

+ Contemporary Worship +  
At Redeemer Lutheran Church

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9:45 am September 10, 2023

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



*Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.*

# + WELCOME TO WORSHIP +

## PRELUDE

## GATHERING SONG

### Here I Am To Worship

Words and Music by  
Tim Hughes

**VERSE**

♩ = 75

E Bsus F#m E Bsus

1. Light of the world, You stepped down in - to dark - ness, o - pened my eyes, let me  
2. King of all days, oh so high - ly ex - alt - ed, glo - rious in heav - en a -

A2(no3) E Bsus F#m E Bsus

see. Beau - ty that made this heart a - dore You, hope of a life spent with  
bove. Hum - bly You came to the earth You cre - a - ted, all for love's sake be - came

**CHORUS**

A2(no3) B7sus E B/D#

You. So, here I am to wor - ship, here I am to bow down, here I am to  
poor.

E/G# A E

say that You're my God. And You're al - to - geth - er love - ly, al - to - geth - er

B/D# E/G# Last time to Coda A A2(no3) A

wor - thy, al - to - geth - er won - der - ful to me.

And I'll nev -

**BRIDGE**

1

B/D# E/G# A B/D# E/G# A

er know how much it cost to see my sin up - on that cross. And I'll nev

2

24 A B7sus *D.S. al Coda*

that cross. So, here I am to

26 A Coda A2(no3) E

Coda

## 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.*

### Thy Word

The musical score for 'Thy Word' is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The first staff has the lyrics 'Thy word, thy word is a lamp un-to my feet.' The second staff has 'Thy word, oh, thy word is a lamp un-to my'. The third staff has 'feet; and a light un-to my path, and a light un-to my'. The fourth staff has 'path.' followed by a repeat sign. Above the repeat sign is a bracket labeled 'To repeat' and below it is a bracket labeled 'Last time'. The music ends with a double bar line.

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

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

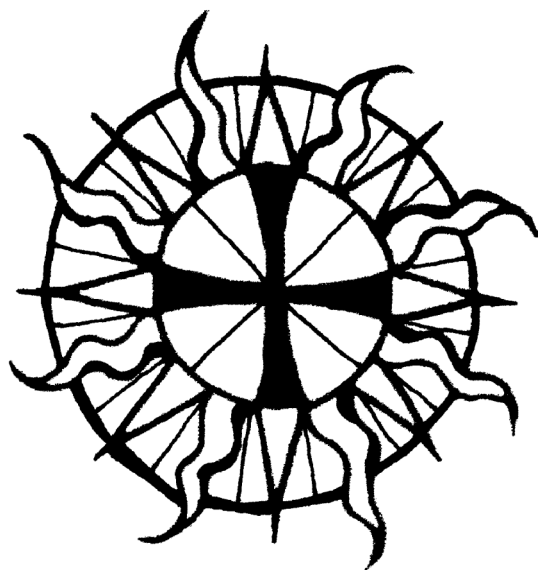
feet; and a light un-to my path, and a light un-to my

path. path, and a light un-to my path.

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.  
**All Amen.**

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor Let us pray.  
O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**All Amen.**

### **TEMPLE TALK**

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

## + THE WORD +

### **Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-11**

You, human one, I've made you a lookout for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear me speaking, you must give them warning from me. If I pronounce a death sentence on wicked people, and you don't warn them to turn from their way, they will die in their guilt, but I will hold you responsible for their blood. But suppose you do warn the wicked of their ways so that they might turn from them. If they don't turn from their ways, they will die in their guilt, but you will save your life.

You, human one, say to the house of Israel: This is what all of you are saying: "How our transgressions and our sins weigh on us! We waste away because of them. How can we live?" Say to them, This is what the Lord God says: As surely as I live, do I take pleasure in the death of the wicked? If the wicked turn from their ways, they will live. Turn, completely turn from your wicked ways! Why should you die, house of Israel?

Reader	Word of God, word of life.
<b>All</b>	<b>Thanks be to God.</b>

### **Reading: Romans 13:8-14**

Don't be in debt to anyone, except for the obligation to love each other. Whoever loves another person has fulfilled the Law. The commandments, Don't commit adultery, don't murder, don't steal, don't desire what others have, and any other commandments, are all summed up in one word: You must love your neighbor as yourself. Love doesn't do anything wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is what fulfills the Law. *The day is near.*

As you do all this, you know what time it is. The hour has already come for you to wake up from your sleep. Now our salvation is nearer than when we first had faith. The night is almost over, and the day is near. So let's get rid of the actions that belong to the darkness and put on the weapons of light. Let's behave appropriately as people who live in the day, not in partying and getting drunk, not in sleeping around and obscene behavior, not in fighting and obsession. Instead, dress yourself with the Lord Jesus Christ, and don't plan to indulge your selfish desires.

Reader	Word of God, word of life.
<b>All</b>	<b>Thanks be to God.</b>

*Please stand and sing.*

## Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah. Hal-le-lu-jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954  
Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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Pastor            The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

### **Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20**

If your brother or sister sins against you, go and correct them when you are alone together. If they listen to you, then you've won over your brother or sister. But if they won't listen, take with you one or two others so that every word may be established by the mouth of two or three witnesses. But if they still won't pay attention, report it to the church. If they won't pay attention even to the church, treat them as you would a Gentile and tax collector. I assure you that whatever you fasten on earth will be fastened in heaven. And whatever you loosen on earth will be loosened in heaven. Again I assure you that if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, then my Father who is in heaven will do it for you. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I'm there with them."

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

## SERMON

### *Tell It To The Church* *Pastor Sandy Kessinger*

## SONG OF THE DAY

*Please stand and sing.*

### Praise to You, O God of Mercy

1 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -  
2 From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you for -  
3 Praise to you, O God of mer - cy: thanks be to you for -

ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:  
ev - er! Truth and jus - tice you have taught us:  
ev - er! Rais - ing high the weak and low - ly:

3rd time to Coda  $\Phi$  1 2  
thanks be to you for - ev - er! ev - er!  
thanks be to you for -  
thanks be to you for -

Strong is your faith - ful - ness, strong is your love, re -

mem - b'ring your cov - e - nant of life with us. *to stanza 3*

$\Phi$  Coda  
ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Text and music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Text and music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com). 800.442.3358.  
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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. Merciful God,  
**All** **receive 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

*“Because of Your Love” by Paul Baloche and Brenton Brown*

### 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.  
**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 sing.*

What Feast of Love



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?  
 What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en?  
 What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.  
 This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.  
 This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!  
 Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!  
 Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

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### **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.*

Luke 10:25-28

**My Life Is in You, Lord****17**

$\text{♩} = 160$

C7sus F C F Dm C/D Dm

My life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord; my

B $\flat$  C B $\flat$  F C7sus C7 C7sus

hope is in you, Lord; in you, it's in you. My

F C F Dm C/D Dm

life is in you, Lord; my strength is in you, Lord; my

B $\flat$  C/B $\flat$  B $\flat$  F 2nd time to Coda Csus

hope is in you, Lord; in you, it's in you. I will

B $\flat$  C F/A F

praise you with all of my life; I will

B $\flat$  C F F F/A

praise you with all of my strength, with

C F D Gm E $\flat$

all of my life, with all of my strength. All of my

B $\flat$ 6/D Csus D.C. al Coda CODA Csus C7sus F

hope is in you. you, in you.

WORDS and MUSIC: Daniel Gardner

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**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.*

**No One Is Lost to God**

Our relationship to God is bound together with our relationships to one another. We are church together. Whenever hurt or conflict arises in community, Jesus calls us toward reconciliation. But what about those times when, despite our most sincere efforts, the one who has caused us harm refuses to listen? What do we do when it doesn't feel safe to invite them back into relationship? Or what about those times when we ourselves choose to separate rather than return to a community that has refused to believe us?

Sometimes in our quest to do what's right, we might hold so tightly to our checklist for church discipline that we leave little room for grace. In such cases, we might keep the peace or avoid open disagreement without attending to the real wounds at the heart of any conflict. The truth is also that sometimes, whether for our own safety or our own self-respect, we may wisely choose to keep our distance from others who have refused to take to heart the harmful impact of their words or actions. Yet, even when we allow ourselves the space that we need, God remains present.

Jesus doesn't say that whatever we lose on earth will be lost in heaven. The operative word isn't lose, but loose—as in “release,” “set free,” or “let go of.” When we've responded in good faith to the conflicts that arise between us and have exhausted every option for reconciliation, Jesus invites us to tenderly acknowledge our failure, loosen our grip on the situation, and give that one over to God. We should never take this letting-go lightly. At the same time, we can trust that when we are left to release a member of our community into God's mercy, we do not lose them. For no one is ever lost to God.

## 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:*

*Genesis 50:15-21 Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35*

*The flowers are given to the glory of God by  
Judy and Jim Kuhagen in celebration of their wedding anniversary.*

Creed written by Andreas Wagner Eucharistic Prayer written by Samuel Wells  
Scripture from The Message Bible

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