

+ Contemporary Worship +
At Redeemer Lutheran Church

9:45 am September 14, 2025

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



The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.



+ WELCOME TO WORSHIP +

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Please stand.

Based on Psalm 51

Pastor	Have mercy on us, O God.
All	According to your steadfast love.
Pastor	Wash us through and through.
All	Cleanse us from our sins.
Pastor	Remove our sins and we shall be clean.
All	Wash us and we shall be pure.
Pastor	Create in us a clean heart, O God.
All	And renew a right spirit within us. Amen!

GATHERING SONG
All sing.

Celebrate the Lord of Love

WORDS and MUSIC: Paul Baloche, Ed Kerr

$\text{♩} = 116-124$

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of E major (indicated by four sharps: F#, C#, G#, D#), and 4/4 time. The tempo is marked as 116-124 beats per minute. The lyrics are written below the notes, and chord symbols are placed above the staff. The score consists of ten staves. The first staff begins with a tempo marking. The lyrics are: 'Trade your heav - y heart for a heart of joy; cel - e - brate what God has done. Join the song of praise as we gath - er here; cel - e - brate the Lord of Love. Je - sus is our Lord; he is reign - ing here. We de - clare, "His king - dom's come." Dark - ness has to flee in his ho - ly light; cel - e - brate the Lord of Love. All cre - a - tion sings; hear the o - cean roar. Let the earth pro - claim that Christ is Lord.' The score ends with a 'D.C. al Fine' instruction.

E A2 B E

Trade your heav - y heart for a heart of joy;

A2 B

cel - e - brate what God has done.

E A2 B E

Join the song of praise as we gath - er here;

A2 B E A2 B

cel - e - brate the Lord of Love. Je - sus is our Lord;

E A2 B

he is reign - ing here. We de - clare, "His king -

E A2 B E

dom's come." Dark - ness has to flee in his ho - ly light;

A2 B E *Fine*

cel - e - brate the Lord of Love.

A B E A B E

All cre - a - tion sings; hear the o - cean roar.

C#/E# F#m7 B7sus *D.C. al Fine*

Let the earth pro - claim that Christ is Lord.



CONFESSION OF SIN

Pastor Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.
All **Amen.**

Pastor God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us
from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we
may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus
Christ, our Savior and Lord.
All **Amen.**

Pastor Gracious God,
All **have mercy on us.**
We confess that we have turned from you
and given ourselves into the power of sin.
We are truly sorry and humbly repent.
In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,
things we have done and things we have failed to do.
Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Pastor God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us
alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus
Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through
the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
All **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Let us pray.
O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all
those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject
whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your
Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
All **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ THE WORD +

Reading: Exodus 32:7-14

While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship.

Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people.

Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people and boldly asks mercy for them.

The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

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

Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

The letters to Timothy are called the Pastoral Epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

Please stand and sing.

I Love You, Lord

WORDS and MUSIC: Laurie Klein

The musical score is written on four staves in 4/4 time, with a tempo marking of quarter note = 108. The key signature has one flat (Bb). 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.

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

Gospel: Luke 15:1-10

Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that his or her recovery brings joy in heaven.

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

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

SERMON

"My Story and God's Story"
Pastor Sharon Core

Please stand and sing.

Come and Taste

The musical score for 'Come and Taste' is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The lyrics are: 'Come and taste and see how good the love of God can be! Come and taste and see how good the love of God can be! We come here broken - heart - ed, seek - ing all that God of - fers. Come and taste and see how good the love of God can be! Come see!' The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests, with some triplets indicated by a '3' over a group of notes.

Come and taste and see how good the love of God can be!

Come and taste and see how good the love of God

can be! We come here bro - ken - heart - ed,

seek - ing all that God of - fers. Come and taste and

see how good the love of God can be! Come see!

Text: Handt Hanson and Paul Murakami

Music: COME AND TASTE, Handt Hanson and Paul Murakami

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. 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 Christ be with you always.

All 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. Our offerings to God are first of all just that—offerings of thanksgiving to God. As you are able please continue to support our ministry with your financial gifts.

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

OFFERING MUSIC

"Your Grace Is Enough" by Matt Maher

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 score 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.' Chord symbols are placed above the notes: G, C², Dm⁷, C²/E, C/E on the first staff; F, C/E, Dm⁷, Dm⁷/G, C on the second staff. There are triplets of eighth notes in the second staff.

OFFERING PRAYER

Asst. Min. Let us pray.
All **Creator God,
in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good,
and the harvest is plentiful.
Strengthen us at your table
with these gifts of the earth
that we may work for the good of all,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.**

+ COME TO THE TABLE +

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.**

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.

COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Communion will be offered by intinction.

*For those not comfortable receiving from the pastor's hands
a separate tray with preset elements is available.*

*Anyone not comfortable receiving the bread or the wine is invited to come forward
for a blessing. To receive a blessing, please cross your arms.
You are an important part of our faith community.*

In Holy Communion we receive the true body and blood of Christ.

COMMUNION SONG
All sing.

Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain

watch - ing for you and for me.
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!"
par - don for you and for me.

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

Text: Will L. Thompson, 1847–1909
Music: THOMPSON, Will L. Thompson

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
All sing.

Psalm 91:1-2, 14-16

Be My Home

$\text{♩} = 126$

F Dm7 B \flat F

Be my sav - ior; be my heart's de-light.

F Am F/A C/B \flat B \flat Maj7

Be my vi - sion;

Gm7 F/A Gm/B \flat Am7

be my guid - ing light. Storms may press a - gainst

Dm Gm F/A B \flat 2

me, threat - en to pre - vail.

Am F/A C/B \flat B \flat Maj7 Gm7 F/A

Be my ref - uge; be my shel - ter from the storm.

B \flat 2 Gm7 F/A B \flat 2

Be my love that keeps me warm; be my

Gm7 F/A B \flat 2 B \flat C F

sav - ior; be my light; be my home.

Dm7 B \flat F

WORDS and MUSIC: Handt Hanson and Paul Murakami

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DISMISSAL

Asst. Min.

All

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.**POSTLUDE****Lutheran Church of the Redeemer**

Children are welcome in our worship. There is a children's worship bulletin for them. If you prefer, a nursery and/or childcare is available for children up to age 3 during all worship services.

Email: church@redeemermclean.org

Hearing help available: We have personal hearing amplification units available for your use. Please speak with the person at the sound board.

Church Phone: 703-356-3346

Sunday Services:***8:30 and 11 am for the traditional services and 9:45 am for the contemporary service***

Next Sunday's Scripture: Amos 8:4-7 Psalm 113 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Luke 16:1-13

God Gathers Us

The sense of heartache that sets in when a treasured keepsake goes missing can be profound. How many times have we panicked when searching for a special item that is not where we think we left it? We may spend hours, days, months searching for what was lost, even when the trail goes cold.

We ourselves tend to get lost from time to time. We forget where we belong. We lose track of our belovedness. We grumble and complain, and the joy that once sustained us slips away. This sort of separation is hard on our hearts. It is hard on our spirits. And it is hard on our relationships. But these are exactly the places where Jesus meets us and regathers us into God's love. No matter where we find ourselves wandering, Jesus is there already, turning over every last piece of furniture in the cosmic house to find us when we've gotten lost, to free us when we've gotten lodged in difficult places. And when we are found, the heavens celebrate with us, breaking bread and pouring wine and giving thanks for the chance to be together again. What a remarkable thing!

Indeed, God has drawn near to us already. In bread and wine, in water and word, we know the faithfulness of a God who won't rest until we all are cared for and all of life's relationships are made right. We are, each and all, recipients of the generous love of the Christ who eats with us, who seeks us out when we are lost, and who gathers us back again and again to celebrate abundant life, togetherness, and the joy of restorative community.

Thanks be to God, who goes with us along the way and never ceases to gather us back into such divine folds of love.

The flowers are given to the glory of God.

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