

+ Contemporary Worship +
At Redeemer Lutheran Church

9:45 am September 24, 2023

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



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.

+ 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. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a period. The second staff ends with a comma. The third staff ends with a comma. The fourth staff begins with a repeat sign and ends with a double bar line. Above the fourth staff, there are two labels: 'To repeat' and 'Last time'.

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

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

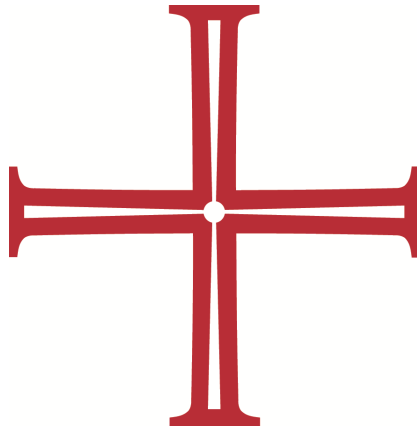
feet; and a light un-to my path, and a light un-to my

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.
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.
All Amen.

TEMPLE TALK

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

+ THE WORD +

Reading: Jonah 3:10-4:11

God saw what they were doing—that they had ceased their evil behavior. So God stopped planning to destroy them, and he didn't do it.

But Jonah thought this was utterly wrong, and he became angry. He prayed to the Lord, "Come on, Lord! Wasn't this precisely my point when I was back in my own land? This is why I fled to Tarshish earlier! I know that you are a merciful and compassionate God, very patient, full of faithful love, and willing not to destroy. At this point, Lord, you may as well take my life from me, because it would be better for me to die than to live."

The Lord responded, "Is your anger a good thing?" But Jonah went out from the city and sat down east of the city. There he made himself a hut and sat under it, in the shade, to see what would happen to the city.

Then the Lord God provided a shrub, and it grew up over Jonah, providing shade for his head and saving him from his misery. Jonah was very happy about the shrub. But God provided a worm the next day at dawn, and it attacked the shrub so that it died. Then as the sun rose God provided a dry east wind, and the sun beat down on Jonah's head so that he became faint. He begged that he might die, saying, "It's better for me to die than to live."

God said to Jonah, "Is your anger about the shrub a good thing?"

Jonah said, "Yes, my anger is good—even to the point of death!"

But the Lord said, "You 'pitied' the shrub, for which you didn't work and which you didn't raise; it grew in a night and perished in a night. Yet for my part, can't I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than one hundred twenty thousand people who can't tell their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

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

Reading: Philippians 1:21-30

Because for me, living serves Christ and dying is even better. If I continue to live in this world, I get results from my work. But I don't know what I prefer. I'm torn between the two because I want to leave this life and be with Christ, which is far better. However, it's more important for me to stay in this world for your sake. I'm sure of this: I will stay alive and remain with all of you to help your progress and the joy of your faith, and to increase your pride in Christ Jesus through my presence when I visit you again.

Most important, live together in a manner worthy of Christ's gospel. Do this, whether I come and see you or I'm absent and hear about you. Do this so that you stand firm, united in one spirit and mind as you struggle together to remain faithful to the gospel. That way, you won't be afraid of anything your enemies do. Your faithfulness and courage are a sign of their coming destruction and your salvation, which is from God. God has generously granted you the privilege, not only of believing in Christ but also of suffering for Christ's sake. You are having the same struggle that you saw me face and now hear that I'm still facing.

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

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 20:1-16

[Jesus said to the disciples:] “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And 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?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When 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.’ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘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.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

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

SERMON

The Laborers in the Vineyard *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 \oplus 1 2
thanks be to you for - ev - er!
thanks be to you for - ev - er!
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*

\oplus Coda
ev - er! Thanks be to you for - ev - er!

Text and music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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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

“Lord, You Have My Heart” by Martin Smith

OFFERING SONG

Seed Scattered And Sown

(as published by International Liturgy Publications)

*Words and Music by
Dan Feiten*

REFRAIN

$\text{♩} = 107$ 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

6 C G/B Am Dm7 Gsus G C G/B Am Am/G F G

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

12 C2 F G C G/B Am Dm7 C/E F G C

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.

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.

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,



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.



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



loved as to love with all my soul.



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

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.

Awesome God

Text and music: Rich Mullins
Text and music © 1988 BMG Songs, Inc.

Our God is an awe - some God, he
reigns from heav - en a - bove with wis - dom,
pow'r, and love— our God is an awe - some God!
Our God is an awe - some God! Our God is an awe - some God!

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.*

Daily Bread for Everyone

We all have a natural sense of justice, and of what is fair. We might easily conflate the two, but justice and fairness don't always lead to the same end. Jesus' parable of the landowner and the workers suggests that God's sense of justice might not seem fair to everyone. Our ideas of what is right are likely upended by the landowner's generosity. He gives to each worker not what they have earned but rather the "daily bread" they need.

Sometimes in the church's ministry, we behave in a spirit exactly opposite that of the parable's landowner, opting to be "fair" above all else. So, for example, the food pantry can insist on the same items in the same amount for everyone, or the soup kitchen rules dictate that everyone get the same thing on their tray. Yet everyone doesn't always have the same needs. What if instead of fairness, we also made a way for generosity to sometimes disrupt the rules? There are good reasons for insisting on fairness. Rules establish helpful boundaries. Fairness can help ensure that when resources are scarce, everyone has a chance to receive something. Yet, in the name of fairness, we can also overlook both God's abundant generosity and the actual needs of others.

Maybe Jesus' parable doesn't mean changing the rules altogether. But maybe it means leaving ample space for those situations in which emulating God's generosity means bending the rules. God's grace frees us from a stubborn insistence on "only what's fair" so that we can care for others with generous spirits. No matter when we come to the baptismal waters, God's word of grace is enough to cover our sins. No matter our circumstances when we are gathered at Christ's table, God's generosity means there is always enough for each and every one of us to receive the daily bread we need.

Today we, the Redeemer Congregation, welcome into baptized membership:

*Kira Lydia Jaramillo, her parents are Heather Hunter and Christopher Jaramillo,
and sponsor is Alexander Jaramillo.*

*We pray God's richest blessings on Kira Lydia
as she and her parents continue to grow in faith.*

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:

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 Psalm 25:1-9 Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32

*The flowers are given to the glory of God
and in memory of Randy Beth Clarke, by her parents.*

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

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