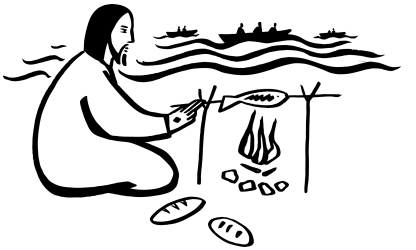
Third Sunday of Easter + May 4, 2025
9:00 am



LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER
2417 Drexel Avenue - Racine, Wisconsin 53403
(262) 634-7998
https://www.facebook.com/LCRRacine

The disciples make a big splash and eat breakfast with the risen Jesus. Wading in the water (remembering baptism) and eating with Jesus (celebrating holy communion) is our weekly encounter with the risen Christ. Jesus asks us again and again: Do you love me? And Jesus invites us, again and again, to follow him, bringing the Easter life to others.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of ☩ the One who was, who is, and who is to come. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life,
let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers
and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path,
rejoicing in the Spirit's power.
Baptized into you, O Living One,

make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One,
that our every day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you.
We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One. **Amen.**

Gathering Song *"Day of Arising" ELW #374*

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953
Music: RAABE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929
Text © 1996 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Canticle of Praise

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.
Refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.
Final refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading **Acts 9:1-20**

Saul (later called Paul) was an ardent persecutor of all who followed the Way of Christ. This reading recounts the story of his transformation beginning with an encounter with Jesus Christ on the way to Damascus.

Meanwhile, Saul was still spewing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to
the high priest, 2 seeking letters to the synagogues in Damascus. If he found persons who belonged
to the Way, whether men or women, these letters would authorize him to take them as prisoners
to Jerusalem. 3 During the journey, as he approached Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven
encircled him. 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice asking him, "Saul, Saul, why are you
harassing me?"

5 Saul asked, "Who are you, Lord?"

"I am Jesus, whom you are harassing," came the reply. 6 "Now get up and enter the city. You will be
told what you must do."

7 Those traveling with him stood there speechless; they heard the voice but saw no one. 8 After
they picked Saul up from the ground, he opened his eyes but he couldn't see. So they led him by
the hand into Damascus. 9 For three days he was blind and neither ate nor drank anything.

10 In Damascus there was a certain disciple named Ananias. The Lord spoke to him in a vision,
"Ananias!"

He answered, "Yes, Lord."

11 The Lord instructed him, "Go to Judas' house on Straight Street and ask for a man from Tarsus
named Saul. He is praying. 12 In a vision he has seen a man named Ananias enter and put his hands
on him to restore his sight."

13 Ananias countered, "Lord, I have heard many reports about this man. People say he has done
horrible things to your holy people in Jerusalem. 14 He's here with authority from the chief priests
to arrest everyone who calls on your name."

15 The Lord replied, "Go! This man is the agent I have chosen to carry my name before Gentiles,
kings, and Israelites. 16 I will show him how much he must suffer for my name's sake."

17 Ananias went to the house. He placed his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord sent
me—Jesus, who appeared to you on the way as you were coming here. He sent me so that you
could see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 Instantly, flakes fell from Saul's eyes and he
could see again. He got up and was baptized. 19 After eating, he regained his strength.

He stayed with the disciples in Damascus for several days. 20 Right away, he began to preach about Jesus in the synagogues. "He is God's Son," he declared.

At the conclusion of the reading, the assembly responds: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 30

You have turned my wailing into dancing. (Ps. 30:11)

1 I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lift- | ed me up
and have not let my enemies triumph | over me.
2 **O LORD my God, I cried | out to you, and you restored | me to health.**
3 You brought me up, O LORD, | from the dead;
you restored my life as I was going down | to the grave.
4 **Sing praise to the LORD, | all you faithful;**
give thanks in ho- | ly remembrance.
5 God's wrath is short; God's favor | lasts a lifetime.
Weeping spends the night, but joy comes | in the morning.
6 **While I felt se- | cure, I said, I shall never | be disturbed.**
7 You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong | as the mountains."
Then you hid your face, and I was | filled with fear.
8 **I cried to | you, O LORD; I pleaded with | my Lord, saying,**
9 "What profit is there in my blood, if I go down | to the pit?
Will the dust praise you or de- | clare your faithfulness?
10 **Hear, O LORD, and have mer- | cy upon me; O LORD, | be my helper."**
11 You have turned my wailing | into dancing;
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed | me with joy.
12 **Therefore my heart sings to you | without ceasing;**
O LORD my God, I will give you | thanks forever.

Second Reading **Revelation 5:11-14**

The vision of John recorded in Revelation offers a glimpse of cosmic worship around the throne. At its center is "the Lamb who was slain."

Then I looked, and I heard the sound of many angels surrounding the throne, the living creatures, and the elders. They numbered in the millions—thousands upon thousands. 12 They said in a loud voice,

"Worthy is the slaughtered Lamb to receive power, wealth,
wisdom, and might, and honor, glory, and blessing."

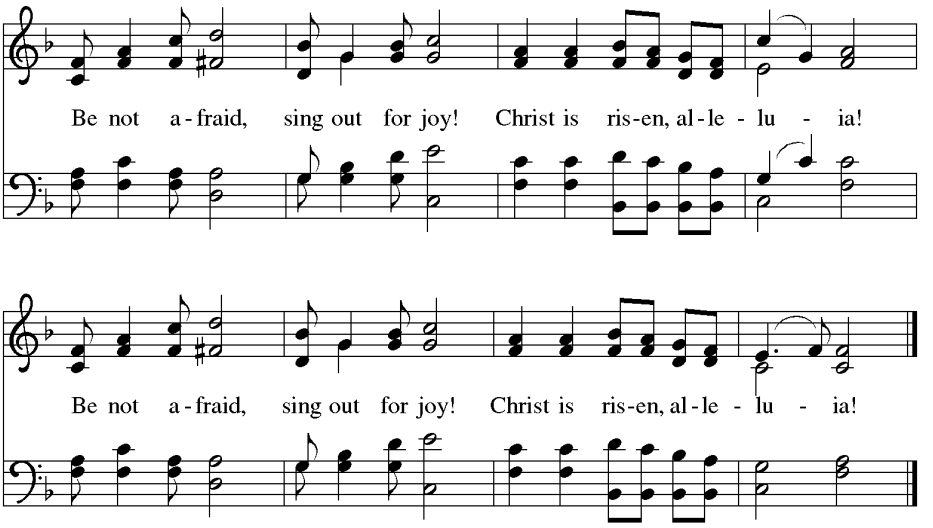
13 And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea—I heard everything everywhere say,

"Blessing, honor, glory, and power belong to the one seated
on the throne and to the Lamb forever and always."

14 Then the four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders fell down and worshipped.

At the conclusion of the reading, the assembly responds: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Text: Matthew 28:5; Taizé Community
Music: BE NOT AFRAID, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
Text and music © Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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Gospel Announcement

The Holy Gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord

Gospel **John 21:1-19**

The risen Christ appears again to his disciples by the sea where they were first called. After echoes of the fishing and feeding miracles, he gives a final reminder of the cost of a disciple's love and obedience.

Later, Jesus himself appeared again to his disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. This is how it happened:
2 Simon Peter, Thomas (called Didymus), Nathanael from Cana in Galilee, Zebedee's sons, and two
other disciples were together. 3 Simon Peter told them, "I'm going fishing." They said, "We'll go
with you." They set out in a boat, but throughout the night they caught nothing.

4 Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples didn't realize it was Jesus. 5 Jesus
called to them, "Children, have you caught anything to eat?" They answered him, "No." 6 He said,
"Cast your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." So they did, and there were so
many fish that they couldn't haul in the net. 7 Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter,
"It's the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard it was the Lord, he wrapped his coat around himself (for
he was naked) and jumped into the water. 8 The other disciples followed in the boat, dragging the
net full of fish, for they weren't far from shore, only about one hundred yards.

9 When they landed, they saw a fire there, with fish on it, and some bread. 10 Jesus said to them,
"Bring some of the fish that you've just caught." 11 Simon Peter got up and pulled the net to shore.
It was full of large fish, one hundred fifty-three of them. Yet the net hadn't torn, even with so many
fish. 12 Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." None of the disciples could bring themselves

to ask him, “Who are you?” They knew it was the Lord. 13 Jesus came, took the bread, and gave it to them. He did the same with the fish. 14 This was now the third time Jesus appeared to his disciples after he was raised from the dead. Jesus and Peter

15 When they finished eating, Jesus asked Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” Simon replied, “Yes, Lord, you know I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” 16 Jesus asked a second time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Simon replied, “Yes, Lord, you know I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Take care of my sheep.” 17 He asked a third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter was sad that Jesus asked him a third time, “Do you love me?” He replied, “Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. 18 I assure you that when you were younger you tied your own belt and walked around wherever you wanted. When you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and another will tie your belt and lead you where you don’t want to go.” 19 He said this to show the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. After saying this, Jesus said to Peter, “Follow me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *"Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing!" ELW #389*

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936
Music: TRURO, T. Williams, *Psalmodia Evangelica,* 1789
Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

The Assisting Minister leads the prayers of the people for the church, the world, and all people in need. Each petition ends with: God, of grace, **receive our prayer.**

We remember our homebound members and all who have asked for our prayers: Darlene Sorensen, Erna Joswig Joyce Owens, Dorothy Popadic, Marie Miller, Sandy Monefeldt, Pat Quale, Tim LaPointe, Michelle Haws, Sheila Fair, Cherie Julius, Lynn Hooper, Randy Weit, Merlin Gandrud, Chuck Julius, Aimee and Mark Hooper, Missy Hoffman, Mary Scruggs, Linda Losito, Anne Maley, Judi and Larry Krebs.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

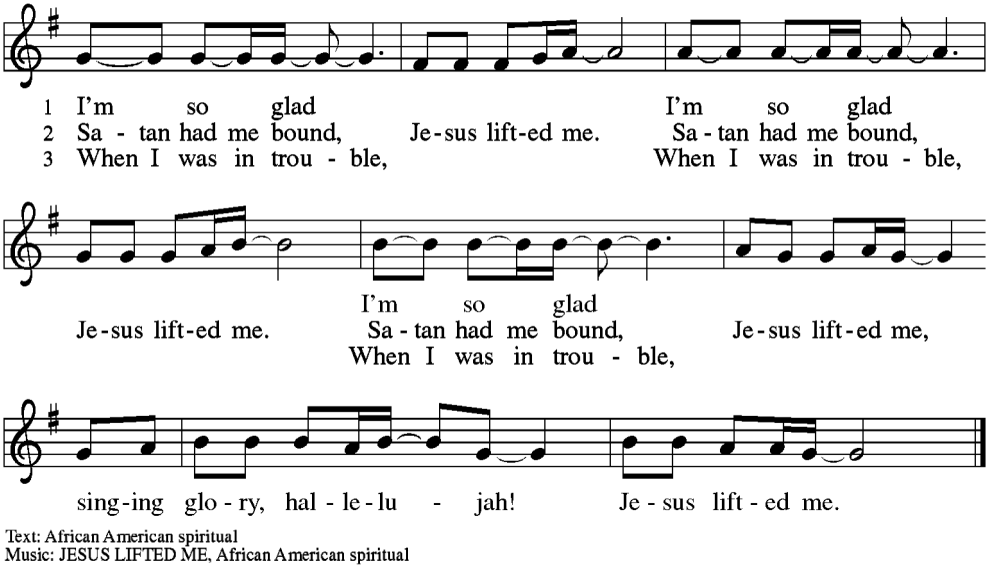
MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Offering

There are many ways to give to support Redeemer! You may place your offering in the offering plate as it is passed, you may mail your offering to the church office, you can even text to give by texting the amount you wish to give to 262.592.5757, then follow the prompts. You may also scan the code to the left with your smartphone's camera to give on our website (www.racinelcredeemer.com). ***Thank you for your generosity!***

Offering Song



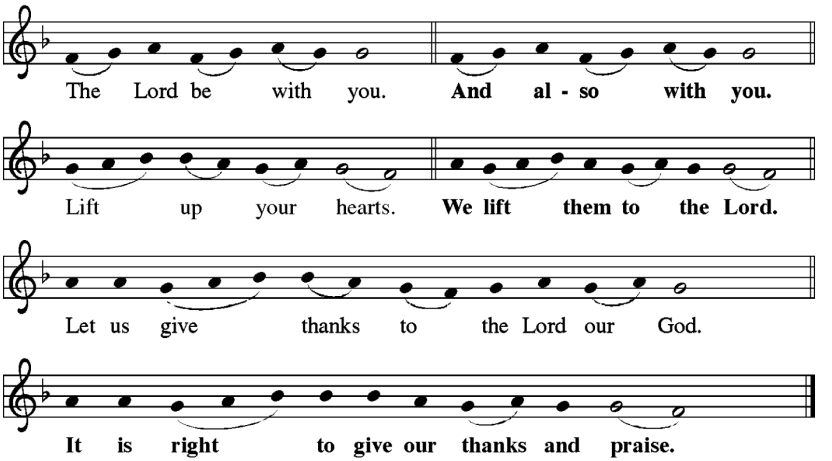
Text: African American spiritual
Music: JESUS LIFTED ME, African American spiritual

Offertory Prayer

Let us pray. Risen One,

you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again, breathe your life into us,
and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

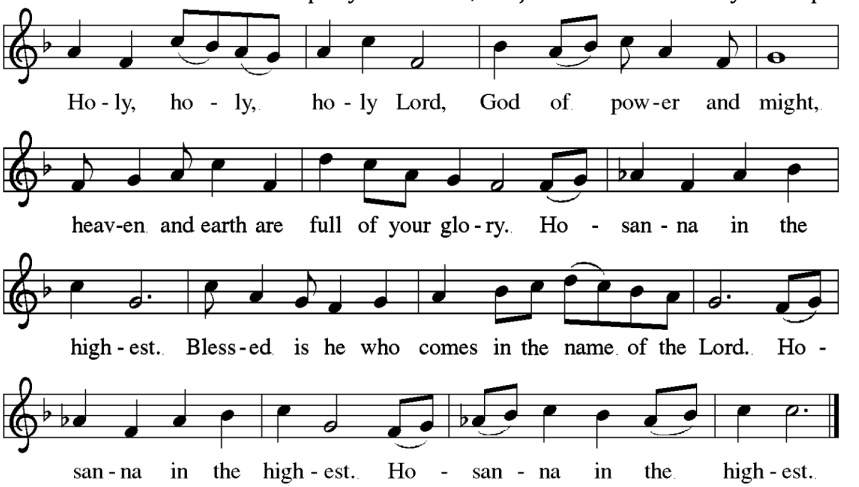
Great Thanksgiving



The Presiding Minister continues:

Worthy are you, Lord God, and worthy is the Lamb who was slain,…

… and raised to the company of heaven, we join in the eternal hymn of praise.

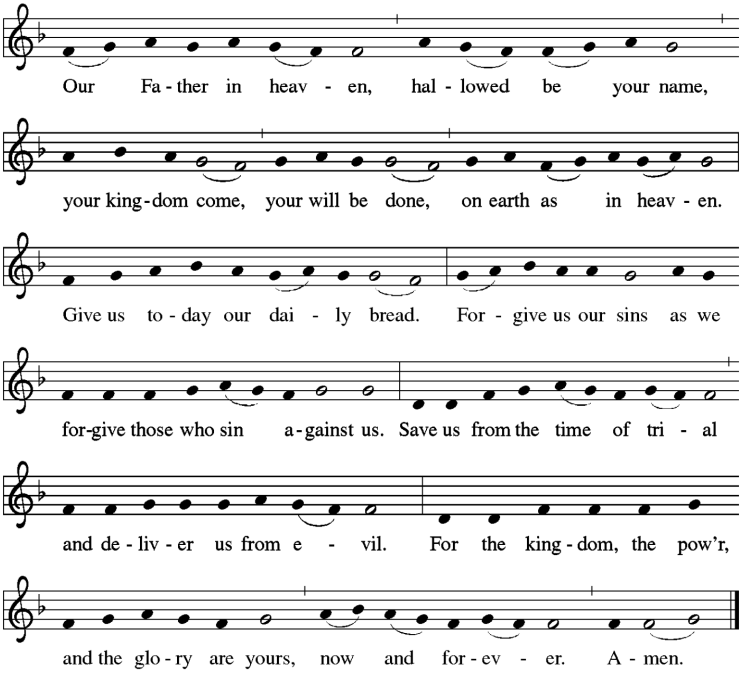


The Presiding Minister prays giving thanks to God, for God's saving work throughout history.
The Assembly responds when prompted:

Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Lord's Prayer

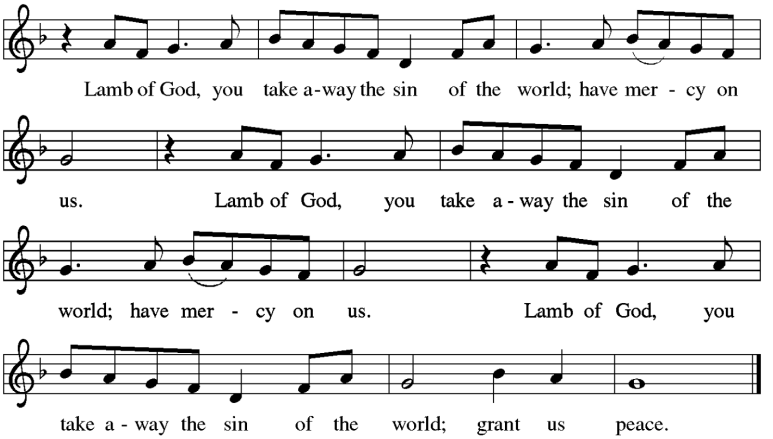


Invitation to Communion

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

Distribution of Communion

If you are worshipping with us at home, you are invited to partake in Communion as well! All you need is bread of any kind and wine or juice of any kind. As you receive the bread: 'This is the Body of Christ given for you.' As you receive the wine or juice: 'This is the Blood of Christ shed for you.' If you are worshipping with more than one person, please serve one another as you able using the above words.



Communion Song ***"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"*** *ELW #857*

Text: Rick Founds, b. 1954
Music: Rick Founds
Text and music © 1989 Maranatha Praise, Inc., admin. Music Services

LORD, I LIFT YOUR NAME
PM

Table Blessing

Prayer After Communion
Let us pray. Living One,

in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Blessing
The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ☩ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn ***"Go to the World"*** *ACS #991*

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993
Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958
Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.
Music © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Serving Today

Altar Flowers:	
Usher:	Linda & Kevin Rattle
Assisting Minister:	Lori Rennock
Readers:	Jeanne Schierstedt
Altar Guild:	Jan Brandies & Jennifer Dustman
Musician:	Paul Berge
Pastor:	The Rev. Matt James

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This Week @ Redeemer

Monday:	GriefShare – 10:30am-12pm
Wednesday:	Bible Study is Back! – 1pm
Thursday:	Executive Committee – 5:45pm
	Council Meeting – 6pm
Sunday:	Worship – 9am; Confirmation Class – 12:30pm

Celebrations this Week

Wedding Anniversary:	Rebekah & Scott Hetchler (5/5);
	Wendy & Terry Lail (5/8)

New Online Directory and Member Portal!

That's right, you can now access our member directory, update your information, keep track of your giving and more!

Send an email to office@racinelcredeemer.com or scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to request access and get started!