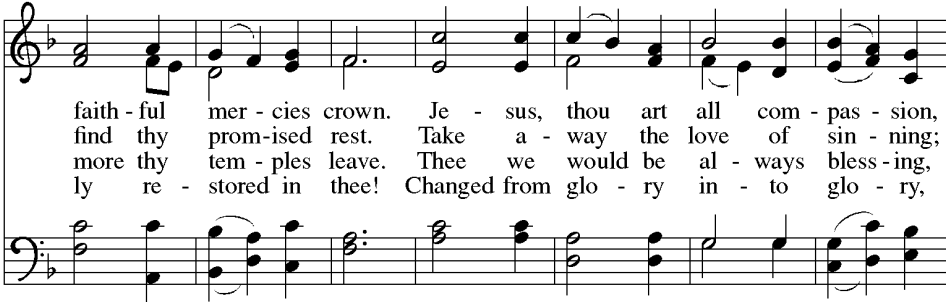
*We invite you to turn and face the cross (as you are comfortable). Please turn to the front of the sanctuary after the cross has passed you. All sing.*




1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to  
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry  
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy  
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

## 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.**

## CANTICLE OF PRAISE



1 Come, let us join our cheer-ful songs with an-gels round the throne;  
2 “Wor- thy the Lamb that died,” they cry, “to be ex- alt- ed thus!”  
3 Je- sus is wor- thy to re-ceive hon- or and pow’r di- vine;  
4 Let all cre- a- tion join in one to bless the sa- cred name



ten thou-sand thou- sand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.  
“Wor- thy the Lamb,” our lips re- ply, “for he was slain for us!”  
and bless-ings, more than we can give, be, Lord, for- ev- er thine.  
of him who sits up- on the throne, and to a- dore the Lamb.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748  
Music: NUN DANKET ALL, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor           Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
Congregation   **Amen.**

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

### THE WORD

#### Reading: Acts 17:22-31

*In Athens, Paul faces the challenge of proclaiming the gospel to Greeks who know nothing of either Jewish or Christian tradition. He proclaims that the “unknown god” whom they worship is the true Lord of heaven and earth who will judge the world with justice through Jesus, whom God has raised from the dead.*

<sup>22</sup> Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. <sup>23</sup> For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup> nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup> From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup> so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup> For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

<sup>29</sup> “Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup> While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

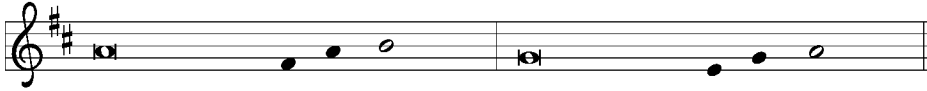
Reader

Word of God, word of life.

Congregation   **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 66:8-20**

*Congregation sings words in bold.*



- <sup>8</sup> Bless our | God, you peoples;  
let the sound of | praise be heard.
- <sup>9</sup> **Our God has kept us a- | mong the living**  
**and has not allowed our | feet to slip.**
- <sup>10</sup> For you, O God, have | tested us;  
you have tried us just as sil- | ver is tried.
- <sup>11</sup> **You brought us in- | to the net;**  
**you laid heavy burdens up- | on our backs.**
- <sup>12</sup> You let people ride over our heads; we went through | fire and water,  
but you brought us out into a place | of refreshment.
- <sup>13</sup> **I will enter your house | with burnt offerings**  
**and will pay | you my vows—**
- <sup>14</sup> those that I promised | with my lips  
and spoke with my mouth when I | was in trouble.
- <sup>15</sup> **I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the | smoke of rams;**  
**I will give you ox- | en and goats.**
- <sup>16</sup> Come and listen, all you | who believe,  
and I will tell you what God has | done for me.
- <sup>17</sup> **I called out to God | with my mouth,**  
**and praised the Lord | with my tongue.**
- <sup>18</sup> If I had cherished evil | in my heart,  
the Lord would | not have heard me;
- <sup>19</sup> **but in truth | God has heard me**  
**and has attended to the sound | of my prayer.**
- <sup>20</sup> Blessed be God, who has not reject- | ed my prayer,  
nor withheld unfailing | love from me.

**Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22**

*The author of 1 Peter encourages Christians to remain faithful even in the face of defamation and persecution. In baptism we are made clean to act in accordance with what is right.*

<sup>13</sup> Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, <sup>15</sup> but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, <sup>16</sup> yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup> For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. <sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup> in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup> who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup> And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

The Gospel is announced.

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Congregation **Glory to you, O Lord.**

### **Gospel: John 14:15-21**

*In final words to his disciples on the night of his arrest, Jesus encourages obedience to his commandments and speaks of the Spirit, who will be with them forever.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup>And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. <sup>17</sup>This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. <sup>19</sup>In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

Pastor The Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## SERMON

*The Presence of Another*  
*Pastor Sharon Core*

# HYMN OF THE DAY: COME DOWN, O LOVE DIVINE #804

Please stand and sing.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

1 Come down, O Love di - vine; seek thou this soul of mine  
2 Oh, let it free - ly burn, till world - ly pas - sions turn  
3 Let ho - ly char - i - ty mine out - ward ves - ture be,  
4 And so the yearn - ing strong, with which the soul will long,

and vis - it it with thine own ar - dor glow - ing;  
to dust and ash - es in its heat con - sum - ing;  
and low - li - ness be - come mine in - ner cloth - ing—  
shall far out - pass the pow'r of hu - man tell - ing;

O Com - fort - er, draw near; with - in my heart ap - pear  
and let thy glo - rious light shine ev - er on my sight,  
true low - li - ness of heart, which takes the hum - bler part,  
no soul can guess Love's grace till it be - come the place

and kin - dle it, thy ho - ly flame be - stow - ing.  
and clothe me round, the while my path il - lum - ing.  
and o'er its own short - com - ings weeps with loath - ing.  
where - in the Ho - ly Spir - it makes a dwell - ing.

Text: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833–1890  
Music: DOWN AMPNEY, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958  
Outside USA: Music from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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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. Merciful God  
Congregation **receive 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. Our offerings to God are first of all just that – offerings of thanksgiving to God. As you are able please continue to support our ministry with your financial gifts.*

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

## **OFFERTORY**

8:30 "Where'er you walk" by George Frideric Handel  
Amy Cho, voice  
11:00 "Teach Me, O Lord" by Thomas Attwood  
Adult Choir

## COME TO THE TABLE

**OFFERTORY SONG**  
*Please stand and sing.*

### Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful *Offering Song*



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be  
fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -  
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923  
Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

### OFFERTORY PRAYER

Asst. Min.  
Congregation

Let us pray.  
**Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, Amen.**

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor  
Congregation

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

Pastor  
Congregation

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

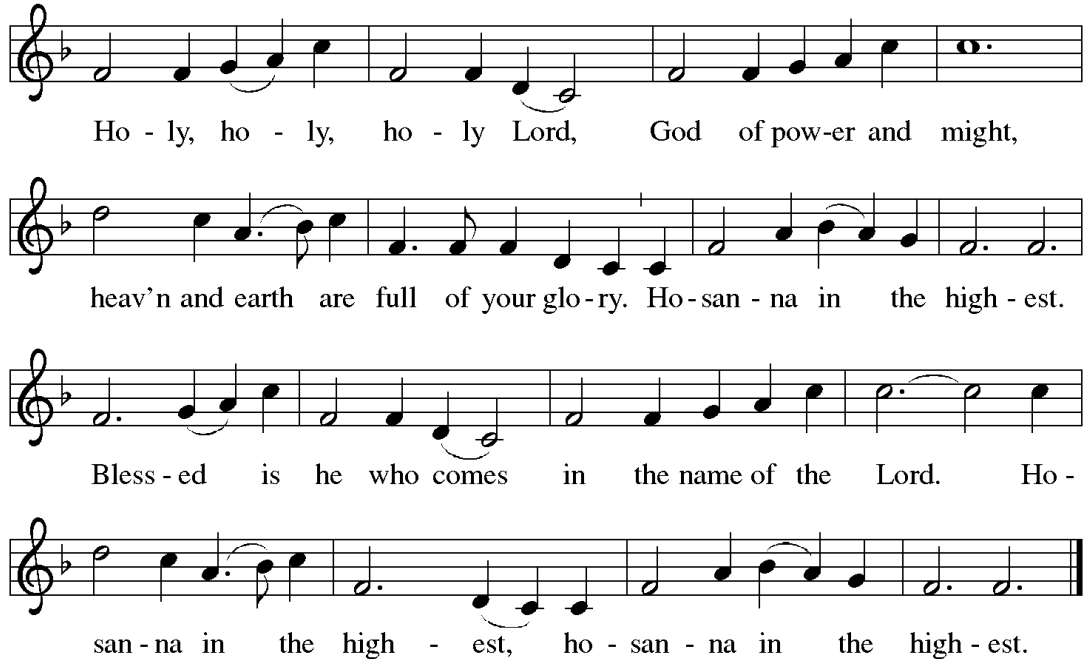
Pastor  
Congregation

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,  
for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb  
who gave himself to take away our sin;  
who in dying has destroyed death,  
and in rising has brought us to eternal life.  
And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,  
with earth and sea and all their creatures,  
with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*All sing.*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor

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

Congregation

**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.*



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNE

### COMMUNION

*All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.*

*Communion will be offered by intinction.*

*For those not comfortable receiving from those who are distributing the elements, a separate tray is available.*

*Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.*

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

*To receive a blessing, please cross your arms.*

*You are an important part of our faith community.*

*In Holy Communion we receive the true body and blood of Christ.*

### SPECIAL MUSIC

8:30 "Avalanche" by Stephen Heller and "Pink Panther" by Henry Mancini

Andrew Pfister, piano

11:00 "King of Kings" by Brooke Ligertwood, Scott Ligertwood, and Jason Ingram

Emily Osifchin, voice

*Please stand.*

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

### POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Asst. Min. Let us pray. Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus,

Congregation **Amen.**

## THE SENDING

### BLESSING

Pastor God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, + bless you now and forever.

Congregation **Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN: IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST #650**

*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.*

## In Christ There Is No East or West

1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,  
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com - mu - nion find;  
3 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.  
4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;

but one com - mu - ni - ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.  
his ser - vice is the gold - en cord close bind - ing hu - man-kind.  
All chil - dren of the liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.  
all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

The musical score consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment line on a bass clef staff. The first system contains the first four lines of lyrics, and the second system contains the remaining four lines. The music is written in a key with one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852–1941, alt.

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

### DISMISSAL

Asst. Min.

Congregation

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

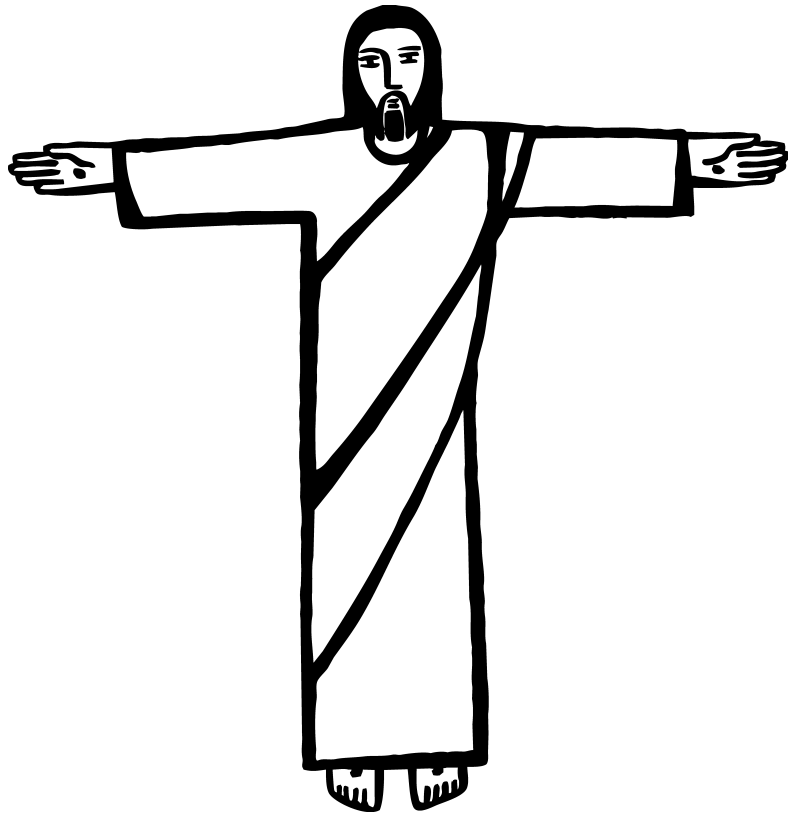
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

### POSTLUDE

8:30 “Dreams” by Stevie Nicks and “Yesterday” by Paul McCartney

Caroline Pfister, piano

11:00 “Trumpet Tune” by David Lasky



## **Not Orphaned**

“I will not leave you orphaned,” Jesus promises us in today’s gospel. God is not some ruthless heavenly spectator judging us as on reality television, relishing our failures, wishing to exchange us for a better or more attractive child, no curmudgeonly “Daddy Warbucks” in the sky. Rather, God comes to love us in Jesus, singularly loving and accepting, seeking our trust, promising to be ever-present with us in the Holy Spirit. This Holy Advocate moves us even when we don’t recognize its power, even when it seems “an unknown God” (Acts 17:23). Though we might battle an elemental loneliness, we have not been abandoned.

Many life experiences can leave us feeling orphaned or abandoned. Family can ease that feeling but also magnify it if our family relationships are strained or if our families live far away. Think of those in your congregation who count deployed soldiers among their loved ones in recent years, or construction workers and tradesmen who need to live in hotels far away from their families to keep making money for their families in the recent difficult economy. The Internet, webcams, Skype, and social networking can link people across the miles but can further aggravate loneliness and isolation when these substitute for real intimacy in our highly connected world. How do we experience this loneliness and this longing for home and belonging? How does Jesus’ promise that he will not leave us orphaned speak to these real-life concerns?

When Jesus makes this string of promises in John 14, saying that he will remain with us in the Holy Spirit as our Advocate, it’s hard to envision how this support comes to us sometimes. When we do not get to see or hear those we love, the simple gifts Jesus offers in body and blood, bread and wine shared with real warm neighbors have great power. Even when life keeps delivering bad news about how far apart we are from another, how broken our relationships are, “I will not leave you orphaned” is the godly reassurance that we are not alone.

# 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 personal hearing amplification units available for your use. Please speak with the person at the sound board.

*Church Phone: 703-356-3346*

*Email: [church@redeemermclean.org](mailto:church@redeemermclean.org)*

## *Sunday Services*

*8:30 and 11:00 am for the traditional service and 9:45 am for the contemporary service*

### Next Sunday's Scripture:

Acts 1:6-14

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

John 17:1-11

*The flowers are given to the glory of God.*

*Today we are using Setting 10 from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal.*

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