

+ Contemporary Worship +  
At Redeemer Lutheran Church

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9:45 am November 19, 2023

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



*Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.*

# + WELCOME TO WORSHIP +

## PRELUDE

## 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,  
 sea,  
 me,

high - er than the sky.  
 deep - er than the sea.  
 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.  
 sea.  
 me.

2. Your ev -  
 3. Your ev -

*Last time  
 end here*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Based on Psalms of Praise*

Seminarian Hallelujah! We sing our praises to God!

**All We lift high our praise of God  
and bless God's holy name.**

Seminarian God is filled with mercy and grace, not quick to anger and rich in love.

**All God is good to one and all;  
everything God does is filled with grace.**

Seminarian Let us sing to God a brand-new song.

**All Let us praise God from the mountaintops  
and for all eternity.**

Seminarian Let us praise God in this house of worship.

**All Let every living, breathing creature praise God!**

## SONG OF PRAISE

### Thy Word

Thy word, thy word is a lamp un-to my feet.

Thy word, oh, thy word is a lamp un-to my

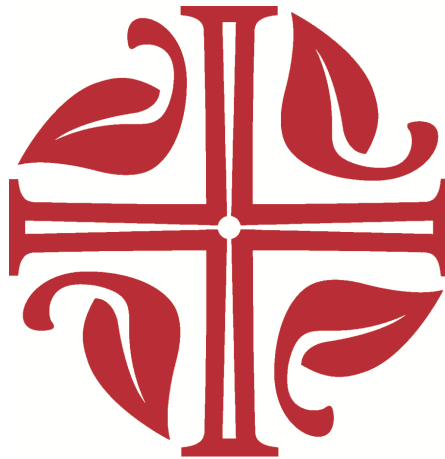
feet; and a light un-to my path, and a light un-to my

path. *To repeat* path, and a light un-to my path. *Last time*

Text: Psalm 119:105

Music: THY WORD, Richard Webb

Music © 1998 Richard Webb, admin. Augsburg Fortress



### **CONFESSION OF SIN**

Seminarian Jesus said, “Where two or three are gathered in my name, I will be among them.” Christ is here, in our hearts and souls as we gather for worship. Christ is here, to heal and redeem. Let us open our hearts and minds for God’s healing ministry!

### *Silence and reflection*

Seminarian Most merciful God,  
**All** **come into our lives,**  
**come and heal what is broken,**  
**correct what is against your will,**  
**bless what is small and tender, uncertain and in need of growth.**  
**Come into our lives and anoint our community**  
**that we may serve you with an open heart.**

Pastor The God of truth who renews us in body, mind and soul, grant us insight, foresight and a desire to follow the path of Christ whose compassion is beyond compare. In Christ, God is always making a new way for us. In the name of our Triune God – the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit – your sins are forgiven.

**All** **Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor Let us pray.  
Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**All** **Amen.**

### **TEMPLE TALK**

### **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

## + THE WORD +

### **Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18**

*Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the Lord.*

Be silent before the Lord GOD!  
For the day of the LORD is at hand;  
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,  
he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,  
and I will punish the people  
who rest complacently on their dregs,  
those who say in their hearts,  
"The LORD will not do good,  
nor will he do harm."  
Their wealth shall be plundered,  
and their houses laid waste.  
Though they build houses,  
they shall not inhabit them;  
though they plant vineyards,  
they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the LORD is near,  
near and hastening fast;  
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,  
the warrior cries aloud there.  
That day will be a day of wrath,  
a day of distress and anguish,  
a day of ruin and devastation,  
a day of darkness and gloom,  
a day of clouds and thick darkness,  
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry  
against the fortified cities  
and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people  
that they shall walk like the blind;  
because they have sinned against the LORD,  
their blood shall be poured out like dust,  
and their flesh like dung.  
Neither their silver nor their gold  
will be able to save them  
on the day of the LORD's wrath;  
in the fire of his passion  
the whole earth shall be consumed;  
for a full, a terrible end  
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Reader  
**All**

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

**Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

*Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

*Please stand and sing.*

**Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil**

The musical score is written for a single voice part on a treble clef staff. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The score consists of five lines of music. The first line ends with a double bar line. The second line ends with a double bar line. The third line ends with a double bar line. The fourth line ends with a double bar line. The fifth line ends with a double bar line.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950  
Music: GOOD SOIL, Handt Hanson  
Text and music © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Pastor  
All

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30**

*Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] “For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I



will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”

Pastor  
All

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


**SERMON**

***Finding Time to Love in the Busyness***  
***Pastor Josh Wullenweber***

**SONG OF THE DAY**  
Please stand and sing.


# In Christ Alone

3 A $\flat$  E $\flat$  A $\flat$  B $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G




1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my  
2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of  
3. There in the ground His bod - y lay, Light of the  
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the

3 A $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G Fm<sup>7</sup> A $\flat$ /B $\flat$  E $\flat$  A $\flat$  E $\flat$  A $\flat$




light, my strength, — my song; This Cor - ner - stone, this sol - id  
God in help - less babe! This gift of love and right - eous -  
world by dark - ness slain; Then, burst - ing forth in glo - rious  
pow'r of Christ — in me; From life's first cry to fi - nal

6 B $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G A $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G Fm<sup>7</sup> A $\flat$ /B $\flat$  E $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G




Ground, firm through the fier - est drought — and storm. What heights of  
-ness, scorned by the ones He came — to save. Till on that  
Day, up from the grave He rose — a - gain! And as He  
breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny. No pow'r of

9 A $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G B $\flat$ <sup>sus</sup> B $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G A $\flat$  Cm<sup>7</sup> B $\flat$ <sup>sus</sup> B $\flat$  A $\flat$



love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease. My Com - fort -  
cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is - fied. For ev - 'ry  
stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on me; For I am  
hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His hand; Till He re -


13 E $\flat$  A $\flat$  B $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G A $\flat$  E $\flat$ /G Fm<sup>7</sup> A $\flat$ /B $\flat$



-er, my All in All, here in the love of Christ — I  
sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ — I  
His and He is mine, bought with the pre - cious blood — of  
-turns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ — I'll

**INSTRUMENTAL**

16 E $\flat$  B $\flat$ m<sup>7</sup> Fm<sup>7</sup> E $\flat$  E $\flat$ <sup>sus</sup> E $\flat$



stand.  
live.  
Christ.  
stand!

Words and Music by  
Keith Getty and Stuart Townend



### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — 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**

### **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.*

### **+ SHARING OUR GIFTS +**

### **ANTHEM**

*"Cornerstone"*

*by Edward Mote, Eric Liljero, Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, William Batchelder Bradbury*

***Please stand and sing.***

## Seed Scattered And Sown

(as published by International Liturgy Publications)

**Dan Feiten**

**REFRAIN**

♩ = 107    C    G/B    Am    Am/G    F    G    C2    F    G

Seed, scat - tered and sown,    wheat gath - ered and grown,    bread, bro - ken and

6    C    G/B    Am    Dm7    Gsus    G    C    G/B    Am    Am/G    F    G

shared as one, the Liv - ing Bread of God.    Vine, fruit of the land,    wine, work of our

12    C2    F    G    C    G/B    Am    Dm7    C/E    F    G    C

hands,    one cup that is shared by all;    the Liv - ing Cup, the Liv - ing Bread of God.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor      Let us pray.  
All      **God of field and forest,  
sea and sky,  
you are the giver of all good things.  
Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,  
and multiply your grace in us,  
that the world may be fed with your love,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
Amen.**

## + THE 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      God, you are before all things;  
               You are beyond all things;  
               And in the midst of all things and all peoples  
               you have made yourself known.

Pastor In Israel's ancient codes and prophetic oracles,  
in stories of women and men,  
of communities and nations  
seeking identity,  
feeling their strength,  
and struggling with their weakness  
you have made yourself known.

In Jesus of Nazareth,  
in compassion for the outcast,  
forgiveness for the fallen,  
hope for the poor and hungry;  
in his life poured out for others  
and broken in rejection and disdain  
you have made yourself known.

Therefore we join our praises  
with countless men and women before us,  
disciples and apostles,  
saints and martyrs,  
acclaiming your power in goodness  
and your might in compassion,  
as we say:

**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.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **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.***

## **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*

# Glory and praise to our God

*Refrain*

G D Em G

Glo - ry and praise to our God, who a - lone gives

Dsus D Am/C Am

light to our days. Man - y are the

G Bm C D G *4th time to stanza 4*

bles - sings he bears to those who trust in his ways.

Dm<sup>7</sup> C Am D

1 We, the daugh - ters and sons of him who built the  
2 In his wis - dom he strength - ens us, like gold that's  
3 Ev - 'ry mo - ment of ev - 'ry day our God is

G Dm<sup>7</sup> C

val - leys and plains, praise the won - ders our God has  
test - ed in fire. Though the pow - er of sin pre -  
wait - ing to save, al - ways read - y to seek the

Bm<sup>7</sup> Em A D D<sup>9</sup>/C G/B D/A *Refrain*

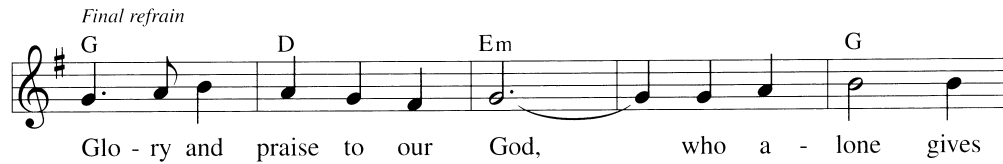
done in ev - 'ry heart that sings.  
vails, our God is there to save.  
lost, to an - swer those who pray.

B<sup>7</sup> Em B<sup>7</sup>

4 God has wa - tered our bar - ren land and spent his

Em C G

mer - ci - ful rain. Now the riv - ers of life run



Text and music: Daniel Schutte  
Text and music © 1976 Daniel Schutte and New Dawn Music

## TABLE BLESSING

*Please stand.*

Pastor Through Christ all God's people are made whole: may Christ's body and blood strengthen you and fill your life with the joy and peace that only Christ can offer.

All Amen.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Asst. Min. Let us pray.  
We thank you, generous God,  
for the refreshment we have received  
at your banquet table.  
Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,  
through the one who is our dearest treasure,  
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

## + THE SENDING +

### BLESSING

Pastor The God who calls across the cosmos  
and speaks in the smallest seed  
bless, keep, and sustain you  
now and to the end of the age  
in the name of the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit.  
All Amen.

## SENDING SONG

*All sing.*

### Go to the World!



1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.  
2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.  
3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;  
4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,



Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,  
Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.  
the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.  
for I am with you till the age shall end,



bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.  
Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.  
As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.  
when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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Music © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

## DISMISSAL

Asst. Min. Go in peace. Share Christ's love.

All Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

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

### Who's Got Talent?

Jon Bloom is a cofounder of the Desiring God organization. Speaking to the parable of the talents, he suggests that being given one talent can appear unfair, can wound our pride. He is regularly tempted, he says, to covet his neighbors' talents. And isn't that always the way? Discounting our own gifts, we envy the abilities of others. And yet, Bloom points out, such behavior is, at its core, the sin of pride.

Our love of God can get eclipsed and our loving relationships with others can be damaged by such pride, which costs us any desire to be a good steward of the gifts God has given us. Hence the description of the last servant as "wicked" and "lazy" (Matthew 25:26). Being given a single talent means less of a chance to really impress the master and improve the servant's own position. Therefore, the servant believes, the master is harsh and unjust.

Pride infects all of us, no matter how many talents we have. In a number of parables, Jesus takes aim at people with a generous amount of prestige, wealth, and power. That's why this parable stings so much. Jesus is talking to all of us. We can and must be on the lookout for the sin of pride, which is at the root of so many unhealthy behaviors. Pride takes so many forms, including discouragement, self-pity, and hopelessness. Every single one of us is a cherished and deeply loved child of God—and God has blessed every single one of us, richly, with talents. Making the effort to be good stewards of the talents we have is a fine way to shut down self-pity and the sin of pride. God has reasons for giving us exactly the talents we have.

## 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.

***Redeemer's Sunday worship schedule is:  
8:30 and 11 am - Traditional Services 9:45 am - Contemporary Service***

*Next Sunday's Scripture:*

*Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Psalm 95:1-7a Ephesians 1:15-23 Matthew 25:31-46*

*The flowers are given to the glory of God  
and by Mark and Melanie Heuer  
in honor and celebration of the 70th birthday of Melanie Heuer.*

Creed written by Andreas Wagner Eucharistic Prayer written by Samuel Wells

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