

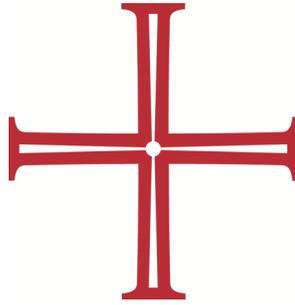
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Our Mission: To share Christ's love with the greatest number of people.

16th Sunday after Pentecost, September 20, 2020
The Traditional Service



Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars .



GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Gift of Finest Wheat", arranged by Charles Callahan

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please stand.

Pastor In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Congregation **Amen**

Pastor Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Congregation **Amen**

Pastor Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor Most merciful God,
Congregation **have mercy on us.**
We confess that we are in bondage to sin
and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.
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.

Congregation **Amen**

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me

with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es

feed me now and ev - er - more, ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
shield me with your might - y arm, might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
I will raise for - ev - er - more, ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.
Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873-1932

APOSTOLIC GREETING

Pastor

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Congregation

And also with you.

Veni Sancte Spiritus *Holy Spirit, Come to Us*

Ostinato (repeated continuously)



Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus. Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus.
Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us. Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us.

Text: Pentecost sequence; Taizé Community
Music: TAIZÉ VENI SANCTE, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
Text and music © 1978, 1980, 1981 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent, 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.
www.giamusic.com, 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor The Lord be with you.
Congregation **And also with you.**

Pastor Let us pray.
Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Congregation **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE WORD

Reading: Jonah 3:10--4:11

After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but should not I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites who do not know the difference between their right and left hands?

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die."

¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Vicar Word of God, word of life.
Congregation **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 145:1-8

The congregation will read the parts in bold.

¹I will exalt you, my God and king,
and bless your name forever and ever.

²**Every day will I bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.**

³Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised!
There is no end to your greatness.

⁴**One generation shall praise your works to another
and shall declare your power.**

⁵I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty
and all your marvelous works.

⁶**They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,
and I will recount your greatness.**

⁷They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

⁸**The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

Reading: Philippians 1:21-30

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Vicar Word of God, word of life.
Congregation **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand.

Pastor Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
Congregation **You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

The Gospel is announced.

Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.
Congregation **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

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

SERMON

Righteous Indignation
Pastor Sandy Kessinger

SPECIAL MUSIC

"O had I Jubal's Lyre" from Joshua by G.F. Handel, Waka Osifchin, soprano

APOSTLES' CREED

Vicar With the whole church, let us confess our faith.
Congregation **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:*

Vicar Lord, in your mercy,
Congregation **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.
Congregation **Amen.**

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

Pastor The peace of Christ be with you always.
Congregation **And also with you.**

The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace and may say, "Peace be with you" or similar words.

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. Our work continues even when we are physically apart from one another.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor Let us pray.
Congregation **God of all creation,
all you have made is good, and your love endures forever.
You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine.
Nourish us with these gifts,
that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord. Amen**

COME TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please stand.

Pastor The Lord be with you.
Congregation **And also with you.**

Pastor Lift up your hearts.
Congregation **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Congregation **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
 that we should at all times and in all places
 give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
 through our Savior Jesus Christ;
 who on this day overcame death and the grave,
 and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
 And so, with all the choirs of angels,
 with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
 we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Congregation **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r 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 Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.
Congregation **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.**

LAMB OF GOD

Pastor Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.
Congregation **Amen.**

BLESSING

Pastor Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Congregation **Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNE

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: Individuals and/or families will come forward keeping six feet apart. Once you arrive at the table you can pick up the host and the cup of wine/grape juice. Please move by the basket that stands next to the table. Pastor will say "The body and blood of Christ for you. Go in peace and serve the Lord."

Once you have communed you can leave by the open side door and exit the building. Those who wish to have a time of prayer can return to your pew by the side aisles. When you are ready to leave then just keep a safe distance from others. We ask that you not gather in the Crossroads but you are free to greet others outside.

At the end of the service pastor will offer a final word of peace for those who are watching the videos.

Pastor Go in peace. Serve the Lord. Congregation **Thanks be to God.**

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Children are always welcome in our worship.

Church Phone: 703-356-3346

Email: Church@redeermclean.org

Hearing help available: We have for your use, personal hearing amplification units available in the narthex. Please refer questions or comments to an usher.

Next Sunday's Scripture: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-34 Psalm 25:1-9 Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32

Today we are using Setting 3 from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship book.

CCLI License# 1850655

Please return this bulletin to the entrance hall for recycling if you choose not to take it home.