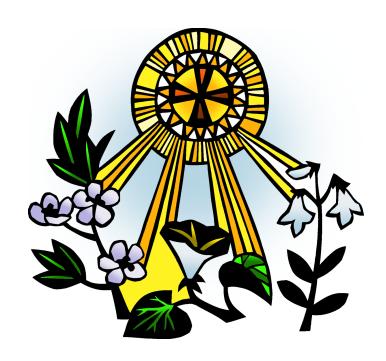
+ Contemporary Worship + At Redeemer Lutheran Church

9:45 am May 14, 2023

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



+ WELCOME TO WORSHIP +

Based on Psalm 66

Pastor Bless our God, you peoples.

All Let the sound of praise be heard.

Pastor We called out to God,

All and praised the Lord with our tongues.

Pastor God has heard us.

All And has attended to the sound of our prayers.

Pastor Blessed be God, who has not rejected our prayers,

All nor withheld unfailing love from us. Amen! Alleluia!



GATHERING SONG



CONFESSION OF SIN

Pastor

We are called to follow Christ. We are called to obey Jesus' commandment to love one another. Let us confess how we have fallen short of that love.

All Loving God,

we have not loved you or each other with our whole hearts. Forgive us, we pray, and lead us toward wholeness, that we may be filled with your joy.

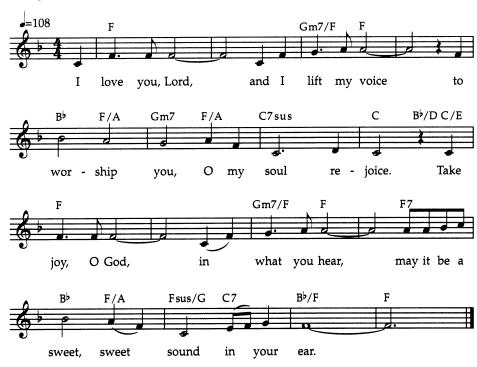
Pastor

The promise of our faith is that we are forgiven. As a called and ordained servant of the Church of Christ, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Receive the Holy Spirit and be empowered to be witnesses of God's love that we know through his Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

Please stand and sing.

I Love You, Lord



WORDS and MUSIC: Laurie Klein

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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.

All 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.

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. 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. 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, 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. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. 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.'

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. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, 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. **All** Thanks be to God.

Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

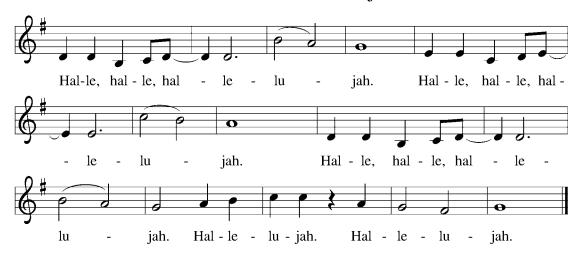
Christians have a zeal for doing what is right in God's eyes no matter what the circumstances because in baptism we are saved and made alive. Thus our Christian beliefs and behavior are to be a matter of public record just as our baptism is.

Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? 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, 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; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. 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, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, 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 persons, were saved through water. 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, 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. **All** Thanks be to God.

Please stand and sing.

Halle, Hallelujah



Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. John. **All 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.

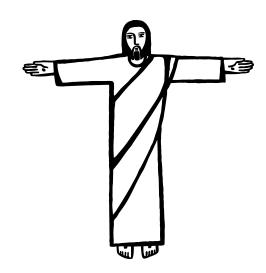
[Jesus said to the disciples:] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides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

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. 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.
All Praise to you, O Christ.

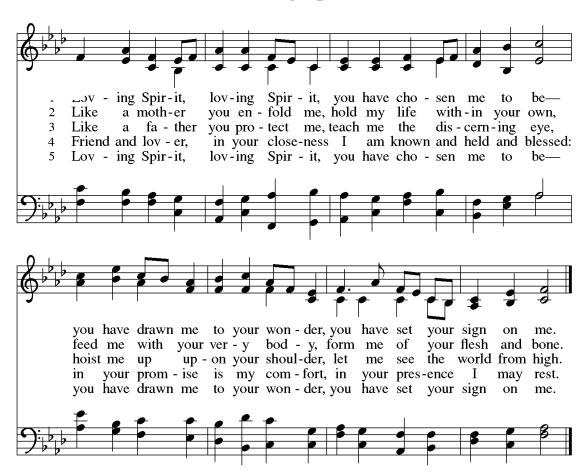
SERMON

The Work of the Spirit Pastor Josh Wullenweber



Please stand and sing.

Loving Spirit



Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931
Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835; arr. hymnal version
Text © 1987 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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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 May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

All And also with you.

Please greet one another with words such as "God's peace be with you."

Sit

+ SHARING OUR GIFTS +

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.

OFFERING MUSIC

"He Reigns" Words and Music by Peter Furler and Steve Taylor

OFFERTORY

Please stand and sing.



OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor Let us pray.

All Holy Ĝod, in this meal you offer your very self.

We give thanks for these gifts that come from your creation. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine

pour us out in service to the world, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

+ COME TO THE TABLE +

Pastor Friends in Christ, this joyful feast unites us.

God has gathered all his people from around the world to commune at his table.

All And so we come from the East

and from the West, from the North and from the South.

Pastor The Lord be with you. **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.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor 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.

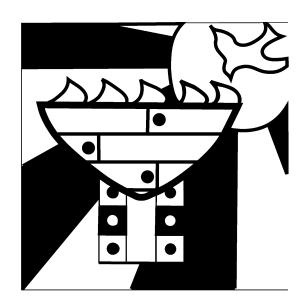
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

Pastor

Come, for all is now ready.

Please sit.



INVITATION TO COMMUNE

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.

All sing.

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart Gift of Finest Wheat







- when the shep-herd calls his know and heed his voice; sheep, they
- 2 With joy ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?
- no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- The mys-t'ry of your pres-ence, Lord, You give your-self to us, O Lord; us, O Lord; then self - less let



Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997 Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996 Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Please stand.

The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood, **Pastor**

strengthen and preserve you unto eternal life.

All Amen.

PRAYER

Asst. Min. Let us pray.

> God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All Amen.

+ THE SENDING +

BENEDICTION

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, **Pastor**

bless you now and forever.

All Amen.

SENDING SONG All sing.

Be Bold, Be Strong

Morris Chapman





DISMISSAL

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

All

"Jesus Shall Reign" - Linda R. Lamb **POSTLUDE**

Redeemer Bell Choir

Please join the Redeemer family outside Crossroads foyer area for fellowship and refreshments.



Life with the Spirit

What do we do when we feel abandoned by people we believed would always be there for us? When relationships end or coworkers betray us? When friends move or someone close to us dies? The impact of those losses can change our whole world. It can make us question our self-worth and make us wonder if we are really of any value. When this happens, it's easy to ask if what we do actually matters.

As Jesus prepares his disciples for what life will be like for them after he dies, he tells them to keep his commandments and assures them they will not be left orphaned. It's an important message for them to hear. They are about to experience the trauma of witnessing Jesus' betrayal and death, the fear of being wanted men hiding from the authorities, and the grief of feeling like they have lost their purpose in life. Their world is about to be thrown into chaos because the person who had led them, taught them, and taken care of them would now be gone.

Jesus' words are a promise that God's love is too great to leave them abandoned. "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever" (John 14:15-16). His words are also a promise that what they continue to do matters. Keeping his commandments isn't necessary for God to love them, but doing so will serve as a reminder of their love for Jesus and will open them up to experiencing the Advocate in their lives. Jesus' command to love God and our neighbor isn't a fee we have to pay for the Spirit to spend time with us. It is our response to the powerful good news that the Spirit is with us forever.

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

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.

Sunday Services 9:45 am for the contemporary service and 8:30 am and 11 am for traditional services

> 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 with love & in honor of the anniversary of Lily Carroll's baptism by her godmother Deanna Heier

and

in honor of all the women in our lives who have loved and encouraged us by Phyllis and Steve Mallard

