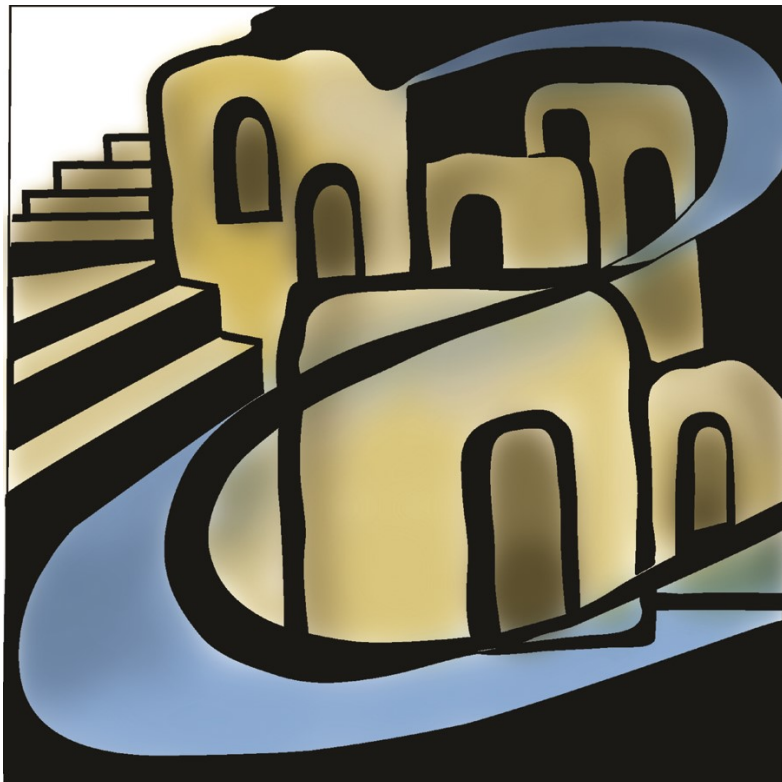


+ Contemporary Worship +
At Redeemer Lutheran Church

9:45 am May 7, 2023

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



+ WELCOME TO WORSHIP +

Based on Psalm 31

Pastor In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge
All **Incline your ear to me;
make haste to deliver me.**

Pastor Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe
All **for you are my crag and my stronghold.**

Pastor Into your hands I commend my spirit,
All **for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.**

Pastor Let your face shine upon your servant;
All **save me in your steadfast love. Amen! Alleluia!**

GATHERING SONG

Your Everlasting Love

Isaiah 54:8-10

WORDS and MUSIC: Bill Batstone

$\text{♩} = 132$

1. Your ev - er - last - ing love is high - er,
 (2.) - er - last - ing love is deep - er,
 (3.) - er - last - ing love is reach - ing,

high - er, high - er than the sky. Your ev -
 deep - er, deep - er than the sea. Your ev -
 reach - ing, reach - ing out to me. Your ev -

er - last - ing love is high - er,
 er - last - ing love is deep - er,
 er - last - ing love is reach - ing,

high - er, high - er than the
 deep - er, deep - er than the
 reach - ing, reach - ing out to

sky, high - er than the sky.
 sea, deep - er than the sea.
 me, reach - ing out to me.

Oh, the won-der of your ev-er-last-ing love is high-er than the
 Oh, the won-der of your ev-er-last-ing love is deep-er than the
 Oh, the won-der of your ev-er-last-ing love is reach-ing out to

sky. 2. Your ev -
 sea. 3. Your ev -
 me.

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.

All **Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE

Please stand and sing.

I Love You, Lord

The musical score for 'I Love You, Lord' is written in F major, 4/4 time, with a tempo of 108. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: 'I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to wor - ship you, O my soul re - joice. Take joy, O God, in what you hear, may it be a sweet, sweet sound in your ear.' The chords are: F, Gm7/F, F, Bb, F/A, Gm7, F/A, C7sus, C, Bb/D, C/E, F, Gm7/F, F, F7, Bb, F/A, Fsus/G, C7, Bb/F, F.

WORDS and MUSIC: Laurie Klein

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Let us pray.
Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ THE WORD +

Reading: Acts 7:55-60

Stephen was one of the seven men chosen by the apostles to serve tables so that the apostles could be free to serve the word (Acts 6:1-6). Stephen does more than distribute food, however. For his preaching of God's word, he becomes the first martyr of the faith.

Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

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

Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Christ is the cornerstone of God's saving work and the foundation of our lives. We are God's chosen, holy people who continuously celebrate and declare the mercy of God we experience through Jesus Christ.

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.
Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture:
"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."
To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,
"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,"
and "A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall."
They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.
But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.
Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

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

Please stand and sing.

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah



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

Gospel: John 14:1-14

On the night that he is to be arrested, Jesus shares final words with his disciples. As the one through whom God is known, he promises to go before them and act on their behalf.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

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

SERMON

I Am The Way Pastor Sandy Kessinger

Please stand and sing.

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace *Prayer of St. Francis*

1 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
2 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
4 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.

Where there is ha - tred, let me bring your love;
Where there's de - spair in life, let me bring hope;
It is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned,
where there is in - ju - ry, your par - don, Lord;
where there is dark - ness, on - ly light;
in giv - ing of our - selves that we re -

and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
and where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.

3 O Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er seek so
much to be con - soled as to con - sole, to be
un - der - stood as to un - der - stand, to be
loved as to love with all my soul.

ceive, and in dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life.

Text: Sebastian Temple
Music: PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS, Sebastian Temple

Text and music © 1967 OCP Publications

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APOSTLES' CREED

Asst. Min.

All

With the whole Church, let us confess our faith.

**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.

All

At the end of the prayer:

Pastor

All

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

SHARING THE LORD'S PEACE

Pastor

All

May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

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

"My Glorious"

Words and Music by Stuart Garrard and Martin Smith

OFFERTORY

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.

The musical notation is written on two staves in treble clef. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the song, with lyrics 'We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our'. The second staff contains the melody for the second line, with lyrics 'lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering.' The music includes various chords (G, C², Dm⁷, C²/E, C/E, F, C/E, Dm⁷, Dm⁷/G, C) and rhythmic values (quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, rests, and triplets).

OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor

Let us pray.

All

Holy God, 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.

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.

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.
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.

Text and music: Graham Kendrick
Text and music © 1993 Make Way Music, admin. Integrity Music, Inc.

Here is bread

1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us,
2 Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us,
3 Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us,
he is with us. Break the bread, taste the wine,
he is with us. Know his grace, find his peace,
he is with us. We'll pro-claim till he comes
Christ is with us here. here.
feast on Je - sus here.
Je - sus cru - ci - fied.

Refrain
In this bread there is heal - ing, in this cup is
life for - ev - er. In this mo - ment,
by the Spir - it, Christ is with us here.

Please stand.

Pastor

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

Pastor

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

All

Amen.

SENDING SONG BIND US TOGETHER

All sing.

Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that
can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,
bind us to - geth - er, Lord; bind us to - geth - er in love.
1 There . . is on - ly one God. There . . is on - ly one King.
2 You are the fam - ly of God. You are the prom - ise di - vine.
There . . is on - ly one Bod-y; that . . is why we can sing;
You are God's cho-sen de - sire, you are the glo-rious new wine.

Text: Bob Gillman, b. 1946
Music: Bob Gillman, b. 1946
© 1977 Thankyou Music, admin. (in Western Hemisphere) Integrity's Hosanna! Music

BIND US TOGETHER
6 7 7 6 and refrain

DISMISSAL

Asst. Min.

All

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.**POSTLUDE**

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

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 17:22-31 Psalm 66:8-20 1 Peter 3:13-22 John 14:15-21***Are You New Here?**

"You know the way to the place where I am going," Jesus tells his followers (John 14:4), but they aren't so sure. So he goes on, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life" (John 14:6), but they're still confused. Finally, he asks, "Have I been with you all this time . . . and you still do not know me?" (John 14:9). It's as if he's asking them, "Are you new here?"

They've had him all this time. They've watched him and listened to him and learned from him. But, suddenly faced with the idea that he won't always be there in quite the same way, it's as if they remember nothing.

Yet, Jesus isn't one of those teachers who says, "Do as I say, not as I do." He lived his very life here on earth as a model for us, even now. Our road map to the place where he is going is to understand his words and actions, not only as his way, truth, and life, but as our own as well.

It's as complicated as that, but it's also that simple. "Do not let your hearts be troubled" (John 14:1), Jesus tells them. Indeed, road maps are meant to reassure us, by giving us direction and setting us on the right course.

He didn't say it would be easy. He also didn't tell this to any of them alone, and his words are intended for us to hear in community today as well. Living out our understandings of Jesus as the way, truth, and life is a collective act, not an individual one. We do this every time we gather in community, whether that's a congregation, a parent-teacher organization, an extended family, or a neighborhood Buy Nothing group.

"You know the way to the place where I am going," Jesus tells us. We might feel new here, but it turns out we've had the road map all along.

The altar arrangement is given to the glory of God.

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