

+ Contemporary Worship +
At Redeemer Lutheran Church

9:45 am September 21, 2025

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



As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human,...gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.



+ WELCOME TO WORSHIP +

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Please stand.

Psalm 79:1-9

Pastor O God, the nations have come into your inheritance; they have profaned your holy temple; they have made Jerusalem a heap of rubble.

**All They have given the bodies of your servants
as food for the birds of the air,
and the flesh of your faithful ones
to the beasts of the field.**

Pastor They have shed their blood like water on every side of Jerusalem,
and there was no one to bury them.

**All We have become a reproach to our neighbors,
an object of scorn and derision to those around us.**

Pastor How long will you be angry, O LORD? Will your fury blaze like fire forever?

**All Pour out your wrath upon the nations who have not known you
and upon the kingdoms that have not called upon your name.**

Pastor For they have devoured Jacob and made his dwelling a ruin.

**All Remember not our past sins;
let your compassion be swift to meet us;
for we have been brought very low.**

Pastor Help us, O God our Savior, for the glory of your name;
deliver us and forgive us our sins, for your name's sake.

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 treble clef, a key signature of four sharps, and a 4/4 time signature. The melody starts on a whole note E, followed by a half note A2, a quarter note B, and a quarter note E. The lyrics 'Trade your heav - y heart for a heart of joy;' are written below. The second staff continues the melody with a half note A2, a quarter note B, and a quarter note E. The lyrics 'cel - e - brate what God has done.' are written below. The third staff continues with a half note E, a quarter note A2, a quarter note B, and a quarter note E. The lyrics 'Join the song of praise as we gath - er here;' are written below. The fourth staff continues with a half note A2, a quarter note B, a quarter note E, and a half note A2. The lyrics 'cel - e - brate the Lord of Love. Je - sus is our Lord;' are written below. The fifth staff continues with a half note E, a quarter note A2, a quarter note B, and a quarter note E. The lyrics 'he is reign - ing here. We de - clare, "His king -' are written below. The sixth staff continues with a half note E, a quarter note A2, a quarter note B, and a quarter note E. The lyrics 'dom's come." Dark - ness has to flee in his ho - ly light;' are written below. The seventh staff continues with a half note A2, a quarter note B, and a quarter note E. The lyrics 'cel - e - brate the Lord of Love.' are written below. The eighth staff continues with a half note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note E, and a half note A. The lyrics 'All cre - a - tion sings; hear the o - cean roar.' are written below. The ninth staff continues with a half note C#/E#, a quarter note F#m7, a quarter note B7sus, and a half note D.C. al Fine. The lyrics 'Let the earth pro - claim that Christ is Lord.' are written below. The tenth staff continues with a half note D.C. al Fine.

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.



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.
God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another.
Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to
the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
All Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ THE WORD +

Reading: Amos 8:4-7

Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.

Hear this, you that trample on the needy,
and bring to ruin the poor of the land,
saying, "When will the new moon be over
so that we may sell grain;
and the sabbath,
so that we may offer wheat for sale?
We will make the ephah small and the shekel great,
and practice deceit with false balances,
buying the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals,
and selling the sweepings of the wheat."
The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

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

Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

The Pastoral Epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For
there is one God;
there is also one mediator between God and humankind,
Christ Jesus, himself human,
who gave himself a ransom for all
—this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

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

♩=108

F Gm7/F F

I love you, Lord, and I lift my voice to

B^b F/A Gm7 F/A C7sus C B^b/D C/E

wor - ship you, O my soul re - joice. Take

F Gm7/F F F7

joy, O God, in what you hear, may it be a

B^b F/A F^{sus}/G C7 B^b/F F

sweet, sweet sound in your ear.

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

Gospel: Luke 16:1-13

Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest man who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

Then Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

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

SERMON

"Talking to God"
Pastor Sharon Core

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Operator" by William Spivery

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.

All

At the end of the prayer:

Pastor

All

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

SHARING THE LORD'S PEACE

Pastor

All

Please greet one another with words such as "God's peace be with you."

Sit

May the peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

+ 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.

Please stand and sing.

I Believe In Jesus

Marc Nelson

E E/B B

I be-lieve in Je-sus, —
I be-lieve in You, Lord. —

E A B

I be-lieve He is the Son of God.
I be-lieve You are the Son of God.

E A E/B B

I be-lieve He died and rose a-gain,
I be-lieve You died and rose a-gain,

E A B

I be-lieve He paid for us all.
I be-lieve You paid for us all.

A B/D# E E/G#

And I be-lieve that He's here now, —
And I be-lieve that You're here now,

A B E E/G#

stand-ing in our midst.

A B/D# E E/G#

Here with the pow-er to heal now, —

A B 1. E A/C# A/B 2. E

and the grace to for-give. give.

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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.

G C² Dm⁷ C²/E C/E

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our

F C/E Dm⁷ Dm⁷/G C

lives up to you: we are an offering, we are an offering.

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.

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace
Prayer of St. Francis

1 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
2 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
4 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.

Where there is ha - tred, let me bring your love;
Where there's de - spair in life, let me bring hope;
It is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned,
Last time to coda ☐

where there is in - ju - ry, your par - don, Lord;
where there is dark - ness, on - ly light;
in giv - ing of our - selves that we re -

and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
and where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.

2
3 O Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er seek so

much to be con - soled as to con - sole, to be

un - der - stood as to un - der - stand, to be
D.C. (stanza 4) al coda

loved as to love with all my soul.

☐ *Coda*

ceive, and in dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life.

Text: Sebastian Temple
Music: PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS, Sebastian Temple

Text and music © 1967 OCP Publications



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.

I Will Celebrate

Rita Baloché



I ——— will cel - e - brate,—



sing ——— un - to the Lord,—



sing ——— to the Lord ——— a



new song. ———



I ——— will cel - e - brate,—



sing ——— un - to the Lord,—



sing ——— to the Lord ——— a

F#m/E E *Last x - Fine*
 new song. With my
 G#m7 B/C#
 heart re - joic - ing with -
 C#9 F#m7
 in, with my mind
 A maj 7/B A/B B/A
 fo - cused on Him. With my
 G#m7
 hands
 B/C# C#9
 raised to the heav - ens, all I
 F#m7 A maj 7/B
 am wor - ship - ing
 F#m7/B *D.C. al Fine*
 Him.

DISMISSAL
Asst. Min.

Go in peace. Share the good news. **All 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 6:1a,4-7 Psalm 146 1 Timothy 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31

True Riches

Being stuck in unjust systems is exhausting. Perhaps they are designed to frustrate and impede any efforts to undo their power. The manager in Jesus' parable does what he can to make the most of his precarious position, but his resolution still leaves a lot to be desired. Does the rich man remain in his wealthy and powerful position? What about all the others who still owe the estate? Why does the manager, and not the rich landowner who holds all the cards, become the object lesson?

It seems Jesus is getting serious here about our relationships with money, riches, and power: "You cannot serve God and wealth" (Luke 16:13). That much is clear. But perhaps Jesus is drawing our attention to the larger implications of God's economy and what it means to lean on one another for the sake of justice in our world. Luke's gospel began with Mary's song, after all, extolling the ways the poor will be lifted up in the kingdom Jesus brings. In this new reign, all resources are brought into the service of those who need them most. Faithful living here and now might look different from what we're accustomed to when we consider what God has in mind, especially when we are used to unhelpful contemporary mantras like "Might makes right" and "Winner takes all."

True to Mary's song, Jesus indeed turns our world upside down, which distresses those of us who appreciate good order. But in the end, this turning does what is needed to make the world right. In our world today, we may struggle with the forgiveness of debts and the redistribution of wealth, but Jesus doesn't. God brings the true riches of justice and love for all and will not fail to do what is needed to make sure every last beloved person on earth has what they need to truly live.

The flowers are given to the glory of God.

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