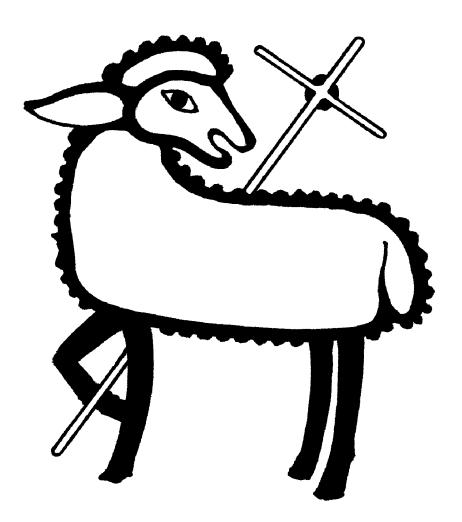
# + Contemporary Worship + At Redeemer Lutheran Church

9:45 am November 5, 2023

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

# All Saints Sunday



All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

# + WELCOME TO WORSHIP +

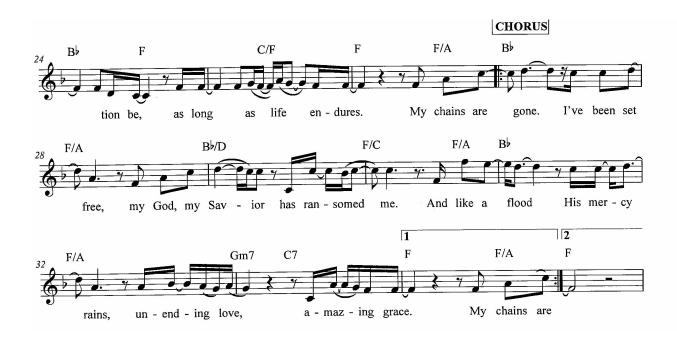
# **PRELUDE**

## **GATHERING SONG**

# **Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)**

Words and Music by John Newton, Chris Tomlin and Louie Giglio





# **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.

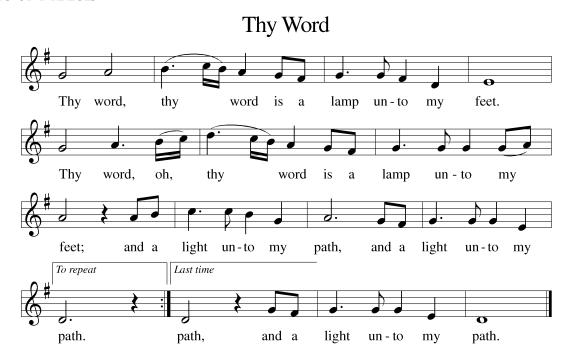
All Let us praise God from the mountaintops

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**



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 liv

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.

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All Amen.

#### **TEMPLE TALK**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## + THE WORD +

# Reading: Revelation 7:9-17

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom

and thanksgiving and honor

and power and might

be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

For this reason they are before the throne of God,

and worship him day and night within his temple,

and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;

the sun will not strike them,

nor any scorching heat;

for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

# Reading: 1 John 3:1-3

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

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

# Please stand and sing.



Text: Eddie Espinosa, b. 1953 Music: CHANGE MY HEART, Eddie Espinosa Text and music © 1982 Mercy/Vineyeard Publishing, admin. Music Services Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

# Gospel: Matthew 5:1–12

In the beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God."

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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

#### **SERMON**

Who Is Able to Stand? Pastor Sandy Kessinger



#### **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.

#### REMEMBER THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

The bell rings as we recall the saints in our lives.

Pastor Lord God, you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses. We

remember all those who have gone before us in faith -

Pastor And those that we name aloud or within the silence of our hearts ...

Pastor Grant us courage to persevere in the course that is set before us and, at

the last, let us share in your eternal joy with all the saints in light,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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**

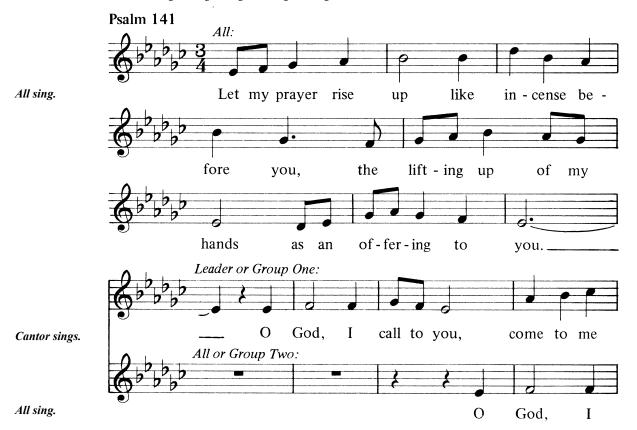
"A City Called Heaven", Traditional, arr. by Hal Johnson, Zachary De Besche, tenor

#### **SONG OF OFFERING**

Please stand and sing.

# **PSALMODY, READINGS AND CANTICLES**

From the Holden Evening Prayer by Marty Haugen









#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Pastor Let us pray.

All God of field and forest,

sea and sky,

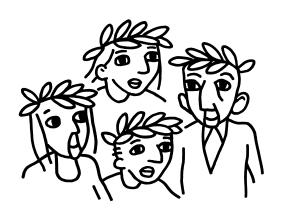
you are the giver of all good things.

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.

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 sing.



Text: Janet Lunt Music: BROKEN FOR ME, Janet Lunt

Text and music © 1978 Sovereign Music UK

#### 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.

All Amen.



# + 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.

# We Are Marching in the Light of God Siyahamba





Text: South African traditional; tr. Freedom Is Coming, 1984 Music: SIYAHAMBA, South African traditional; arr. Freedom Is Coming Tr. and arr. © 1984 Utryck, admin. Walton Music Corp.

## **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.

# 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:

Amos 5:18-24 Psalm 70 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13

#### **Beloved Saints**

"He must be a real saint!" "She was such a saint!" We say these things about people we know, or have heard of, often in reference to someone who displays great patience or perhaps is extraordinarily kind and generous. It's not difficult to find such praise at a funeral, for example, as the deceased's positive influence in the world is remembered. In popular usage, a person earns the title "saint" by doing good works. We think of people such as Saint Francis or Saint Teresa, individuals who were known for being particularly holy or religious. We rarely consider that we ourselves might be saints. After all, most of us haven't opened orphanages or founded hospitals, given away all our possessions or been imprisoned because of our faith. Even demonstrating exceptional patience toward irritating people or circumstances is beyond most of us on far too many days.

But the scripture readings today make clear that being a saint is not about earning the title. According to the Bible, the "saints" are simply the believers in Christ across time and space. In baptism, our robes have been washed in the blood of the Lamb (Revelation 7:14). Saint is a title given to us by God—not as a reward for a job well done, but as an expression of God's love for us. The characteristic of a saint is not superhuman perfection but rather faith. Faith that the sorrows we mourn, the injustices we encounter, and the persecution we face will one day be put right through the blood of the Lamb. Faith that recognizes and laments the awful brokenness of the world, and of ourselves, and trusts Christ to forgive our sins, wipe away our tears, and make all things new. So, cling to Christ, dear saint, and rejoice that you are God's beloved child—now (1 John 3:2).

The flowers are given to the glory of God.

Creed written by Andreas Wagner Eucharistic Prayer written by Samuel Wells

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