

+ Contemporary Worship +
At Redeemer Lutheran Church

9:45 am September 17, 2023

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



In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

+ WELCOME TO WORSHIP +

PRELUDE

GATHERING SONG

Let Everything (Praise The Lord)

(based on the recording by Pat Barrett | original key - F)

Words and Music by
Pat Barrett, Ben Smith, Daniel Bashta,
Sean Feucht and Jason Ingram

CHORUS 1a

♩ = 116

Let ev - 'ry - thing that has breath praise the Lord. Let ev - 'ry -

5

thing that has breath praise the Lord, praise the Lord. With all of my heart, with

10

all of my strength, with all that I have, I will sing. Let ev - 'ry - thing that has

VERSE

14

breath praise the Lord. 1. There is a riv - er that
2. Morn ing by morn - ing, Your

18

flows un - re - strained from Your heart, can - yons of mer - cy so
faith - ful - ness shines like the sun. Heav - en's on fi - re, a -

PRE-CHORUS

22

deep I could nev - er de - part. Fa - ther, Your won - ders are end - less.
live with the bril - liance of love.

CHORUS 1b

27 Dm7 Bb2(no3) F Dm7
 O - pen my eyes to be - lieve. A - wake my soul. Let ev - 'ry - thing that has

32 Bb2 F Dm7 Bb2
 breath praise the Lord. Let ev - 'ry - thing that has breath praise the

37 F C(4) Dm7
 Lord, praise the Lord. With all of my heart, with all of my strength, with

41 F/A Bb2 Dm7 Bb2
 all that I have, I will sing. Let ev - 'ry - thing that has breath praise the

TURNAROUND

45 F Dm7 Bb2(no3) F
 Last time to Coda Φ
 Lord.

50 Csus Dm7 Bb2(no3) F Csus
 Lord.

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. path, and a light un-to my path.' Above the fourth staff, there is a bracket labeled 'To repeat' covering the first two measures and a bracket labeled 'Last time' covering the last two measures.

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 - your sins are forgiven.
All Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Let us pray.
 O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
All Amen.

TEMPLE TALK CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ THE WORD +

Reading: Genesis 50:15-21

When Joseph's brothers realized that their father was now dead, they said, "What if Joseph bears a grudge against us, and wants to pay us back seriously for all of the terrible things we did to him?" So they approached Joseph and said, "Your father gave orders before he died, telling us, 'This is what you should say to Joseph. "Please, forgive your brothers' sins and misdeeds, for they did terrible things to you. Now, please forgive the sins of the servants of your father's God." Joseph wept when they spoke to him.

His brothers wept too, fell down in front of him, and said, "We're here as your slaves."

But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. Am I God? You planned something bad for me, but God produced something good from it, in order to save the lives of many people, just as he's doing today. Now, don't be afraid. I will take care of you and your children." So he put them at ease and spoke reassuringly to them.

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

Reading: Romans 14:1-12

Welcome the person who is weak in faith—but not in order to argue about differences of opinion. One person believes in eating everything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. Those who eat must not look down on the ones who don't, and the ones who don't eat must not judge the ones who do, because God has accepted them. Who are you to judge someone else's servants? They stand or fall before their own Lord (and they will stand, because the Lord has the power to make them stand).

One person considers some days to be more sacred than others, while another person considers all days to be the same. Each person must have their own convictions. Someone who thinks that a day is sacred, thinks that way for the Lord. Those who eat, eat for the Lord, because they thank God. And those who don't eat, don't eat for the Lord, and they thank the Lord too.

We don't live for ourselves and we don't die for ourselves. If we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we belong to God. This is why Christ died and lived: so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. But why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you look down on your brother or sister? We all will stand in front of the judgment seat of God. Because it is written, As I live, says the Lord, every knee will bow to me, and every tongue will give praise to God. So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

Reader	Word of God, word of life.
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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 18:21-35

Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, how many times should I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Should I forgive as many as seven times?”

Jesus said, “Not just seven times, but rather as many as seventy-seven times. Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. When he began to settle accounts, they brought to him a servant who owed him ten thousand bags of gold.

Because the servant didn’t have enough to pay it back, the master ordered that he should be sold, along with his wife and children and everything he had, and that the proceeds should be used as payment. But the servant fell down, kneeled before him, and said, ‘Please, be patient with me, and I’ll pay you back.’ The master had compassion on that servant, released him, and forgave the loan.

“When that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him one hundred coins. He grabbed him around the throat and said, ‘Pay me back what you owe me.’

“Then his fellow servant fell down and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I’ll pay you back.’ But he refused. Instead, he threw him into prison until he paid back his debt.

“When his fellow servants saw what happened, they were deeply offended. They came and told their master all that happened. His master called the first servant and said, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you appealed to me. Shouldn’t you also have mercy on your fellow servant, just as I had mercy on you?’ His master was furious and handed him over to the guard responsible for punishing prisoners, until he had paid the whole debt.

“My heavenly Father will also do the same to you if you don’t forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

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

SERMON

We Live For the Lord **Pastor Josh Wullenweber**

SONG OF THE DAY

Please stand and sing.

Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

(based on the recording by Pat Barrett | original key - A)

Words and Music by
Pat Barrett, Jason Ingram
and Chris Tomlin

INTRO **VERSE 1 & 2**

♩ = 103 Em/G D/G C/G G Em/G D/G C/G G Em/G D/G C/G



1. It all comes down to this,
(2. It) all comes down to this,

6 G Em/G D/G C/G G Em/G D/G C/G



what You re - quire of me: Love my neigh - bor as my -
to be Your hands and feet, good news to all the

10 G Em/G D/G C/G G Em/G D(4)/G



self, and You a - bove all things. Act just - ly, love
world, the truth will set us free. _____

14 C/G G Em/G D(4)/G C/G G Em D(4)



mer - cy, walk hum - bly with You, God. In all things, in

18 C G Em D(4) 1 C G 2 C G



all ways, walk hum - bly with You, God. 2. It You, God. It's

BRIDGE

C G/B D(4) C G/B

beau - ty for ash - es, it's mourn - ing to danc - ing. It's clos - er and clos - er, the

TURNAROUND

1 2

25 D(4) D(4) Em/G D/G Gsus G Em/G D/G

King - dom of heav - en. It's King - dom of heav - en.

VERSE 3

30 Gsus G Em/G D/G C/G G Em/G D/G C/G G

3. Years from now we'll see the fruit our hands have sown.

35 Em/G D/G C/G G Em/G D/G C/G G

Faith, just like a seed, the on - ly way it grows.

INSTRUMENTAL

Em/G D(4)/G C/G G Em/G D(4)/G C/G G

Act

CHORUS 1b

Em D(4) C G Em D(4) C G

just - ly, love mer - cy, walk hum - bly with You, God. In

47 Em D(4) C G Em D(4) C G

all things, in all ways, walk hum - bly with You, God..

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

'I Give You My Heart' by Reuben Morgan

OFFERING SONG

Seed Scattered And Sown

(as published by International Liturgy Publications)

*Words and Music by
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

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

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 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. Come home, come home!

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

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.

Firm Foundation

2 Timothy 2:19

SENDING SONG

All sing.

♩=112 With confi WORDS and MUSIC: Nancy Gordon and Jamie Harvill

Je - sus, you're my firm foun - da - tion;

I know I can stand se - cure.

Je - sus, you're my firm foun - da - tion;

I put my hope in your ho - ly word,

I put my hope in your ho - ly word.

1. (I have a liv - ing hope;) I have a liv - ing hope;
2. (Your word is faith - ful,) Your word is faith - ful,

(I have a fu - ture.) I have a fu - ture.
(might - y in pow - er;) might - y in pow - er;

(God has a plan for me,) God has a plan for me, (of
(God will de - liv - er me,) God will de - liv - er me, (of

this I'm sure.) of this I'm sure.
this I'm sure.) of this I'm sure.

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@redeermclem.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:

Jonah 3:10-4:11 Psalm 145:1-8 Philippians 1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-16

God's Immeasurable Mercy

Forgive seventy-seven times? Jesus' instruction seems, at best, all but impossible and, at worst, dangerous. Sometimes the Bible has been used to excuse abuse in the name of mercy, but Jesus doesn't mean to condone suffering for its own sake or to commit us to endlessly enduring hurt and harm. Instead, Jesus wants to orient Peter and us to the all-encompassing nature of forgiveness. Seven days make the week complete and whole. Grace also extends to us the promise of wholeness, and yet forgiveness that comes from the heart is immeasurable.

Forgive seventy-seven times. The number suggests that forgiveness isn't to be doled out or strictly accounted for, but rather is endless. Forgiveness is not a singular event as much as it is a process. We are amazed and rightly inspired when some Christians are able to so quickly forgive others even the most horrendous crimes, like the Amish community after the West Nickel Mines School shooting in 2006, or some families of the Emanuel Nine in 2015. But today's gospel does not preclude the rest of us. Probably for most of us, forgiveness is much more the destination we are journeying toward than the place at which we've already arrived. Jesus' encouragement to Peter can encourage us as well.

Every day God calls us back to the everlasting promises made in baptism. Our participation in the church's worship life assures us that forgiveness is not something we endeavor to do alone, but rather is a lifelong journey in which we can turn to one another for support. Every Sunday at Jesus' table, we are freely given the bread of mercy and cup of forgiveness. God's grace sets all of us free to extend that same mercy to others. God's forgiveness erases every debt.

*Flowers are given in thanksgiving to God for the generosity
of God's people by the Capital Campaign Task Force*

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

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