## + Contemporary Worship + At Redeemer Lutheran Church

9:45 am October 15, 2023

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



In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

## + WELCOME TO WORSHIP +

#### **PRELUDE**

#### **GATHERING SONG**





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#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Based on Psalms of Praise

Pastor Hallelujah! We sing our praises to God!

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

Pastor 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.

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

All Let us praise God from the mountaintops

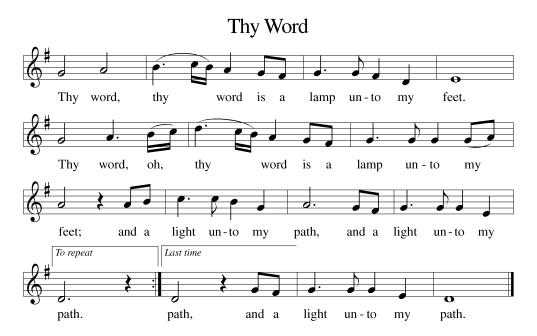
and for all eternity.

Pastor Let us praise God in this house of worship.

All Let every living, breathing creature praise God!

#### SONG OF PRAISE

Please stand and sing.



Text: Psalm 119:105

Music: THY WORD, Richard Webb

Music © 1998 Richard Webb, admin. Augsburg Fortress



#### **CONFESSION OF SIN**

Pastor 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

Pastor 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.

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and

peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All Amen.

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

#### + THE WORD +

Reading: Isaiah 25:1-9

After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing everyone up—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.

O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited;

let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

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

Reading: Philippians 4:1-9

Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

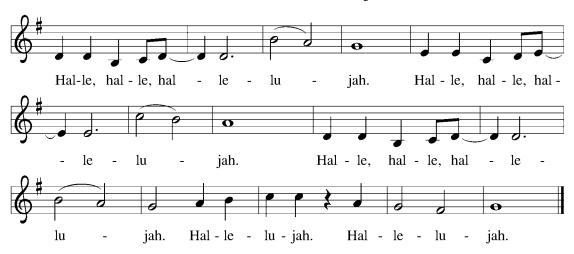
Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

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

## Please stand and sing.

## Halle, Halle, Hallelujah



Music: Caribbean traditional



Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

## Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those servants went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

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

**SERMON** 

We Rejoice in the Lord Pastor Sandy Kessinger

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

#### In the Secret Matthew 6:6 =100 With drive В♭2 place, 1. In the se - cret, in the qui - et for the high - est 2. I am reach - ing goal В Dm7 in the still - ness there. are you that I might re ceive the prize. In the se in the qui et hour cret, Press-ing on - ward, push-ing ev -'ry hin -Dm7 ly for you, 'cause I want I wait on of my way, 'cause I want out drance a - side, CHORUS F C I want to know you. know you more. know you more. C $F/B^{\flat}$ $Gm/B^{\flat}$ $F/B^{\flat}$ F Dm know you I want to I want to hear your voice. F you. I want to touch more.

WORDS and MUSIC: Andy Park

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## **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. God of grace, **All** hear 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.

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.

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

### + SHARING OUR GIFTS +

#### **ANTHEM**

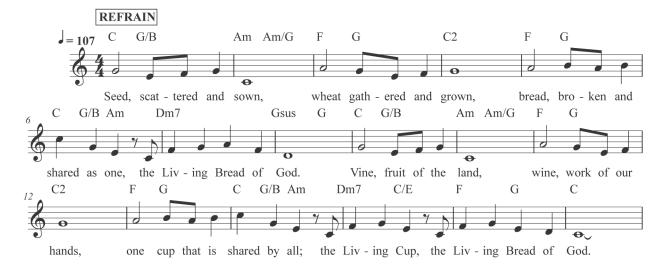
"All Day" by Marty Sampson

#### **OFFERING SONG**

### **Seed Scattered And Sown**

(as published by International Liturgy Publications)

Words and Music by **Dan Feiten** 



#### **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.

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.

Pastor 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,

Alexanders, who are in neaven, nanowed be

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.

## More Love, More Power

Jude Del Hierro



DISMISSAL

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

All Thanks be to God.

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:

Isaiah 45:1-7 Psalm 96:1-9 (10-13) 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Matthew 22:15-22

Today we, the Redeemer Congregation, welcome into baptized membership: Mia Ryan Rosenfield, her parents are Lauren and Adam Rosenfield; and Cameron Stephen Bost, his parents are Margo and Stuart Bost.

We pray God's richest blessings on Mia Ryan and Cameron Stephen as they and their parents continue to grow in faith.

## **Biggest Banquet Ever**

If you have ever planned and paid for a wedding banquet, you know you have to limit the number of guests you invite. There is only so much table space, and the cost to provide food and drink for each guest can be enormous. You have to make choices about whom to include and whom to exclude.

The wedding banquet in Jesus' parable is a metaphor for God's great gathering of people into relationship with God. This banquet does not have the same economic and spatial limits as ancient or contemporary weddings. At God's table there is room for everyone. God is happy to pay the bill. Everyone gets to eat and drink. The more, the merrier!

Except, some of those God invites to the table wanted an exclusive event, a limited guest list for VIPs only. They wanted to feel special for being included by having others excluded. Jesus' ministry was always about including, not excluding, and some within earshot of him didn't accept that. So he told a parable to shake up the listeners' complacency and superiority. If those who are invited reject the invitation, God will keep inviting others to the party.

This challenging story reminds us that our being invited and included comes on God's gracious terms, not our own. In the parable, the king expects everyone to wear a wedding garment, to dress appropriately for the occasion. Refusing to wear it meant wanting to attend on one's own terms and disrespecting the host. The shocking imagery of the parable doesn't mean this is how God treats us when we miss the mark. The king is not God. But it does help us see that our inclusion is a gift, and one we can only receive as a gift. Our thanks and praise are our wedding garment as we join Christ and each other at the table of grace.

The flowers are given to the glory of God and

by Jane and Scotty Skotzko in celebration of the marriage of Claire Robinson and Nicholas Skotzko

Creed written by Andreas Wagner Eucharistic Prayer written by Samuel Wells

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